

Wildland Fire Suppression

University of Arizona

Wildland Fire Course

Fall 2012

Fire Triangle



Ways to Break the Fire Triangle

- Wildland Firefighting involves “breaking” one of the legs of the fire triangle.
- Handline
- Burning out
- Using water or dirt



“Breaking” the Fuel Leg Constructing Handline



Dozer Line



Sawyers- Eliminating trees and brush



Burning Out



Fireline Explosives



Retardant (85% water 10% fertilizer
5% red dye)



“Breaking” the O₂ Leg of the Fire Triangle- Applying Foam



Using Dirt



Smothering the Fire



“Breaking” the heat leg



Using Water



Using foam and water



Dry Mop Up



Wildfire Response

- Deciding what to do with a fire:
 - Suppression Action
 - Monitor
 - Manage for Resource Benefit
 - Manage with multiple objectives

Decision Made to Suppress

- Plan of Attack
- Fire Suppression Resources Needed
- Overhead Needed
- Indirect Attack
- Direct Attack

Plan of Attack

- Can the fire be suppressed with engines?
- Is the fire not accessible with equipment?
- Will aircraft be needed?



Resources Needed



Engines



Fixed Wing Aircraft



Rotor Wing Aircraft



Hand Crews



Smokejumpers



Heavy Equipment



Overhead Needed

- Incident Commander
- Division Supervisor
- Task Force Leader
- Logistics
- Planning
- Facilities
- IMT? What level?



Indirect Attack



Direct Attack



Mop Up



Rehabilitation



Dangers to the Wildland Firefighter Personal Protective Equipment



Fire Resistant Shirts





Fire Resistant Pants





Leather Gloves



Hard Hat





Leather, Lace Up Boots





Water





Fire Shelter





Head Lamp



Questions?