Standard Firefighting Orders

- 1. Keep informed on fire weather conditions and forecasts.
- 2. Know what your fire is doing at all times.
- 3. Base all actions on current and expected behavior of the fire.
- 4. Identify escape routes and safety zones, and make them know.
- 5. Post lookouts when there is possible danger.
- 6. Be alert. Keep calm. Think clearly. Act decisively.
- 7. Maintain prompt communications with your forces, your supervisor and adjoining forces.
- 8. Give clear instructions and be sure they are understood.
- 9. Maintain control of your forces at all times.
- 10. Fight fire aggressively, having provided for safety first.

Watch Out Situations

- 1. Fire not scouted and sized up.
- 2. In country not seen in daylight.
- 3. Safety zones and escape routes not identified.
- 4. Unfamiliar with weather & local factors influencing fire behavior.
- 5. Uninformed on strategy, tactics, and hazards.
- 6. Instructions and assignments not clear.
- 7. No communication link with crew members or supervisor.
- 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 someone who can.
- 13. On a hillside where rolling material can ignite fuel below.
- 14. Weather becoming hotter and drier.
- 15. Wind increases and/or changes direction.
- 16. Getting frequent spot fires across line.
- 17. Terrain and fuels make escape to safety zones difficult.
- 18. Taking a nap near fireline.