

## SEASONAL FIREFIGHTER I

### **Definition:**

Under close supervision, to learn to suppress wildland fires and to serve as a member of a wildland fire suppression crew.

### **Distinguishing Characteristics**

This is the entry level of the Seasonal Firefighter classification series. Incumbents perform in a learning capacity to gain working knowledge of fire behavior, fire control and fire suppression techniques.

### **Essential Functions:**

#### **In a learning capacity**

- Performs assignments to develop knowledge of fuels management and fire suppression techniques and practices such as fireline construction, backfiring methods, safety rules, and fire and fuels management terminology.
- Searches out and extinguishes burning materials by moving dirt, applying water by hose or backpack pump, etc.
- Moves dirt, chops brush, or fells small trees to build fireline using hand tools such as axe, shovel, Pulaski, McLeod and chainsaw to control spreading wildland fire and to prepare lines prior to controlled burning. Chops, carries and piles brush and timber slash.
- Patrols the fireline to locate and extinguish sparks, flare-ups, and hot spot fires that may threaten loss of control of the fireline developed for controlled burning as to control wildfire.
- Cleans, reconditions and stores hand tools and equipment.
- Performs other job-related duties as assigned.

### **Employment Standards:**

High School Diploma, G.E.D. or equivalent OR any equivalent combination of training or experience.

Possession of a valid California Class C Driver's License at the time of appointment.

**Knowledge of:** standard forestry practices and techniques, including accepted fire suppression and controlled burning methods to be used in various types of fuels and under a variety of weather and terrain.

**Ability to:** learn technical firefighting techniques; learn to use hand tools such as an axe, shovel, Pulaski, McLeod or chain saws to build fireline and extinguish burning materials.

The work requires strenuous physical exertion for extended periods including, but not limited to, walking, climbing, shoveling, chopping, throwing, lifting, and carrying objects weighing 50 pounds or more.

Because of the strenuous nature of this position, employees will be required to maintain fitness through daily physical training as determined by the crew supervisor and the Federal Wildland Firefighter Fitness Standard of "Arduous" as established by the Work Capacity Teat (PACK test).

The work is performed in a wildland environment in steep, uneven, rocky terrain, covered with thick tangled vegetation. Temperatures are frequently extreme, due to weather and/or fire conditions. Smoke and dust conditions are frequently severe and employee may be exposed to weather borne illnesses. The hazardous nature of the position requires that protective clothing (boots, hard hats, gloves, fire resistive clothing) must be worn. Hazards may include, but are not limited to, falling or rolling materials.

A background check may be conducted for this classification.

All Kern County employees are designated "Disaster Service Workers" through state and local laws (CA Government Code Sec.3100-3109 and Ordinance Code Title 2-Administration, Ch. 2.66 Emergency Services). As Disaster Service Workers, all County employees are expected to remain at work, or to report for work as soon as practicable, following a significant emergency or disaster.

Revised  
December 2008  
#4645  
JS4645