

California Wildland Fire Coordinating Group



July 20, 2009



2009 Firefighter Safety Message



Every firefighter has the right to a safe assignment. This year the California Wildland Fire Coordinating Group would like to emphasize the importance of planning for timely first aid and evacuation of injured firefighters assigned to wildfires in California:



- Incident commanders and decision makers at all levels should integrate planning for medical aid and evacuation into risk assessment and decision making.
- Medical plans should be validated for each operational period to assure that information in such plans is accurate and appropriate to planned operations.
- The planning and strategy meeting should include the validation of the ability of the incident to provide both medical care and evacuation to all areas of the fire where firefighters are assigned. Estimates should be made of the time required for first responders to provide aid and for evacuation to a medical facility to take place.
- Responsibility for direction and supervision of evacuation should be clearly defined.
- We encourage coordinated planning for medical aid and evacuation between multiple incidents and jurisdictions in the same general area.



The health and safety of our firefighters and the public takes precedence over any other incident objectives.

