



S-244: Field Observer (2007)

Course Plan

Course Details

Description:	This course provides students with the skills necessary to perform as a Field Observer (FOBS) and/or a Fire Effects Monitor (FEMO). Topics include roles and responsibilities of the FOBS and FEMO; how to make observations and document those observations; how to produce hand drawn and GPS field maps; and how to navigate using a compass and GPS. The navigation unit has 4½ hours of field exercises and the final field exercise is 8 hours. For pre-course work, students need to read and complete exercises in Basic Land Navigation, PMS 475.
Designed For:	Personnel desiring to be qualified as Field Observer (FOBS) and/or Fire Effects Monitor (FEMO).
Authority:	National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG)
Prerequisites:	Successful completion of S-290, Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior; successful completion of pre-course work; basic understanding of how to use a GPS receiver; and FOBS: Qualified as any single resource boss OR FEMO: completed SFT Firefighter 1 training.
Standard:	N/A
Hours:	18.75 hours
Maximum Class Size:	24
Instructor Level:	Primary instructor
Instructor/Student Ratio:	1 primary instructor per 6 students (skills)
Restrictions:	Limited to Instructor-Led Delivery only.
SFT Designation:	FSTEP

Required Resources

Instructor Resources

To teach this course, instructors need:

- S-244 Instructor Guide
- S-244 CD-ROM Course Materials
- S-244 Student Workbook

These materials are available to order through the National Fire Equipment System (NFES).

Student Resources

To participate in this course, students need:

- S-244 Student Workbook
- Basic Land Navigation, NFES 2865
- Fireline Handbook (including Appendix B), NFES 0065
- Incident Response Pocket Guide, NFES 1077
- Field clothes with PPE
- Engineer's ruler
- UTM grid
- Compass with adjustment for magnetic declination
- Clinometer (if not in the compass)
- GPS receiver and download cable
- Belt weather kit
- Markers, pens, and pencils
- Day pack for field exercises

Facilities, Equipment, and Personnel

The following facilities, equipment, or personnel are required to deliver this course:

Facilities

- Standard classroom equipped for 24 students
- Whiteboards or easel pads with appropriate writing implements
- Projector/TV with appropriate laptop connections
- Wifi/Internet access

Objectives

Course Objectives

1. Demonstrate skills and knowledge to gather and report information for incident planning.