

# 2022 FIREFIGHTER SAFETY STAND DOWN



June 21, 2022

## WILDLAND



Be aware of what's going on around you and/or understand the situation you're in. The wildland fire environment is complex; firefighters are constantly adapting strategies and tactics to address problems. Information is gathered and communicated across multiple channels. Observations are made to interpret the complex environment, generating an approximation of reality. How we interact with our environment will depend on our experience and the accuracy of our interpretation of reality.

Optimal human performance or "fitness" incorporates much more than our physical capabilities. Being optimally fit requires training the mind as well as the body for the environments in which we operate.

What do your environmental factors demand?

What are you doing to stay in the optimal performance zone?

- Physically fit?
- Psychologically fit?
- Environmentally fit?



The [10 Standard Firefighting Orders](#) are organized in a deliberate and sequential way to be implemented systematically and applied to all fire situations.

The [18 Watch Out Situations](#) are more specific and cautionary, describing situations that expand the 10 Standard Firefighting Orders with the intent that if firefighters follow the Standard Firefighting Orders and are alerted to the 18 Watch Out Situations, much of the risk of firefighting can be reduced.

Operating near or under power lines poses unique hazards, and the following precautions should be followed to reduce potential injury or equipment damage:

- If possible, the power company should deactivate lines in the fire area.
- Don't operate heavy equipment under power lines.
- Don't drive with long antennas under power lines.
- Don't Park under power lines. The magnetic field around energized power lines can induce an electrical charge in ungrounded vehicles or equipment. This charge can shock anyone who touches the vehicle.
- Don't apply a straight stream to power lines.
- All personnel should be cautioned that smoke may become charged and conduct the electrical current. Deactivated transmission and distribution lines may continue to pose a hazard due to induction.
- If power lines fall on your vehicle, DON'T leave the vehicle until the power company arrives. If the vehicle is on fire or fire is near: jump clear, don't hang on, keep feet together, and bunny hop away.

[Episode 45 – Over run by a fast moving wildland fire – The Dave Martin Story](#)

[Episode 161 – Encountering a tornado during a wildland fire – The Soldier Township Story](#)

[Episode 289 – Task fixation](#)

[Episode 260 – Struck by a 14kv electric line – The Tom Ehler Story – Part 1](#)

[Episode 261 – Struck by a 14kv electric line – The Tom Ehler Story – Part 2](#)