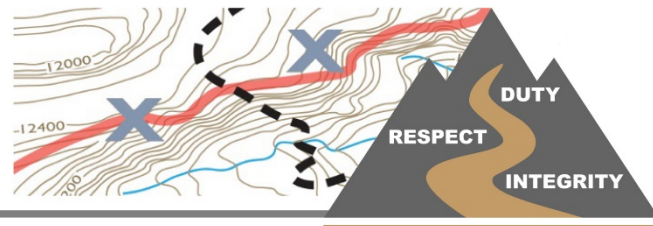


# Tactical Decision Games



Wildland Fire Leadership Development Program

## PLAN OF ACTION/COORDINATION – WILLOW CREEK

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### INITIAL FACILITATOR INFORMATION—NOT TO BE SHARED WITH STUDENTS

#### Author(s)

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#### Target Audience

Initial and Extended Attack ICs and Cooperating Agencies

#### Training Objective

With this scenario the players will be tasked with implementing a plan of action and coordinating resources. When on scene, utilize resources in a safe and effective manner. Players should verbally communicate their decisions to the appropriate individuals.

#### Resources Referenced

- **1 VFD – Volunteer Chief (BG-1)**
- Baca Fire Type 6 Engine (Brush-1)
- Baca Fire Type 3 Engine (CAFS-1)
- Saguache County Search and Rescue
- North Saguache Fire Protection District Chief
- KFM
- CMFC Representative member onboard CAFS-1
- DFPC FMO – (BC-24)
- 1 Large Air Tanker (T-00)
- 1 Very Large Air Tanker (T-911)
- 1 Lead Plane (L-B5)

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## SCENARIO INFORMATION TO BE SHARED WITH STUDENTS

### Facilitator Briefing to Student(s)

Fire environment conditions:

- Temperature: 87
- Relative Humidity: 21%
- Winds: Southwest 10 Gusts West 15-40 in the afternoon
- Sky: Partly Cloudy

It is 1100 hours on August 28<sup>th</sup>. You are a local fire department chief performing some routine business and get a call of a reported wildland fire near the east side of the Baca Grande Property Owners Association (POA) near Willow Creek Way. The town of Crestone and the Baca Grande POA has an elevation of 7,923 feet and is home to over 1,500 residents.

The east side of the subdivision which is on the west facing aspect of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains has a dense closed canopy pinion juniper fuel type. The fuels are very continuous and the surface fuels have a heavy fuel loading in the creek drainages.

Alamosa Dispatch informs you that the fire was human caused and the reporting party saw a panicked individual running from the area. You know that there was an unknown number of people visiting the Samteng Ling Retreat Center during the weekend; you start to get very concerned about the people's locations and if the event is still occurring. You ask dispatch if there are any people in the area and dispatch tells you that they have no information about the event; however, multiple reports are coming into the dispatch center and they are pressuring you for a sizeup on the fire.

You have two firefighters in a brush engine, KFM, and mutual aid assistance from the North Saguache County FD with a 40-minute response time. Local Forest Service units are busy managing a lightning-caused fire in the La Garita Wilderness; regionally things are relatively slow. The National Preparedness Level is falling rapidly due to some new moisture in the Northern Rockies.

You arrive on-scene and the fire is about a .5 acre in size, and fire behavior is a single tree torching in Ponderosa Pine trees currently. The ladder fuels on the adjacent torching trees are starting to catch fire also. You finally provide an appropriate sizeup to dispatch.

You have 5 minutes to determine a course of action and prepare any communication contacts you think are necessary.

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## 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:

- Residents that are in multiple retreat areas on and off the map.
- Wind Increases and or changes direction.
- Mandatory evacuations for Baca Grande POA residents.
- Emergency FMO assistance called in to DFPC via Saguache CO Sheriff; heavy air tankers ordered.
- Unified Command with DFPC then a possible transfer of command.
- Coordination and evacuation of all retreats on the east side of subdivision.
- Logistically supporting the mandatory evacuation center.

### Facilitator’s Notes

This tactical decision game (TDG) should focus on just a few major objectives for a participatory audience that has little to no experience with formalized a TDG. These objectives are a fire started in a private jurisdiction, with initial attack, working with cooperating county volunteer fire departments, using the CO Sheriff to invoke Emergency Fire Fund (EFF), unified command and operational principles of DFPC, and the ordering and usage of fixed wing airtankers.

### 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.

