



Advanced Firefighter Training Information

The advanced course work described below provides the next level of training needed to progress to firefighter type 1 position; you must also be able to pass a fitness test. Completion of these courses does not qualify you to fight fire – only an NWCG member agency or organization can qualify you and issue a qualification (red) card. **The Michigan Prescribed Fire Council does not issue qualification (red) cards.**

For more information on how to become a firefighter:

Seasonal Firefighter Positions (http://training.nwcg.gov/sect_firef_seasonal.htm)

Permanent Firefighter Positions (http://training.nwcg.gov/sect_firef_full.htm)

Who can take this training?

The Michigan Prescribed Fire Council can provide this training as an affiliate of NWCG through its members. By registering with MPFC, you will receive the name of a course administrator that will be available to assist you with questions regarding the course work. Registration will open when the Training Committee determines there is sufficient interest; submit the [Course Interest Form](#) to indicate your interest.

How much does it cost?

There is no cost for the online courses. Registration costs will be determined when course is scheduled.

Required course work for Firefighter Type 1

Prerequisites: S-130, S-190 & I-100 (certificates must be provided to the Course Coordinator)

S-290 Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior

This course is required for those planning to work as a Firefighter Type 1 or a Fire Effects Monitor on wildfires, fire use fires, and prescribed fires. It builds upon the basics in S-190, Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior, but with more detailed information about characteristics and interactions of the wildland fire environment (fuels, weather, and topography) that affect wildland fire behavior for safety purposes.

This course can be completed in approximately 15 hours. It is broken into thirteen units that consist of an introduction and twelve unit topics.

Registration

Registration for the online course is available through MetEd (http://www.meted.ucar.edu/dl_courses/S290/).

Certification

Certification is provided by the provider (MetEd).

S-290 Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior (online course w/RECOMMENDED 24 hours of supplemental classroom instruction)

The student will complete the first 11 Units online as indicated above OR have previously passed the classroom course. The classroom instruction provided by MPFC will begin with a review of the first 11 Units and conclude with an expanded Unit 12, with more emphasis on The Fire Line Assessment Method (FLAME) (8 hours). In addition, the student will receive instruction in the Canadian Forest Fire Danger Rating System (CFFDRS) (16 hours).

The **objectives** of the expanded Unit 12 (FLAME) include:

- Understand the role of unforeseen change in fireline fatality cases
- Recognize the dominant factors that drive large, sudden changes in fire behavior
- Identify the “next big change” expected on the fireline
- Predict the magnitude of the change
- Utilize the above information in applying LCES
- Combine the expected change with observed fire behavior to predict future fire-spread

The **objectives** of the Canadian Forest Fire Danger Rating System (CFFDRS) section include:

- Provide an overall awareness of the system, its applicability and utility
- Develop the ability to calculate daily Fire Weather Index (FWI) codes and indices and interpret their meaning
- Create the ability to integrate fuels, weather, and terrain information into a fire behavior assessment using the Canadian Forest Fire Behavior Prediction System (CFFBRS)
- Identify access to online weather forecasts and CFFDRS, FWI, and FBP information
- Combine with field observations to interpret and apply CFFDRS for field use.

S-131 Advanced Fire Fighter Course

This classroom course is required for those looking to further their suppression skills and become qualified as a Firefighter Type 1 (FFT1) or Incident Commander Type 5 (ICT5). The course establishes the groundwork for basic fireline leadership and applied tactical procedures.

The **objectives** include:

- Demonstrate the ability to use fireline reference tools to facilitate the communication and decision making processes
- Describe how to incorporate and maintain open lines of communication with appropriate personnel
- Demonstrate the ability to apply the standard operating procedures in the Incident Response Pocket Guide
- Demonstrate the ability to apply information found in the Fireline Handbook

Registration

MPFC is currently accepting [Course Interest Form](#) for students interested in participating in the additional course work for S-290 and/or S-131 as described above. Complete the form and return by e-mail to info@firecouncil.org; you will be contacted when the course is scheduled. A minimum of 20 students are required for all MPFC-sponsored courses.

Certification

S-290: A student that completes the online course AND the additional 24 hours (including FLAME and CFFDRS) will receive an NWCG certificate issued by the Course Administrator.

S-131: A student that completes the 8 hours of classroom instruction will receive an NWCG certificate issued by the Course Administrator.

How can I access it?

S-290: The student may complete the online portion (first 11 Units) at any time prior to the classroom portion being scheduled (http://www.met.ed.ucar.edu/dl_courses/S290/). The student MUST save/print the Unit certificates in order to show successful completion and be admitted to the classroom portion.

S-131: This course is not available online.

Contact Information

Ryan Koziatek, Course Coordinator
Kalamazoo Nature Center
7000 N. Westnedge Ave
Kalamazoo, MI 49009

email: info@firecouncil.org
phone: 269.381.1574 x41
fax: 269.381.2557