Wildland Fire Leadership Development Program

LEGITIMATE DISSENT - DELL FIRE

INITIAL FACILITATOR INFORMATION—NOT TO BE SHARED WITH STUDENTS

Author(s)

- Heath Cota, Sawtooth IHC
- Miles Ellis, Craig IHC
- Shane Olpin, Black Hills National Forest

Target Audience

Squad Boss, Single Resource Boss, Incident Commander Type 4

Training Objective

Given the following scenario, players will determine the appropriate level of engagement for the assignment. This can be used as a drill to discuss the IRPG reference "How to Properly Refuse Risk." Players should verbally communicate their decisions to the appropriate individuals.

Resources Referenced

- Single Resource Boss (Player Role)
- 1 Division Supervisor
- 1 Hotshot Crew
- 1 Strike Team of engines

SCENARIO INFORMATION TO BE SHARED WITH STUDENTS

Facilitator Briefing to Student(s)

You are a Superintendent on a Type 1 Interagency Hotshot Crew assigned to Division Y on the Dell fire, Angeles National Forest. Division Y is a slopover from the previous day's run, and is located on a 60% slope with a southwest aspect. The Angeles has been experiencing a drought for the past two years; the fuel is 10' to 12' tall brush which you can't walk through.

Upon arriving at Incident Command Post around 0800, you receive instructions to report to drop point 16, and tie in with the Division Supervisor. You reach drop point 16 around 1000, it is located on top of a ridge; there is a strike team of engines parked there. The fire is currently holding on the south side of the road leading up to drop point 16, with a large

telecommunications tower and two other structures. From the road, you can see about three chains of clean black right off the road. Further down the ridge you see that there are multiple active slopovers with a slight inversion that appears to be lifting.

Division Supervisor. "The fire started yesterday at about 1630, it made a good run. We think the whole thing is about 3,000 acres. The weather conditions yesterday were a maximum temperature of 85 degrees and the lowest RH was 22%. The winds were out of south 3-5 gusting to 9 mph. The forecast for today is temperature 95 degrees, RH 10% -15% and winds out of the southwest 3-7 mph. I would like you to construct direct line from DP 16 and tie it in to Apple Creek. The engines are going to stay at DP 16 to provide structure protection. Any questions?"

If asked:

- There are supposed to be two Type 1 helicopters assigned to the Division.
- Another Type 1 crew may be arriving at any time.
- The Division Supervisor will be staying at DP 16.
- Air Attack is supposed to be up today.

Take 3 minutes and develop a course of action and prepare any communication contacts you think are necessary.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR FACILITATOR ONLY

Facilitator "Murphy's Law" Suggestions

The "Murphy's Law" suggestions listed below can be added as what-ifs at any time during the scenario to raise the stress level of the leader. You can also use one of your own:

- Inversion lifts and fire activity increases.
- You overhear radio traffic that on the other side of the fire. Activity is increasing, and they
 are requesting air support.
- Spot fire.

Facilitator's Notes

The focus of this TDGS focus is on level of engagement versus risk. The facilitator should play the role of the Division Supervisor. The facilitator should be prepared to implement the "Murphy's law" with the intent to get the players to adjust their level of engagement. There are two approaches that the facilitator can take as the Division Supervisor. One is that he/she is attempting to pressure the player into engaging, or two that he/ she is uncertain about the situation and doesn't know how to handle it as well.

After Action Review

Conduct an AAR with focus on the training objective. Use the AAR format found in the *Incident Response Pocket Guide* to facilitate the AAR. There are four basic questions in the AAR.

- 1. What was planned?
- 2. What actually happened?
- 3. Why did it happen?
- 4. What can we do next time?

TDGS shouldn't have a single solution, keep the focus of the AAR on what was done and why.

