

SAFETY MESSAGE

County Line Wildfire

April 21, 2012

Are things a little slow today? Slow days or unexciting shifts sometimes feed **complacency**. When minds wander, bodies often follow, bumping into accidents along the way. Sharpen your SA and focus on the jobs for the day. Keep your mind and your crew engaged. Wildfire suppression has many parts, including mop up and patrol. Successful fire work includes safe operations in all the parts.



THUNDERSTORM SAFETY

- Stay out of dry creek beds
- Do not use radios or telephones
- Put down all tools
- Sit or crouch if in open country
- Avoid grouping together
- Do not handle flammable materials in open containers
- Stay in your vehicle. Take shelter in vehicles if possible.
- Turn off machinery, electric motors
- Take shelter in a building, if available
- Avoid lone trees, wire fences, telephone lines, etc.

If you feel an electric charge; tingle, of hair stands up, **DROP TO THE GROUND!**

The wet weather has helped us with our fire suppression actions, but has changed the **driving situation**. Water on paved roads increases the distance required to **stop** and increases the opportunity to **hydroplane**. If you **reduce your speed** and look ahead, you can mitigate those hazards. Those unpaved roads are getting **soft, slick** and may develop **ruts** in places. **Think ahead** about places to pull off roads, turn around and stage vehicles; the heavier your vehicle, the further ahead you need to think.

Ya'll have done well on this fire and have a great safety record. When the time comes for your **demob, drive to stay alive**. Get at least 8 hours of rest, drive for no more than 10 hours and take a break every 2 hours. Contact your home dispatcher to coordinate travel check-ins. Plan your travel to arrive home by 2200 at the latest. If your agency has more stringent requirements than these, follow them.

Incident Safety Officers: Larry, Brad, Tom, Glen and Buddy