

■ **GEAR AND EQUIPMENT FOR RED PACK**
(weight 35 pounds):

Toilet kit and towel
Plastic bags
Tennis shoes
Wool hat & gloves
Boot laces (extra)
Sleeping bag & pad
Extra prescription glasses
Extra work gloves
Extra headlamp batteries
Extra nomex pants
Extra nomex shirt
Socks
Bandannas
Underwear
Chapstick
Boot grease
Foot powder
Vitamins
Approx. \$50 cash

NAME _____

HOME UNIT _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE # _____

RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

I have read and understand the
contents of this brochure.

X _____
(signature)

■ **ACCOMODATIONS "ON THE LINE" AND
IN FIRE CAMP**

Your crew may experience a variety of job assignments, mop-up, handline construction, firing operation, structure defense, shuttling water, rolling hose, or even breaking down camp. Which-ever the task, anticipate and expect long hours, constantly changing operational periods, hard work, little rest and ongoing change in regard to plans and objectives. These assignments may place you in hazardous situations. The fire experience will include: crew members using tools, machines, dozers & engines, aircraft, poison oak, bees/snakes and other stinging things, steep terrain, high altitude, electrical storms and hot/dry climates.

You will be working long shifts. Your first shift can exceed 16 hours. Normally your shift will be 12 or more hours. Night shifts are not uncommon. You will normally not have any days off during your assignment.

If you are assigned to a large fire you will be living in a fire camp. Fire camps will range from small and simple to very large and complex. They will provide you with food and possibly showers.

You will be sleeping on the ground. Nights can be cold so you should be prepared for all possible weather conditions.

It is possible that you will be moved from one fire to another. At the end of your fire assignment the crew will be demobilized. The demobilization process is often slow and requires patience.

It is important that you accept these working and living conditions and carry out your assignment with a positive attitude.



**Wildland
Fire Crew
Assignments**

■ INDIVIDUAL REQUIREMENTS FOR WILDLAND FIRE ASSIGNMENTS

Fire fighting is both mentally and physically rigorous. The experience can also be rewarding and adventurous. Wildland fire handcrew assignments can help to develop a well-rounded career, provide interagency opportunities, add new duties to your resume or 171, and exercise team building skills under trying conditions. If you choose to accept a crew dispatch, it is important that you read, understand, and follow this information for your own well-being and because you will be representing your home unit as well as the Department of Interior.

Before you are eligible for a wildland fire assignment, you must have received and passed the basic wildland fire training classes, S-130 and S-190, and the required physical fitness testing.

You must have a current Red Card with you. The card will be checked during mobilization and if you do not have it, or it is not current, you will be returned to your home unit.

Individuals interested in assignments must have a full understanding of what is required and realistic expectations concerning wildland assignments. Physical and mental preparedness, and a positive attitude are essential.

Being properly prepared for wildland fire assignments is the responsibility of the individual firefighter. Physical and mental fitness are the deciding factors in the success of your assignment. You will become a member of a twenty person team and each member of the team relies on the others to be physically and mentally prepared. If you are not prepared, you may jeopardize the safety and success of the entire crew, and you should not be on wildland fire assignments.

The crew boss is the team leader and is responsible for the safety and well being of the crew. The crew boss is the supervisor of the crew and you are responsible to that supervisor for your actions.

Be prepared for a time commitment of 21 days; however many assignments may be less, depending on fire activity and some will require 22 or 23 days allowing for travel and demobilization of personnel to their home units. You must be prepared to stay for the duration of the assignment. You will remain as a team until you are officially released to your home unit.

You need to be properly outfitted before you can work on wildfires. You will be issued approximately \$400 worth of gear — TAKE GOOD CARE OF IT.

Your initial attack equipment and Red Pack combined have a weight limit of 55 pounds. Your gear will be weighed and you are required to meet the weight limit. Items are not to be tied to the outside of your red bag.

■ REQUIRED INITIAL ATTACK EQUIPMENT (weight 20 pounds):

- Nomex pants
- Nomex shirt
- Lug sole boots w/minimum 8" lace-up leather uppers (no steel toes)
- Gloves
- Class B hard hat with chin strap
- Fire shelter in protective plastic case (must be carried on belt)
- Fire shelter case
- I.A. pack
- Headlamp w/good batteries
- 4 canteens with cases
- 10" mill-bastard flat file with sheath
- Eye protection (goggles or glasses w/safety lenses)

- 4 backfiring fuses
- Food (enough for long first shift)
- Individual first aid kit with latex gloves
- Ear protection
- Smoke protection goggles
- Space blanket or plastic sheet (for overnight use)
- Poncho or rain jacket

■ OPTIONAL

- Wrist watch
- Pocket knife

■ BE SURE YOUR RED PACK HAS A NAME TAG ON IT WITH THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

- Name
- Park
- Park address
- Telephone number
- RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

