

# NWCG Equipment Technology Committee

Equipment Bulletin: 21-01

March 04, 2021



**To:** Wildland Fire Community

**From:** Dave Haston, Chair, NWCG Equipment Technology Committee

**Subject:** Fire Shelter Training Update/Reminders

**Issue:** Fire shelter training publications and videos were last updated in 2003. New versions are under development but annual updates, based on learning from actual fire shelter deployments as well as comments and questions from firefighters, bring additional context, clarification, and reemphasis.

**Action:** The Fire Shelter and Personal Protective Equipment Subcommittee (FSPPE) has updated fire shelter training and reference materials available through the links below or under the Fire Shelter Training header of their website at <https://www.nwcg.gov/committees/fire-shelter-and-personal-protective-equipment-subcommittee>.



## Topics include:

- Fire shelter PVC bag retrofit
- The stigma of deploying a shelter
- Shelter deployment training
- Practice shelters
- Shake handles
- Large size shelters
- Safety zones
- Entrapment
- Decision to deploy
- Deployment site selection
- Vehicles
- Moving
- Amount of protection
- High winds
- Gloves
- Water
- Radio
- Risk Management

The following supplemental documents have been added to the website and should be considered for 2021 fire shelter refresher training:

- Fire shelter PVC bag retrofit instructions
- Disinfecting practice shelters

**Contact:** Tony Petrilli, Fire Shelter Project Leader, U.S. Forest Service, National Technology, and Development Program, at [anthony.petrilli@usda.gov](mailto:anthony.petrilli@usda.gov), or phone (406)531-6974.

NWCG standards are interagency by design; however, the decision to adopt and utilize them is made independently by the individual member agencies and communicated through their respective directives systems.