

# ALBANY COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #1

## JOB DESCRIPTION

### **Wildland Firefighter and Advanced Wildland Firefighter**

#### DEFINITION

##### **Wildland Firefighter:**

The wildland firefighter serves on a hand crew, engine crew, or helitack crew, performing fire suppression and fuels management duties in adverse climate, fuel, and terrain conditions. Wildland firefighters work in the operations functional area.

##### **Advanced Wildland Firefighter:**

The advanced wildland firefighter leads a small group (usually not more than seven members) and is responsible for their safety on wildland and prescribed fire incidents. The advanced wildland firefighter also performs all the duties of the wildland firefighter.

#### SUPERVISION EXERCISED

##### **Wildland Firefighter**

Receives directions from Company Officers, Chief Officers, and Fire Chief in Department. The wildland firefighter has no supervisory responsibilities and is supervised by the Firefighter Type 1 (FFT1) or a Single Resource Boss [Crew Boss (CRWB), Heavy Equipment Boss (HEQB), Engine Boss (ENGB), Felling Boss (FELB), Firing Boss (FIRB), or Helicopter Manager (HMGB)].

##### **Advanced Wildland Firefighter**

The advanced wildland firefighter supervises wildland firefighters in department, resources at the Firefighter Type 2 (FFT2) level, and reports to a Single Resource Crew Boss [Crew Boss (CRWB), Heavy Equipment Boss (HEQB), Engine Boss (ENGB), Felling Boss (FELB), Firing Boss (FIRB), or Helicopter Manager (HMGB)] or another assigned supervisor.

#### EXAMPLES OF IMPORTANT AND ESSENTIAL DUTIES

##### **Wildland Firefighter**

Perform Firefighter Type 2-Specific Duties

- Establish and maintain the physical fitness level necessary to effectively perform hard physical labor for extended periods under adverse climate, fuel, and terrain conditions.
- Perform wildland fire and prescribed fire duties, including suppression, preparation, ignition, monitoring, holding, and mop-up. Use standard firefighting tools such as pulaskis, shovels, Mcleods, chainsaws, drip torches, and fuzees to do this work.
- Perform hand crew duties including packing heavy loads of fuel, food, water, and tools for miles over rough terrain in hot and smoky conditions to get to the work site.

- Perform engine operations duties, including running the pump, deploying hose lays, completing preventative engine maintenance checks, and effectively using water and additives.
- Perform portable pump operator duties such as pump site selection, set up, and operation.
- Support chainsaw operations.
- Apply knowledge of fuels, terrain, weather, and fire behavior to decisions and actions.
- Use Incident Command System (ICS) terminology, organization, and command structure.
- Use and maintain personal protection equipment (PPE).
- Follow crew standard operating procedures (SOPs).
- Ensure proper refurbishing and resupply of tools, vehicles, food, water, and supplies.

#### Perform Fireline Duties

- Use [\*NWCG Incident Response Pocket Guide \(IRPG\), PMS 461\*](#), to guide actions.
- Look, listen, and learn. Ask questions when appropriate and ensure you understand instructions when they are given.
- Ensure that instructions are clear and understood.
- Be a student of fire. Observe interactions and operations to expand experience level.

#### Perform Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Duties

- Conduct WUI operations according to guidelines stated in [\*IRPG\*](#), incident-specific objectives and guidelines, and agency-specific guidance.

#### Communicate and Coordinate

- Follow established processes and chain of command for collecting, producing, and distributing information.
- Report any changes in fire behavior or hazardous conditions to supervisor.
- Ensure basic understanding of multichannel radio operation. Use plain language and ICS terminology.
- Participate in After Action Reviews (AAR).

#### Manage Risk

- Operate within your skill level and limitations.
- Apply the Risk Management Process as stated in the [\*NWCG Incident Response Pocket Guide \(IRPG\), PMS 461\*](#):
  - Identify hazards.
  - Assess hazards.
  - Develop controls and make risk decisions.
  - Implement controls.
  - Supervise and evaluate.
- Report all accidents or injuries to supervisor.
- Establish Lookouts, Communications, Escape Routes, and Safety Zones (LCES) before they are needed, according to [\*IRPG\*](#) guidance.
- Apply the Standard Firefighting Orders and Watch Out Situations to your assignment, as stated in the [\*IRPG\*](#).

- Use Look Up, Down and Around in the [IRPG](#) to help maintain situational awareness. Adjust actions accordingly.
- Identify health and safety hazards from smoke and mitigate exposure as necessary ([Smoke: Know the Risks module](#))
- Comply with all safety practices and procedures.
- Provide for health, safety, and welfare for self and those around you.

#### Document

- Submit as required:
  - SAFECOM.
  - SAFENET.
  - Agency-specific forms.
- Crew Time Report (CTR), SF-261

#### Demobilize

- Receive and follow demobilization instructions from supervisor.

Assist in training new employees in routines of fire suppression, equipment operation, and maintenance.

Conduct station tours.

Maintain a variety of records.

Assist in maintaining and repairing fire equipment, station, and grounds.

### **Advanced Wildland Firefighter**

#### Perform Firefighter Type 1-Specific Duties

- Mentor and train assigned resources in safe firefighting practices (e.g., tool maintenance, fireline construction techniques).
- Adhere to the chain of command as it applies to crew configuration.
- Locate fire line and implement appropriate fire line construction methods (e.g., mineral soil scrape, cup trenching, removal of ladder fuels) necessary to stop fire spread and ensure completion to acceptable standards.
- Utilize appropriate fire line tactics, including indirect and direct attack strategies.
- Verify driver/operator qualifications and ensure adherence to vehicle safety procedures when transporting personnel and equipment.
- Use firing devices under supervision on a firing operation according to the ignition/firing plan (verbal or written).
- Maintain and inspect tools, equipment, and supplies required to complete assigned task for amount, serviceability, and safety. Notify supervisor if corrective action is needed.

#### Fireline Duties

- Carry [IRPG](#) at all times and use it to guide actions.

- Request, direct, and provide feedback to aerial resources through established chain of command.
- Provide status updates on conditions affecting operations, hazardous conditions, unresolved conflicts, air operations, etc., to supervisor.
- Through established chain of command, assist the responsible land management agency and/or assigned Resource Advisor (READ), with the protection of natural, cultural, and other resources. Communicate when such resources are discovered and document suppression impacts.
- Use maps, compass, Global Positioning System (GPS) and other tools and applications to gather information and navigate an incident.
- Collect, document, and report weather observations utilizing the Belt Weather Kit or electronic weather meter.
- Contribute to the planning process by providing accurate information and recommendations through established chain of command.

#### Perform Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Duties

- Conduct WUI operations according to guidelines stated in [IRPG](#), incident-specific objectives and guidelines, and agency-specific guidance.

#### Communicate and Coordinate

- Follow established processes and chain of command for collecting, producing, and distributing information.
- Report any changes in fire behavior or hazardous conditions to supervisor.
- Communicate effectively using multichannel radios. Prepare and program radios for assignment. Use plain language and Incident Command System (ICS) terminology.
- Conduct and/or participate in After Action Reviews (AAR).

#### Manage Risk

- Apply the Risk Management Process as stated in the [NWCG Incident Response Pocket Guide \(IRPG\), PMS 461](#):
  - Identify Hazards.
  - Assess Hazards.
  - Develop Controls and Make Risk Decisions.
  - Implement Controls.
  - Supervise and Evaluate.
- Ensure Lookouts, Communications, Escape Routes, and Safety Zones (LCES) are established and known to all firefighters before they are needed. Refer to guidelines stated in the [IRPG](#).
- Apply the Standard Firefighting Orders and Watch Out Situations to your assignment, as stated in the [IRPG](#).
- Use Look Up, Down and Around in the [IRPG](#) to help maintain situational awareness. Adjust actions accordingly.
- Ensure compliance with all safety practices and procedures for assigned personnel.
- Monitor for signs and symptoms of fatigue, illness, or injury. Mitigate appropriately.
- Account for location, health, safety, and welfare of assigned personnel.

## Document

- Complete, ensure timeliness of, and route as required:
  - Crew Time Report (CTR), SF-261 ([Watch: How to correctly fill out a CTR](#))
  - Incident Personnel Performance Rating ([ICS 225 WF](#)).
  - General Message ([ICS 213](#)).
  - SAFECOM.
  - SAFENET.
  - Agency-specific forms.

## Demobilize

- Brief assigned resources on demobilization procedures and responsibilities. Ensure incident and agency demobilization procedures and work/rest driving standards are followed.

Assist in training new employees in routines of fire suppression, equipment operation, and maintenance.

Conduct station tours.

Maintain a variety of records.

Assist in maintaining and repairing fire equipment, station, and grounds.

## **OTHER JOB-RELATED DUTIES**

Perform related duties and responsibilities as assigned.

## **JOB RELATED AND ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS**

### **Knowledge of:**

Local, State, and Federal wildland fire operations, practices, standards, and regulations.

Safe driving principles and practices.

### **Skill to:**

Learn to operate wildland fire related vehicles, equipment, tools, devices, and their proper use.

Operate communications equipment.

Operate a motor vehicle safely.

### **Ability to:**

Learn principles, practices, and procedures of wildland and wildland urban interface firefighting.

Follow the direction of supervisors.

Learn purposes, uses, and operating characteristics of a variety of vehicles, equipment, tools, and apparatus used in wildland firefighting.

Learn wildland fire hazards and the related prevention and abatement methods.

Learn principles of hydraulics, as related to Firefighter duties.

Learn procedures, methods, and techniques of wildland firefighting.

Learn, interpret, and apply the policies, procedures, laws, codes, and regulations pertaining to assigned programs and functions.

Learn water source locations within Albany County.

Respond to fires and effectively perform wildland fire suppression.

Demonstrate physical endurance, agility, strength, and stamina in the performance of hazardous tasks under emergency conditions; think and act quickly in emergencies.

Demonstrate mechanical aptitude as required in the operation of firefighting equipment.

Understand and follow oral and written directions promptly and accurately.

Exercise good judgment, flexibility, creativity, and sensitivity in response to changing situations and needs.

Communicate clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing.

Establish, maintain, and foster positive and harmonious working relationships with those contacted in the course of work.

**Experience and Training Guidelines:**

*Any combination equivalent to experience and training that would provide the required knowledge, skills, and abilities would be qualifying. A typical way to obtain the knowledge, skills, and abilities would be:*

**Experience:**

**Wildland Firefighter:**

No experience is required.

**Advanced Wildland Firefighter:**

1 Fire Season as active Wildland Firefighter.

**Training:**

Completion of the twelfth grade, or equivalent, supplemented by the completion of training and certifications in relation to the services you will provide.

**License or Certificate:**

**Wildland Firefighter:**

Possession of, or ability to obtain, an appropriate, valid driver's license.

Possession of FFT2 certification issued by NWCG.

Possession of, or ability to obtain within 12 months, completion of S-215 course by NWCG.

**Advanced Wildland Firefighter:**

Possession of, or ability to obtain, an appropriate, valid driver's license.

Possession of FFT1 certification issued by NWCG.

Possession of, or ability to obtain within 12 months, completion of S-212 and S-211 courses.

**Special Requirements:**

*Essential duties require the following physical skills and work environment:*

Ability to sit, stand, walk, run, kneel, crouch, stoop, squat, crawl, twist, climb, and lift 125 lbs.; exposure to cold, heat, noise, outdoors, vibration, confining workspace, chemicals, explosive materials, mechanical hazards, electrical hazards, and blood borne pathogens; ability to travel to different sites and locations; availability for shift work, on-call, and standby.