



**FEMA**



# National Fire Academy

**W0612 – Command and Control of Wildland Urban Interface Fire Operations for the Structural Chief Officer**

**Version: 2nd Edition, 2nd Printing, October 2014**

**Quarter:**

**ACE Credit: In the lower division baccalaureate/associate degree category, 1 semester hour in Fire Science or Forestry Management.**

**IACET Continuing Education Units: 1.5**

**Length of Course: 2 Days (16 contact hours)**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Curriculum: Incident Management and Wildland Urban Interface Training Specialist: Robert Bennett**

**Instructor:**

**Instructor email/phone:**

**Classroom: J-**

**Meeting Time: 8 AM – 5 PM**

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## Course Description (Catalog)

W0612 – “Command and Control of Wildland Urban Interface Fire Operations for the Structural Chief Officer.” This two-day course is designed to provide students with the essential tools and skills to operate safely in a wildland/urban interface incident. Course content covers interface incidents, fire behavior, safety, and operational considerations.

## Student Qualifications (Primary and Secondary Audience)

The target audience for the “Command and Control of Wildland Urban Interface Fire Operations for the Structural Chief Officer” (CCWUIFOSCO) course is Chief Officers in structural

departments who would have limited Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) situations within their protection areas and who may be called upon to assist other departments during a significant WUI incident. These Chief Officers should already be familiar with the various factors that affect strategy and tactics during a wildland fire.

### **Course Scope (Goal)**

The goal of this course is to provide the tools for the initial Incident Commander (IC), to include sizing up the incident, evaluating fire behavior, implementing strategies and tactics, establishing command structure, and deploying resources.

The scope of this course looks at the following tools for the initial IC, sizing up the incident, evaluating fire behavior, implementing strategies and tactics, establishing command structure, and deploying resources.

### **Course Objectives (Course Learning Outcomes – TLOs)**

After successfully completing this course, you will be able to accomplish the following:

- Describe the impacts of fire behavior on operations in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI).
- Analyze a Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) incident, complete a size-up, and develop and evaluate a strategic plan.
- Develop an appropriate incident command structure based on the threats at risk in a Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) incident.
- Evaluate and implement strategies and tactics for a Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) incident.

### **Course Delivery Method**

The National Fire Academy (NFA) offers specialized training courses and advanced management programs of national impact in an academic classroom environment [on campus at the National Emergency Training Center \(NETC\) in Emmitsburg, Maryland](#). This classroom course is designed for the national level fire service officer from State and local fire service organizations. During this 2-day delivery, students will reside in dormitories provided on campus with classes conducted in classrooms designed for critical student/instructor interaction. All course materials are designed for interactive classroom environments, in either paper notebook or electronic formats.

## Course Schedule

The purpose of the course schedule is to give you, at a glance, the required preparation, activities, and evaluation components of your course.

<b>DAY 1</b>	<b>DAY 2</b>
Introduction, Welcome and Administrative	Unit 3: Establishing Command Structure
<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>
Unit 1: Evaluating Fire Behavior	Unit 3: Establishing Command Structure (cont'd) Activity 3.1: ICS Form 201, Incident Briefing
<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>
Unit 1: Evaluating Fire Behavior (cont'd) Activity 1.1: Calabasas Fire Entrapment	Unit 3: Establishing Command Structure (cont'd) Activity 3.2: Resource Allocation Unit 4: Implementing Strategies and Tactics
<i>Lunch Break</i>	<i>Lunch Break</i>
Activity 1.1: Calabasas Fire Entrapment (cont'd) Unit 1: Evaluating Fire Behavior (cont'd) Unit 2: Sizing Up the Incident and Developing a Strategic Plan	Unit 4: Implementing Strategies and Tactics (cont'd)
<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>
Unit 2: Sizing Up the Incident and Developing a Strategic Plan (cont'd) Activity 2.1: ICS Form 201, Incident Briefing	Unit 4: Implementing Strategies and Tactics (cont'd) Activity 4.1: ICS Form 201, Incident Briefing Activity 4.2: ICS Form 201, Case Review of the Atmore Fire Activity 4.3: The Atmore Fire: Next Operational Period

## **Course Resources (Instructional Materials)**

In order to be fully prepared, obtain a copy of the required textbooks and other instructional materials prior to the first day of class.

### **Required Readings**

The student must complete required readings during the course to be able to thoughtfully participate in discussions and activities.

None.

### **Suggested Reading/Resources**

Suggested readings and resources are not evaluated, but may enhance the student's understanding, serve as additional sources for citation and promote discussion of course material.

None.

### **Required Resources (Course Textbook)**

Student Manual.

### **Supplemental Resources (Supplemental Course Textbook)**

None.

## **Grading Methodology (Evaluation Procedures)**

Each student will be assessed on the last day of class with one of two versions of the final examination. Each written evaluation will consist of 30 multiple-choice questions. Students will each need to earn at least a score of 70 percent on the final examination to pass the course.

The required performance to successfully complete the course is attained by completing the class with a letter grade of a "C" or higher.

<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Point Range</b>
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
F	69 or lower

## **Required Reading Assignments**

Student completion of reading assignments will be done via evaluation of their class participation and will not be a separately graded activity.

## **Suggested Readings**

Suggested readings are not evaluated, but may enhance the student's understanding and promote discussion of course material.

## **Course Outline**

### **Introduction (Day 1)**

#### **Objectives**

None.

### **Unit 1: Evaluating Fire Behavior (Day 1)**

#### **Objectives**

#### **Terminal Objective**

The students will be able to:

- 1.1 Describe the impacts of fire behavior on operations in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI).

#### **Enabling Objectives**

The students will be able to:

- 1.1 Identify the factors that affect wildland fire behavior.
- 1.2 Describe the direct relationship between weather and fire behavior.
- 1.3 Describe the relationship between fuel and fire behavior.
- 1.4 Describe the relationship between topography and fire behavior.
- 1.5 Identify the indicators of extreme fire behavior, spotting and significant runs.
- 1.6 Identify sources of information on fuel, topography and fire weather behavior.

## **Unit 2: Sizing Up the Incident and Developing a Strategic Plan (Day 1)**

### **Objectives**

#### **Terminal Objective**

The students will be able to:

- 2.1 Analyze a Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) incident, complete a size-up, and develop and evaluate a strategic plan.

#### **Enabling Objectives**

The students will be able to:

- 2.1 Define WUI situations.
- 2.2 Identify challenges in the WUI.
- 2.3 Identify threats and risks.
- 2.4 Complete a size-up for a WUI.

## **Unit 3: Establishing Command Structure (Day 2)**

### **Objectives**

#### **Terminal Objective**

The students will be able to:

- 3.1 Develop an appropriate incident command structure based on the threats at risk in a Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) incident.

#### **Enabling Objectives**

The students will be able to:

- 3.1 Complete the Current Organization section of ICS Form 201, Incident Briefing.
- 3.2 Evaluate the size and complexity of the incident.
- 3.3 Identify the stakeholders potentially impacted by the incident.
- 3.4 Determine the make-up of the command structure.

- 3.5 Determine resource allocation needs.
- 3.6 Describe the potential for transfer of command to an Incident Management Team (IMT).

## **Unit 4: Implementing Strategies and Tactics (Day 2)**

### **Objectives**

#### **Terminal Objective**

The students will be able to:

- 4.1 Evaluate and implement strategies and tactics for a Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) incident.

#### **Enabling Objectives**

The students will be able to:

- 4.1 Conduct a hazard risk analysis using the Incident Command System (ICS) Form 215A.
- 4.2 Identify specialized personal protective equipment (PPE).
- 4.3 Identify decision-making templates for safe WUI fire ground operations.
- 4.4 Describe operational considerations for WUI incidents.
- 4.5 Deploy resources safely and effectively.
- 4.6 Complete an evaluation tool to assess current actions.
- 4.7 Complete the current actions taken and resource status sections on ICS Form 201.

### **Policies**

#### **Class Attendance and Cancellation Policy**

##### **Attendance**

- You are required to attend all sessions of the course. If you do not, you may not receive a certificate.

- If you need to depart the training facility early and miss any portion of the course, you must make the request in writing to the sponsoring agency (e.g., State training director, etc.). The State training director may waive the attendance requirement in order to accommodate you with extraordinary circumstances as long as you complete all course requirements.

### **Student Substitutions**

Substitutions for NFA courses are made from waiting lists; your fire department can't send someone in your place.

### **Cancellations or No-Shows**

NFA's mission for delivery of courses is impaired significantly by cancellations and no-shows. It is very difficult and costly to recruit students at the last minute. Currently there is a two-year ban on student attendance for students who are no-shows or cancel within 30 days of the course start date without a valid reason. If you receive such a restriction, your supervisor needs to send a letter to our Admissions Office explaining the cancellation/no-show.

### **Course Failure**

You can reapply for the failed course or any other NFA course and go through the random selection process. You don't have to successfully complete the failed course before attending another NFA course.

### **Student Code of Conduct Policy**

Students, instructors and staff are expected to treat each other with respect at all times. Inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated.

### **Writing Expectations**

Student writing will conform to the generally accepted academic standards for college papers. Papers will reflect the original work of the student and give appropriate credit through citations for ideas belonging to other authors, publications or organizations. Student written work should be free of grammatical and syntax errors, free of profanity or obscene language or ideas, and reflect critical thinking related to the course subject matter.

### **Citation and Reference Style**

Attention Please: Students will follow the APA, Sixth Edition as the sole citation and reference style used in written work submitted as part of coursework to NFA. Assignments completed in a narrative essay, composition format, abstract, and discussion posts must follow the citation style cited in the APA, Sixth Edition.

## **Late Assignments**

All assignments must be turned in by the established deadline. Late submissions could result in a 10 percent decrease in grade.

## **Disclaimer Statement**

Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of this particular group.

## **Grading**

Please review the above grading methodology that explains how grades will be awarded. Students who do not complete the entire course will be awarded an Incomplete (I) grade. In accordance with National Fire Academy academic policies, an Incomplete (I) grade must be removed by the end of the next semester following the course, or it automatically becomes a Failing (F) grade.

If you fail an on-campus course, you will not be issued a stipend for that course. You can reapply for the failed course or any other NFA course and go through the random selection process. You don't have to successfully complete the failed course before attending another NFA course.

[http://www.usfa.fema.gov/training/nfa/admissions/student\\_policies\\_campus\\_information.html](http://www.usfa.fema.gov/training/nfa/admissions/student_policies_campus_information.html)

## **Academic Honesty**

Students are expected to exhibit exemplary ethical behavior and conduct as part of the NFA community and society as a whole. Acts of academic dishonesty including cheating, plagiarism, deliberate falsification, and other unethical behaviors will not be tolerated.

Students are expected to report academic misconduct when they witness a violation. All cases of academic misconduct shall be reported by the instructor to the State training director or host agency and to the NFA Training Specialist.

If a student is found to have engaged in misconduct and the allegations are upheld, the penalties may include, but are not limited to one or a combination of the following:

- expulsion,
- withholding of stipend or forfeiture of stipend paid,
- exclusion from future classes for a specified period; depending on the severity it could range from 1-10 years, and/or
- forfeiture of certificate for course(s) enrolled in at NETC.

Refer to NFA-specific Standard Operating Procedure 700.1 – *Academic Code of Conduct and Ethics* for more information.