



**NATIONAL INTERAGENCY FIRE CENTER
GREAT BASIN TRAINING CENTER**
3833 S. Development Avenue
Boise, Idaho 83705
[S-490 Session Details](#)

December 16, 2015

To: S-490 Student

Congratulations! You have been nominated to attend S-490, Advanced Wildland Fire Behavior Calculations at the Great Basin Training Center. Your selection will be confirmed based on a passing score of 70% on the pre-selection assessment.

To prepare for the pre-selection assessment, the following is available:

- A practice test: <http://onlinetraining.nwcg.gov/node/214>. This is a five part practice test and answer key with each part. Though you are not required to complete the practice tests, it will be useful in preparing for the pre-selection assessment. You do not have to submit this to the course coordinator.
- A video lecture series on the knowledge needed prior to S490. This is provided for your review and preparation: <https://sites.google.com/a/firenet.gov/nrtcs490/precourse-workshop>
- **A BehavePlus review is not part of the course!** It is imperative that all students arrive with a comprehensive understanding of BehavePlus 5.0.5 fire modeling software. The following will help you
 - Tips and Training Materials: <https://www.frames.gov/partner-sites/behaveplus/tips-training/>
 - A BehavePlus Webinar: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=va-Snk9CJw>

The pre-qualifying assessment must be completed by 1700 on January 15, 2016. The assessment will be available online and will cover the following topics: Topographic Maps, Fire Weather/Fire Behavior, Fire Behavior Inputs, Manual Methods of Fire Behavior Prediction, and Behave Plus.

When you are prepared to take the five part test, sign up at: [Pre course Assessment Sign-up](#). I will send you the test via email at your requested date and time. You will have 3 hours to complete the test. You must achieve a 70 % or greater to be considered for placement in this class and I will notify you of your results and your status in the course when the test is completed.

This course begins promptly at **0800 on Monday, February 1st** and will conclude **Friday, February 5th at approximately 1500**. You must attend the entire course to receive credit. The class will be held in the Auditorium (basement) of the Training Building at the National Interagency Fire Center. During the classroom session you will have the opportunity to review your pre-qualifying test.

Please refer to our website at <http://www.nationalfiretraining.net/gb/logistics> for information regarding area lodging, NIFC security requirements, maps, and payment information. All non-BLM employees must complete the credit card tuition payment form and fax it to (208) 387-5556. Please submit tuition payment no later than Friday, January 22th to secure your spot in the course. The tuition for the course is \$350.00

Items to bring to the course:

- Calculator
- Laptop computers will be provided for your use during class. However, if you wish to do homework in your hotel room, you will need your own laptop. Install BehavePlus 5.0.5 prior to your departure from your home unit.
- Thumb drive
- pens/colored pencils (optional)

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Mark Skudlarek
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Great Basin Training Center
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