HEALTH AND SAFETY MESSAGE

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| INCIDENT: Florida - County line Fire | DATE: April 24-27, 2012  TIME: Day Shift |
| ***Major Hazards and Risks:***  **Transition**  **Mop Up and Reburn**  **Hydration and Rest** | |
| ***Transition***  This is a large incident with many divisions. Know who your supervisor is and understand the Leader’s intent.  Briefing: See the back cover of the IRPG for the briefing checklist. Every firefighter must be briefed on their assignment. A complete briefing includes a description of: the Situation, the Mission, Communication frequencies, cell phone numbers, the Medevac plan, Service/Support, and Risk Management. If you aren’t sure, ask questions.    **Communications**: As the transition takes place, the need to effectively communicate on the fire is important. Take personal responsibility to ensure that people you interact with know what they need to know. Transition brings new faces and different ways of communicating. Make it work.  ***Mop Up and Reburn Potential***  **Common Denominators of Fire Behavior on Tragedy Fires**: Tragedies have occurred in periods of reduced fire activity, transitions, and **mop-up** stage. This fire has needle cast and leaf drop in bays from the original fire. Make a note on maps of thickest fuel load from leaf/needle drop and proximity to heat sources. Maintain your situational awareness for **reburn** potential. Focus on your assignment. Manage distractions. Do a risk assessment and see page 1 of the IRPG for a checklist. This fire has a lot of falling tree potential as the organic material holding the roots has burned or is still burning in the bays. Post a lookout and keep heads-up or don’t go into the snag patch. Find another way to mitigate the problem.  ***Hydration and Rest***  **The firefighters’ enemies are dehydration and fatigue**: Are you peeing yellow? You are dehydrated and need to drink water now. Drink 2 waters per 1 gator aid. Are you getting sleepy or have a tough time concentrating? Take breaks and rest in the shade. Your vehicle is your best refuge from bugs, heat, and smoke. Get 8 hours of sleep per night. More information can be found on page 45 of the IRPG – Heat-Related Injuries. Can you tell the difference between Heat Cramps, Heat Exhaustion and Heat Stroke? Check it out and discuss with your taskforce.  Be safe out there. | |
| Tom Krueger | Safety Officer |