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FROM : National Wildfire Coordinating Group

REPLY TO : NWCG@nifc.gov

DATE : 07/12/2002

SUBJECT : SAFETY ADVISORY : Fire Danger PocketCards

This safety advisory is intended to help raise the awareness of Fire Danger Pocket Cards throughout the fire community. Fire Danger PocketCards were created in 1997 by the National Advisory Group for Fire Danger Rating, which has since become the NWCG Fire Danger Working Team (FDWT).

The Fire Danger PocketCard is a method of communicating information on fire danger to firefighters. The objective is to lead to greater awareness of fire danger and subsequently increased firefighter safety. The PocketCard provides a description of seasonal changes in fire danger in a local area. It is, therefore, useful to both local and out-of-area firefighters.

The PocketCard has a very important day-today "pre-suppression" use. When the morning and afternoon weather is read each day, the actual and predicted indices are announced. The firefighters can reference their card and see just where they are in the range of possible values for danger-rating. This important information should be discussed at morning crew meetings, as well as tail gate safety meetings.

Most importantly, the card provides a method for everyone involved with wildland and prescribed fire operations to communicate a common understanding of key index values provided by the National Fire Danger Rating System.

Local fire management personnel can produce the cards using Fire Family Plus. Cards should be developed locally with local fire management involvement to meet local fire management needs.

More about NFDRS PocketCards can be found at the following web site:

<http://famweb.nwcg.gov/pocketcards/objective.htm>
