

CALIFORNIA WILDLAND FIRE COORDINATING GROUP



Memorandum

DATE: February 18th, 2016

SUBJECT: RX-410 Smoke Management Techniques

TO: Course Participant

Congratulations! You have been selected to attend the *RX410 Smoke Management Techniques*, training session at the *Wildland Fire Training Center* on *March 28th – April 1st, 2016*. Class will begin at *1300 hours on Monday, March 28th* and conclude at approximately *1300 hours on Friday, April 1st*. To receive a certificate of completion for this course, you must attend from the beginning to the scheduled completion of the course; please make your travel plans accordingly. There will be no exceptions.

Course Description

This course leads students through the ecological and historical role of fire, characteristics of smoke and the health, safety and visibility impacts of smoke. Other topics include public relations, legal requirements, meteorology, fuel consumption, smoke production dispersion modeling, and operational smoke management strategies. This course is designed to be interactive in nature. It contains a panel discussion, several exercises designed to facilitate group and class participation, case studies from a variety of fuel types and political challenges. The **pre-course work assignment** is designed to familiarize students with the *Smoke Management Guide* and *Air Quality Regulations* that impact prescribed fire programs.

Objectives

The overall objective of this course is to provide land managers with the knowledge to manage smoke and reduce its impacts on public health and welfare. Given existing and potential air quality regulations, political and social sensitivities, students will be able to:

- Predict, manage, and monitor prescribed fire smoke.
- Describe the legal, professional, and ethical reasons for managing smoke.
- Describe the roles of federal, state, and local agencies and organizations involved with and affected by smoke from prescribed fire.

Course Prerequisites

Students should have a background in prescribed fire planning, implementing, monitoring, permitting or smoke/air regulating. **Satisfactory completion of pre-course work (See below).**

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Pre-Study Assignment/Special Student Information:

1. Answer the questions listed below and bring responses to class for discussion purposes.
2. Read the *Smoke Management Guide*, located at:
<http://onlinetraining.nwcg.gov/node/191>

Contact your state air quality authority, or refer to their website, to answer the following questions.

- *Does your state have a Smoke Management Program? If so, describe the program and how your unit complies with its provisions (e.g., reporting, monitoring, modeling, quantifying of emissions, etc.)*
- *Describe the open burning regulations in your state(s) that apply to prescribed fire. If practical, obtain a copy of the regulations.*
- *Identify any non-attainment areas for PM10 or PM2.5 in your state(s) (list or map).*
- *Identify any Class I areas in your state(s) (list or map).*
- *Obtain and briefly summarize your organization's policy requirements (e.g., manuals, handbooks) for smoke management.*

It is critical that the pre-course assignment be completed prior to attending to the course. Please complete the pre-course assignment no later than March 28th, 2016 and be prepared discuss the assignment.

Travel: For travel and lodging information navigate to the WFTC website:
<http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/r5/fire-aviation/management/?cid=STELPRDB5363444>
WFTC Dormitories are **unavailable** during the time of January 25 – April 15, 2016.

Dress: Students are to wear casual office attire. This means suitable for public contact (no shorts, tank tops, flip flops, etc.) **Reminder – this is a NO HAT facility.**

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Billing Information:

Tuition: Your tuition cost: **\$300.00**

All students must submit a NWCG Nomination Form with proper agency charge codes and signatures for payment. A copy of the NWCG nomination form can be found and downloaded from the National Fire Training website at: <http://www.nationalfiretraining.net/>

Forest Service (Other Regions): The approved NWCG Nomination Form will be used for payment. This form must include proper agency charge codes and signatures.

Other Federal Agencies: The approved NWCG Nomination Form will be used for payment. This form must include proper agency codes, agreement numbers and signatures.

Other Non-Federal Agencies: It is recommended that students pay with a check or money order at the facility at the start of class. There is an additional 8% administrative fee added to this tuition charge. If payment is not received, a bill of collection will be issued to your agency.

Cancellations: Cancellations must be made one week prior to the course start date. If a cancellation occurs after the one-week cut off, and the slot goes unfilled, there will be a charge not to exceed the tuition charge for the course.

Any questions regarding this may be directed to you unit training coordinator or appropriate training representative. If you are self-sponsored, you may contact the training center directly at wftc@fs.fed.us .

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If you have any other questions, please contact the Course Coordinator, Danny Breuklander at the Wildland Fire Training Center:

- E-Mail: dbreuklander@fs.fed.us
- 916-640-1084

/s/ Danny Breuklander
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California Wildland Fire Coordinating Group
<http://gacc.nifc.gov/oscc/cwgc/index.html>