

2024 Mid-Atlantic Wildland Fire Academy Course Descriptions

These courses are subject to cancellation due to insufficient enrollment and/or instructor availability. Registered students will be notified of changes immediately.

CO - Commuter Option | BP - Bundled Package

FAL3/2 – Tree Falling/Evaluation

Cost: CO - \$260.00 | BP - \$460.00

Instructor: Levi Gelnett

Course Description: This is a practical skills development course to provide firefighters time in the field with coach-evaluators. Students will be given opportunities to perform specific tasks as outlined in their initiated Position Task Books (PTB) such as real-world tree cutting & felling situations at the T3/T2 complexity level. Working with coach/evaluators, students will successfully perform a series of tasks as outlined in the PTB to advance their individual learning paths. Each student will start and end this course based on their current skill level. Note: students may not complete every task in their PTB.

Target Group: Firefighters who are working on FAL3/FAL2 Position Task Books.

Prerequisite Qualifications & Training: S-212, Wildland Fire Chainsaws, Initiated Position FAL3 Task Book, Students must bring their own agency saw kit and PPE.

FI-310 Fire Investigation – Case Development

Cost: CO - \$375.00 | BP - \$740.00

Instructor: John Bird

Course Description: This course provides an introduction into the law enforcement case development of major wildland arson, including serial arson. Students are instructed in strategies & tactics to combat serial wildland arson. Students will work in groups to develop a case plan & presentation based on an actual wildland arson case. The objectives of this course are to demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge of administrative & management functions related to the investigation of complex wildland fire cases; apply knowledge of advance investigation methodology to analyze the data & properly identify strengths/weaknesses associated with the case, determine necessary follow up actions, and make assessments based on the analysis; review existing case file information & develop an investigative strategy including proper staffing & organizational structure, written investigative plan & an Incident Action Plan; identify/apply specific investigative strategies & administrative functions associated with the management of a complex arson investigation team or task force; prepare, collect, organize and disseminate all relevant investigative data.

Target Group: Personnel desiring to be qualified as wildland fire investigation team members (**INTM**).

Prerequisite Qualifications & Training: Qualified as wildland fire investigator (**INVF**), satisfactory completion of pre-selection assessment, and satisfactory completion of pre-course work.

FLOP – Forklift Operator

Cost: CO - \$75.00 | BP - \$135.00

Instructor: Randy Gardner

Course Description: This is a skills development course to provide students with OSHA Standard 1910.178 Forklift training & certification.

Target Group: Personnel working with the Logistics Section who have occasion to use a forklift.

Prerequisite Qualification & Training: There are no prerequisites to take this course.

J-253 Receiving & Distribution Manager (RCDM)

Cost: CO - \$130.00 | BP - \$190.00

Instructor: Bill Oldland

Course Description: This is a one day, entry level course for individuals desiring to work in the Logistics Supply Unit. The RCDM is responsible for coordinating operations related to the Logistics Supply area at wildland fires and all hazard incidents. This course prepares the student to begin working as a RCDM-trainee.

Target Group: Any individual who may have an interest in supporting large incident operations by working in the Logistics Section.

Prerequisite Qualifications & Training: There are no prerequisites to take this course.

Rx-410 Smoke Management Techniques

Cost: CO - \$360.00 | BP - \$665.00

Instructor: Thomas Fielden

Course Description: This course leads students through the ecological & historical role of fire, characteristics of smoke, as well as the health, safety, & 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 & class participation, and case studies from a variety of fuel types & political challenges. The pre-course work assignment is designed to familiarize students with the NWCG Smoke Management Guide for Prescribed Fire, [PMS 420-2](#) & air quality regulations that impact prescribed fire programs. The overall objective is to provide land managers with the knowledge to manage smoke and reduce its impacts on health & welfare. Given existing & potential air quality regulations, political & social sensitivities, students should be able to:

- predict, manage, & monitor prescribed smoke
- describe the legal, professional, & ethical reasons for managing smoke

- describe the roles of federal, state, & local agencies & organizations involved with and affected by smoke from prescribed fire.

Target Group: Prescribed Fire Burn Boss Type 1 (RXB1), Prescribed Fire Burn Boss Type 2 (RXB2), Long Term Fire Analyst (LTAN). Other positions that would benefit include Fire Effects Monitor (FEMO), air regulators, fire ecologists, private landowners, other state & private agencies, prescribed fire consultants, & fire planners.

Prerequisite Qualifications & Training: Students should have a background in prescribed fire planning, implementing, monitoring, permitting or smoke/air regulating and satisfactory completion of pre-course work.

S-130 Firefighter Training

Cost: CO - \$325.00 | BP - \$610.00

Instructor: Chip Broadwater

Course Description: This course is intended to train new firefighters in basic firefighting skills. This includes a required field exercise that is arduous in nature. The objectives of this course include:

- describe the purpose of the Standard Firefighting Orders & Watch Out Situations
- describe the Lookouts, Communications, Escape Routes, and Safety Zones (LCES) System and how it relates to the Standard Firefighting Orders
- describe the various communication methods & tools used for collecting, producing, & distributing information
- describe the standards, tools, & equipment, & various methods used in fireline construction
- describe the methods for extinguishing a fire with or without the use of water
- demonstrate the ability to construct fireline to required standards using various methods, tools & equipment, & techniques.

Please note: L-180 Human Factors on the Fireline is no longer included as part of this course. Students that successfully complete S-130 Firefighter Training will no longer be given credit for completing L-180 Human Factors on the Fireline.

The L-180 course will now be presented as a standalone course. This can be accomplished through the facilitation of an instructor led version of the course or completing the self-directed (online) version.

Review the specifics at <https://www.nwcg.gov/publications/training-courses/l-180/course-delivery>

Target Group: Personnel desiring to be qualified as entry level firefighters & support personnel. *Be sure to check agency specific guidelines; some agencies may have different requirements.*

Prerequisite Qualification & Training: S-190 Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior is a prerequisite ([S-190 Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior | NWCG](#)) & must have been successfully completed prior to taking S-130 Firefighter Training course. Successful completion of L-180 Human Factors on the Fireline ([L-180, Human Factors in The Wildland Fire Service, 2008 | NWCG](#)).

S-211 Portable Pumps and Water Use

Cost: CO - \$260.00 | BP - \$460.00

Instructor: Chad Northcraft

Course Description: This course is designed to provide the knowledge and skills to design setup, operate, troubleshoot, and shut down portable water delivery systems. The focus is on portable pumps – it does not address water delivery for engines. Topics include: portable water delivery systems, equipment, roles & responsibilities, and system design & hydraulics. There is also a field exercise where students will apply what they learned in the classroom.

Target Group: Personnel desiring to be qualified as a Firefighter Type 1 (FFT1) or Incident Commander Type 5 (ICT5), or those wanting to learn more about portable pumps and water use.

Prerequisite Qualifications & Training: There are no prerequisites for this course.

S-230 Crew Boss (Single Resource)

Cost: CO - \$260.00 | BP - \$480.00

Instructor: Jeremy Waite

Course Description: This classroom course is designed to produce student proficiency in the performance of duties associated with the single resource boss position from initial dispatch through demobilization to the home unit. Topics include: operational leadership, preparation & mobilization, assignment preparation, risk management, entrapment avoidance, safety & tactics, offline duties, demobilization and post incident responsibilities. The objectives of this course are:

- describe the crew boss responsibilities prior to & during mobilization, on the incident, & during demobilization
- identify the hazards & risks on various incidents and describe how to mitigate them
- describe tactics which are appropriate to various wildland fire situations & procedures to implement them through the chain of command.

Target Group: Personnel desiring to be qualified as any single resource boss.

Prerequisite Qualifications & Training: Qualified as Firefighter Type 1 (FFT1) and successful completion of Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior (S-290) and satisfactory completion of pre course work.

S-231 Engine Boss (Single Resource)

Cost: CO - \$155.00 | BP - \$315.00

Instructor: Jeremy Waite

Course Description: This is a skill course designed to produce student proficiency in the performance of the duties associated with Engine Boss Single Resource (ENGB). Topics include: engine & crew capabilities & limitations, information sources, fire size up considerations, tactics and wildland/urban

interface. The objective of this course is to perform the tasks of an Engine Boss in making the tactical decisions required to safely manage an engine on an incident.

Target Group: Personnel desiring to be qualified as an Engine Boss, Single Resource (ENGB).

Prerequisite Qualifications & Training: Qualified as a Firefighter Type 1 (FFT1) and successful completion of S-230 Crew Boss (Single Resource) (CRWB) (instructor led or blended delivery).

S-236 Heavy Equipment Boss (Single Resource)

Cost: CO - \$245.00 | BP - \$445.00

Instructor: Shannon Wolfe

Course Description: This is a skill course designed to meet the training needs of a Heavy Equipment Boss, Single Resource (HEQB) on an incident as outlined in the *NIMS: Wildland Fire Qualification System Guide*, PMS 310-1, & the Position Task Book developed for the position. Primary considerations are tactical use and safety precautions required to establish & maintain an effective dozer operation. A field day exercise is required as part of the course. Objectives include:

- identifying the duties and procedures of both an administrative role & the heavy equipment inspection process
- demonstrate the actions to safely and effectively complete an assignment
- discuss relevant information & methods for communication and tactics related to heavy equipment
- identify the process of preparing for an all-hazard assignment.

Target Group: Personnel desiring to be qualified as a Heavy Equipment Boss, single resource (HEQB).

Prerequisite Qualifications & Training: Qualified as a Firefighter Type 1 (FFT1), and satisfactory completion of pre course work.

ROV Basic Driver Course (UTV Operator)

Cost: CO - \$75.00 | BP - \$145.00

Instructor: Thomas Shuman

Course Description: The ROV (Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle) Basic Driver Course is a hands-on course, for licensed drivers, conducted by a certified ROV driver/coach. Students will develop the basic skills needed to operate an ROV in an off-road environment, including strategies to make safe & responsible driving decisions. This course offers approximately three hours of driving time on a closed range and post-exercise discussions to expand on the skills & strategies the students have learned. Objectives include: identifying & understanding an ROV's primary parts & controls, starting & stopping smoothly, low speed steering, turning, backing up, braking (both normal & quick stops), and swerving. Note: Students will receive a course completion certificate card in the mail 4-6 weeks after completion.

Target Group: Incident personnel who may have the occasion to utilize an ROV on an incident.

Prerequisite Qualification & Training: Students must have a valid driver's license and completion of E-course (found [here](#) - certificate of completion must be sent to instructor prior to class). Students need their own ROV (students may share if they are from the same agency; no more than 2 students per ROV) and provide the instructor with make/model/year of ROV. Please bring the following PPE: DOT compliant helmet, protective eye wear, long sleeve shirt/jacket, long pants, gloves, & over the ankle footwear.

S-270 Basic Air Operations

Cost: In Person Option - Coyle Field, Barnegat, NJ - \$140.00 | VIRTUAL Option - \$125.00

Instructor: Rob Gill

Course Description: This course covers aircraft types & capabilities, aviation management & safety for flying in & working with agency aircraft, tactical & logistical uses of aircraft, and requirements for helicopter take-off & landing areas. Students will have a basic understanding of the different functions of Air Operations. **Please note:** The regulations, procedures, & policies addressed in this course are primarily those governing federal agency & ICS operations. State, county, or other political subdivisions using this course will need to consult their agency having jurisdiction with respect to regulations, procedures and policies. Refer to the Interagency Aviation Training (IAT) Guide for IAT A-course equivalencies: <https://www.iat.gov/>.

Target Group: Personnel desiring to be qualified as Single Engine Manager (SEMG), Helicopter Manager, Single Resource (HMGB), Aircraft Dispatcher (ACDP), & other position that require basic knowledge of aviation operations.

Prerequisite Qualifications & Training: Satisfactory completion of pre course work.

Lodging: The nearest hotel to Coyle Field that offers government rates is the Holiday Inn Manahawkin/Long Beach Island, NJ. (609) 481-6100

S-273 Single Engine Airtanker Manager

Cost: In Person - Coyle Field, Barnegat, NJ - \$190.00

Instructor: TBD

Course Description: This course is designed to meet the training needs of a Single Engine Airtanker Manager (SEMG) as outlined in the *NIMS: Wildland Fire Qualification System Guide, PMS 310-1*, & the position task book developed for the position. Objectives include performing tasks required of a SEMG to mobilize and transition into an incident aviation environment; prepare for, manage, & oversee all phases of a single engine airtanker operation to support local unit & incident activities; evaluate the capabilities & organizational needs to implement a safe/efficient single engine airtanker operation to meet the requirements of the local unit and/or an Incident Action Plan or both.

Target Group: Personnel desiring to be qualified as a Single Engine Airtanker Manager (SEMG).

Prerequisite Qualifications & Training: Successful completion of S-270 Basic Air Operations. Students are required to complete five online modules and an assessment prior to coming to class. Refer to the Interagency Aviation Training (IAT) Guide for IAT A-course equivalencies. <https://www.iat.gov/>

Lodging: The nearest hotel to Coyle Field that offers government rates is the Holiday Inn Manahawkin/Long Beach Island, NJ.