



**TO :**

**FROM :** National Wildfire Coordinating Group

**REPLY TO :** NWCG@nifc.gov

**DATE :** 02/04/2011

**SUBJECT :** SAFETY ADVISORY : 2011 Wildland Fire Safety Training Annual Refresher (WFSTAR)



WFSTAR 2011.pdf

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## Annual Wildland Fire Safety Refresher Training - 2011

Refresher training ensures firefighters and support personnel have information regarding current initiatives, the upcoming fire season, and any policy or guidance changes. Refresher training is provided to teach personnel to recognize and mitigate risk, to maintain safe and effective practices, and to reduce accidents and near misses.

### What's New

**We're listening!** The changes being made are based on feedback from the field. Research revealed a need for simplification of the website, unification of the website and DVD topics, as well as additional facilitator guidance. High use topics on the website have been retained, while low use topics have been archived within the Lessons Learned Center at [www.wildfirelesson.net](http://www.wildfirelesson.net).

### Refresher Website (WFSTAR)

The purpose of the WFSTAR (Wildland Fire Safety Training Annual Refresher) website is to provide a resource for instructors of annual refresher training to obtain information necessary to conduct relevant and engaging safety refreshers.

The 2011 WFSTAR website will be updated on February 7, 2011. The Risk Management Committee (RMC), and the Annual Refresher Training Oversight Subcommittee Group comprised of Federal and state cooperators have created the 2011 refresher with the National Emphasis Topic, "**Building True Safety.**" Module topics can be found at the WFSTAR website located at [www.nifc.gov/wfstar/index.html](http://www.nifc.gov/wfstar/index.html).

### Refresher DVD

The NWCG 2011 annual fireline safety refresher training package, "Building True Safety" DVD, is tentatively scheduled for release March 21, 2011. The BIA, BLM, NPS, and USFWS will distribute 2011 video packages to their respective districts, field offices, agencies, refuges, or parks. Other agencies, as well as state and private entities (USFS, DNR, VFD, etc.), will need to order the DVD directly from Custom Recording and Sound at (208)-344-3535 or [fire@crsimedia.com](mailto:fire@crsimedia.com). Personnel conducting refreshers before the 2011 release date are encouraged to use pertinent modules from prior annual refreshers.

In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, the DVD will now come in a trifold cardboard package with the facilitator guidance printed on it.

Copies of the 2011 Facilitator Guide and Student Workbook will be available for download from the WFSTAR website by the release date.

**Instructors' Note:**

**Instructors and Unit Leaders are encouraged to customize training to reach your target audience. Reference material may include the 2010 IRPG, Fireline Handbook, and other agency-specific material, which is available for purchase through your local cache system.**

## **Refresher Training Required for NWCG Positions**

The revised NWCG *Wildland Fire Qualification System Guide (PMS 310-1)*, June 2009, <http://www.nwcg.gov/pms/docs/docs.htm> states:

- Attendance at an Annual Fireline Safety Refresher (RT-130) is required to maintain annual currency. Personnel assigned to positions with fireline duties must successfully complete RT-130.
- Core content is listed under Wildland Fire Safety Refresher Training for each agency at <http://www.nifc.gov/wfstar/policies.html>.

## **NWCG Standards for Instructors of Annual Fireline Safety Refresher Training**

In 2006 the NWCG also established minimum qualifications for instructors of refresher training. Information can be accessed at this link: September 2010 NWCG *Field Manager's Course Guide (PMS 901-1)* at <http://www.nwcg.gov/pms/training/fmcg.pdf>.

## **Questions and Additional Information**

For Federal or state agency training questions, please contact your RMC representative <http://www.nwcg.gov/branches/pre/rmc/contactus.htm> or Operations and Workforce Development Committee training contact at <http://www.nwcg.gov/branches/pre/owdc/roster.htm>.