

18 Situations that shout “Watch Out!”

- †1. Fire not scouted & sized up
- †2. In country not seen in daylight
- †3. Safety Zones & Escape routes not identified
- †4. Unfamiliar with weather and local factors influencing fire behavior
- †5. Uninformed on strategy, tactics and hazards
- †6. Instructions & assignments not clear
- †7. No communication link with crew members & supervisors
- †8. Constructing line without a safe anchor point
- †9. Building fireline downhill with fire below
- †10. Attempting frontal assault on fire
- †11. Unburned fuel between you and fire
- †12. Cannot see main fire, not in contact with anyone who can
- †13. On a hillside where rolling material can ignite fuel below
- †14. Weather is getting hotter & drier
- †15. Wind increases or changes direction
- †16. Getting frequent spot fires across the line
- †17. Terrain and fuels make escape to safety zones difficult
- †18. Taking a nap near the fireline

† = Means a firefighter fatality has occurred because of this situation

10 Fire Orders

- F**ight fire aggressively but provide for safety first
- I**nitiate all action based on current and expected fire behavior
- R**ecognize current weather conditions and obtain forecasts
- E**nsure instructions are given and understood
- O**btain current information on fire status
- R**emain in communication with crew members, your supervisor and adjoining forces
- D**etermine safety zones/ escape routes
- E**stablish lookouts in potentially hazardous situations
- R**etain control at all times
Stay alert, keep calm, think clearly, act decisively

L - Lookouts

C - Communications

E - Escape Routes

S - Safety Zones

