

**Updated February 7, 2022**

**Monitoring Checklist for  
S-215 Fire Operations in the Wildland/Urban Interface**

To ensure that sufficient wildland fire training opportunities are available for private sector contractors who participate in the Pacific Northwest crew and engine/tender contracts, and that this training meets or exceeds National Wildfire Coordination Group (NWCG) standards, the Pacific Northwest Wildfire Coordination Group (PNWCG) has entered into memorandums of understanding (MOUs) with representatives of two groups of training providers. The groups are firefighting contractor associations (FCA) and public training providers (PTP).

The United States Forest Service (USFS) MOU Representative and staff administer the FCA MOUs for PNWCG and monitor FCA courses and instructors.

The Interagency Zone Training Committee (IZTC) representatives perform PTP MOUs administration for PNWCG and monitor PTP courses and instructors in their respective geographic zones of responsibility. The IZTC may also be asked to have representatives monitor FCA courses by the MOU-Rep when needed.

This checklist outlines the key facilities, course concepts and teaching elements that course monitors should be observing and documenting.

Course monitors will introduce themselves to the lead instructor and explain that they are evaluating the course per the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Course monitoring checklists (see APPENDIX A) for each NWCG course being monitored will be provided to the IZTC member agency representative monitors in advance of assignments. The checklists will serve as both a form for evaluating the course instruction and a report to be sent to the IZTC. Course checklists may be completed through course monitoring and by examination of the written agenda, lesson plan, test(s), student evaluations or other documents presented by the instructor. Upon completion of the course monitoring/evaluation, monitor will scan and email the completed monitoring documentation to the R-6 Fire Contract Operations inbox [SM.FS.fact@usda.gov](mailto:SM.FS.fact@usda.gov) (within 2-3 working days of monitoring course delivery). The R-6 Fire Contract Operations Specialist will then forward monitoring documentation to the (FCA) or (PTP) the training provider is affiliated with; within ten (10) working days of training delivery.

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**NOTE:** Serious deficiencies include: omitting required course modules, substitution of training material that results in dropping portions of required course material, course instruction time varying greatly from recommendations listed in the NWCG Standards for Course Delivery (PMS 901-1), required oral and written testing not done or done with open book, or other deficiencies that limit the ability of students to learn the course objectives.

Monitoring Checklist for  
S-215 Fire Operations in the Wildland/Urban Interface

Name of Monitor \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Unit/Agency \_\_\_\_\_

Course Location \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Lead Instructor \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Certifying Association \_\_\_\_\_

Unit Instructor \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Certifying Association \_\_\_\_\_

Unit Instructor \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Certifying Association \_\_\_\_\_

Interpreter \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Certifying Association \_\_\_\_\_

**S-215 Course Administration.**

<b>Language Requirements</b>		
	<b>Y</b>	<b>N</b>
Non-English Speaking Students Present?		
Instructor able to Converse Fluently in Language of Non-English Speaking Students?		
If Instructor was Non-Fluent in Specific Language, was a Fluent Translator Present?		
Translator's Name:		
<b>Comments/Suggestions:</b>		

<b>Student Materials</b>		
	<b>Y</b>	<b>N</b>
Were Additional Materials including the following handed out?		
Were NWCG June 2013 course materials used?		
NFES 2442 S-215 Student Workbook		
NFES 2943 January 2014 Wildland Fire Incident Management Field Guide		
NFES 1077 Incident Response Pocket Guide		
ICT4, TFLD, or any STL Position Taskbook: <a href="http://www.nwcg.gov/publications/position-taskbooks">http://www.nwcg.gov/publications/position-taskbooks</a>		
Language Specific Course Materials Provided for Non-English Speaking Students?		
<b>Comments/Suggestions:</b>		

<b>Audiovisuals</b>		
<b><i>Were any audiovisual aids used to instruct including:</i></b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>N</b>
NFES 2440--S-215 Instructor Guide (necessary)		
NFES 2442--S-215 Student Workbook (necessary for each student)		
NFES 2441--S-215 CD-ROM Course Materials (necessary, includes electronic presentation)		
Computer with LCD projector and presentation software		
Viewing screen		
Flip charts with paper		
White boards		
Markers, both dry erase and permanent, in a variety of colors		
<b>Comments/Suggestions:</b>		

<b>Teaching Facility</b>		
<i>Did the Teaching Facility Provide for Adequate?</i>	<b>Y</b>	<b>N</b>
Space?		
Lighting?		
Seating?		
Ventilation?		
<b>Comments/Suggestions:</b>		

<b>Course Administration</b>		
	<b>Y</b>	<b>N</b>
Was Daily Attendance Documented with the use of Sign in Sheets?		
Was a Course Agenda Provided?		
Was A Final Test Administered?		
Were Field Exercises Included?		
Hands on Student Participation Observed?		
<b>Comments/Suggestions:</b>		

<b>Unit 0 – Course Introduction</b>		
Course Introduction (1 Hour) Start Time: _____ End Time: _____		
<b><i>Did the instructor cover the following objectives?</i></b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>N</b>
Introduce the course coordinator, instructors, and students		
Discuss Course logistics		
Provide a course overview		
Discuss course expectations		
Identify course reference materials		
Define the “interface”		
Compare and contrast differing agency policies in relation to interface incidents.		
<b>Comments/Suggestions:</b>		

<b>Unit 1- Firefighter Safety in the Interface</b>		
(2 Hours) Start Time: _____ End Time: _____		
<b><i>Did the instructor cover the following objectives?</i></b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>N</b>
Describe operating principles and unique safety concerns to firefighters in the interface.		
Describe escape routes, temporary refuge areas, and safety zones as they apply to firefighting in the interface.		
<b>Comments/Suggestions:</b>		

<b>Unit 2 – Managing Human Factors in the Interface</b>		
(1.5 Hours) Start Time: _____ End Time: _____		
<b><i>Did the instructor cover the following objectives?</i></b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>N</b>
Discuss how preparing for and responding to interface fires is a shared responsibility as outlined in the Federal Wildland Fire Policy.		
Describe some human factors encountered in the interface that affect critical decision making for firefighter and public safety.		

Discuss the value of the Incident Command System (ICS) and mutual aid situations as they apply to an interface incident.		
<b>Comments/Suggestions:</b>		

<b>Unit 3 – Pre-Incident Planning</b>		
<b>(1.5 Hours) Start Time: _____ End Time: _____</b>		
<b><i>Did the instructor cover the following objectives?</i></b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>N</b>
Identify three resources for pre-incident planning.		
List items to consider in pre-incident planning.		
<b>Comments/Suggestions:</b>		

<b>Unit 4 – Size up and Initial Strategy</b>		
<b>(1 Hour) Start Time: _____ End Time: _____</b>		
<b><i>Did the instructor cover the following objectives?</i></b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>N</b>
Describe items to consider when sizing up an interface fire, before and after arriving at the scene.		
Describe items to consider when developing an initial strategy and plan.		
Describe initial operations and briefing requirements during an emerging interface incident.		
Discuss issues regarding evacuation operations during an interface incident.		
<b>Comments/Suggestions:</b>		

<b>Unit 5 - Structure Triage</b>		
(2 Hours) Start Time: _____ End Time: _____		
<b>Did the instructor cover the following objectives?</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>N</b>
List the four structure triage categories and the four items in the decision process.		
List five factors on which to base structure triage decisions, and give three examples of each.		
List conditions that indicate a structure cannot be saved.		
<b>Comments/Suggestions:</b>		

<b>Unit 6 – Structure Protection Overview</b>		
(1 Hour) Start Time: _____ End Time: _____		
<b>Did the instructor cover the following objectives?</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>N</b>
Select a tactical action and determine if it is offensive or defensive.		
List the seven structure protection tactical actions.		
<b>Comments/Suggestions:</b>		

<b>Unit 7 – Tactics in the Interface</b>		
(2 Hours) Start Time: _____ End Time: _____		
<b>Did the instructor cover the following objectives?</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>N</b>
List items to consider when evaluating the structure’s exterior.		
Identify items to address when performing exterior structure preparation.		
List tasks to perform when preparing the structure’s interior.		
Identify the importance and required tasks to perform after the fire front passes.		
<b>Comments/Suggestions:</b>		



<b>Unit 8 – Tactical Operations and Resource Use in the Interface</b>		
<b>(1 Hour) Start Time: _____ End Time: _____</b>		
<b>Did the instructor cover the following objectives?</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>N</b>
Identify Tactics employed in confronting a fire at a structure.		
List tactical uses of different resources at an interface incident.		
Given a firing operation in the interface, list methods to protect structures.		
<b>Comments/Suggestions:</b>		

<b>Unit 9 – Action Assessment, Plan Update, and After Action Review</b>		
<b>(1 Hour) Start Time: _____ End Time: _____</b>		
<b>Did the instructor cover the following objectives?</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>N</b>
List the seven items that need to be considered in assessing the effectiveness of an action plan.		
Given an action plan and scenario, demonstrate how to properly update the plan when the scenario changes.		
Identify steps used in After Action Review (AAR)		
<b>Comments/Suggestions:</b>		

