



Test Lab - Wildland Fire Management Merit Badge Workbook

SCOUTMASTER BUCKY

Test Lab – Wildland Fire Management Patches are 1-1/2 inch in size and are available for \$3.25 each (plus shipping) through Scoutmaster Bucky. Email for information: ScoutmasterBucky@yahoo.com

Scouts participating in a Scoutmaster Bucky Scouts BSA Test Lab merit badge opportunity, whether online or in person, should consider using the Wildland Fire Management Test Lab class preparation pages for clarifications, insights, and expectations.

<https://scoutmasterbucky.com/merit-badges/wildland-fire-management-tl/wildland-fire-management-tl-cpp.pdf>

THE TEST LAB FOR THE AUCTIONEERING MERIT BADGE IS EFFECTIVE UNTIL JUNE 30, 2026. AT THAT TIME, THESE REQUIREMENTS WILL DISAPPEAR AND THE SURVEYS WILL BE CLOSED. [CLICK HERE TO GO TO SURVEY](#)

REQUIREMENT 15c REQUIRES COUNSELOR APPROVAL.

REQUIREMENT 1: Explain the history of wildland fire, its suppression, prevention and management in America.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 2: Explain the harm caused by wildfire in the United States.

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 2a: Discuss the negative impacts that wildfire can have on commercial forest products.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 2b: Discuss the negative impacts that wildfire can have on fish and wildlife habitat.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 2c: Discuss the negative impacts that wildfire can have on soil and water.

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 2d: Discuss the negative impacts that wildfire can have on recreation and public use.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 2e: Discuss the negative impacts that wildfire can have on homes, communities, and human resources.

Homes:

Communities:

Human Resources:



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REQUIREMENT 2f: Discuss the negative impacts that wildfire can have on air quality and public health.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 3: Define prescribed fire.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 3a: Explain how prescribe fire is used to accomplish fuel reduction.

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 3b: Explain how prescribe fire is used to accomplish fish and wildlife habitat enhancement.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 3c: Explain how prescribe fire is used to accomplish ecosystem restoration.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 3d: Explain how prescribe fire is used to accomplish forest regeneration.

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 3e: Explain how prescribe fire is used to accomplish insect and disease control.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 4: Explain defensible space and define the term wildland-urban interface.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 4: Discuss how homes and communities in the wildland-urban interface can be protected from wildfire.

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 5: Explain the main causes of wildfire in America.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 5: Explain how you can prevent wildfires in your community or on an outing with your unit.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 6: Describe the Fire Triangle.

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 6: Explain how wildfires can be suppressed by removing each element of the fire triangle.

Element 1:

Element 2:

Element 3:

REQUIREMENT 7: Explain how the fire environment affects wildland fire behavior.

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 7: Give examples of the influences of weather, topography and fuel. Draw a diagram to illustrate the parts of a wildfire.

Weather:

Topography:

Fuel:



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REQUIREMENT 8:	Explain the following wildland fire suppression tactics and under which conditions they would be used to achieve objectives. Use your own diagrams if necessary.					
	a. direct attack	b. indirect attack	c. parallel attack	d. minimum impact suppression tactics	e. mop-up	f. use of machinery and aircraft
	g. fire management for resource benefit objectives					h. repair and restoration

REQUIREMENT 8a:	Direct Attack
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Explanation of Tactic:

Under which conditions they would be used to achieve objectives:

Diagrams (if necessary):



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REQUIREMENT 8b: Indirect Attack

Explanation of Tactic:

Under which conditions they would be used to achieve objectives:

Diagrams (if necessary):



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REQUIREMENT 8c: Parallel Attack

Explanation of Tactic:

Under which conditions they would be used to achieve objectives:

Diagrams (if necessary):



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REQUIREMENT 8d: Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics

Explanation of Tactic:

Under which conditions they would be used to achieve objectives:

Diagrams (if necessary):



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REQUIREMENT 8e: Mop-Up

Explanation of Tactic:

Under which conditions they would be used to achieve objectives:

Diagrams (if necessary):



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REQUIREMENT 8f: Use of Machinery and Aircraft

Explanation of Tactic:

Under which conditions they would be used to achieve objectives:

Diagrams (if necessary):



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REQUIREMENT 8g: Fire Management for Resource Benefit Objectives

Explanation of Tactic:

Under which conditions they would be used to achieve objectives:

Diagrams (if necessary):



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REQUIREMENT 8h: Repair and Restoration

Explanation of Tactic:

Under which conditions they would be used to achieve objectives:

Diagrams (if necessary):



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REQUIREMENT 9: Describe 10 tools, equipment or apparatus that are unique to wildland fire suppression and explain how these items are used.

TOOL, EQUIPMENT, APPARATUS #1:

Name:

How Used:

TOOL, EQUIPMENT, APPARATUS #2:

Name:

How Used:

TOOL, EQUIPMENT, APPARATUS #3:

Name:

How Used:



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TOOL, EQUIPMENT, APPARATUS #4:

Name:

How Used:

TOOL, EQUIPMENT, APPARATUS #5:

Name:

How Used:

TOOL, EQUIPMENT, APPARATUS #6:

Name:

How Used:



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TOOL, EQUIPMENT, APPARATUS #7:

Name:

How Used:

TOOL, EQUIPMENT, APPARATUS #8:

Name:

How Used:

TOOL, EQUIPMENT, APPARATUS #9:

Name:

How Used:



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TOOL, EQUIPMENT, APPARATUS #10:

Name:

How Used:

REQUIREMENT 10: Describe the personal protective equipment used by wildland firefighters.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 10: Explain why personal protective equipment and proper training is necessary.

Notes:



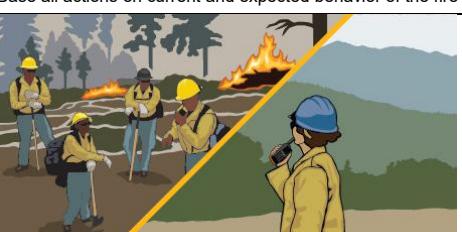
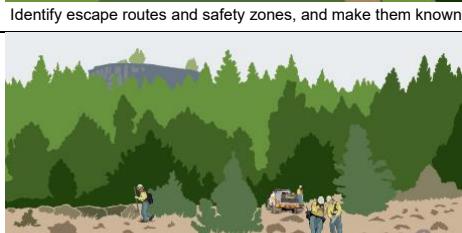
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REQUIREMENT 11: Describe the following and explain why each is an important consideration for maintaining personal safety and situational awareness during wildland fire suppression activities.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 11a: 10 Standard Firefighting Orders

		
Keep informed on fire weather conditions and forecasts	Know what your fire is doing at all times	Base all actions on current and expected behavior of the fire
		
Identify escape routes and safety zones, and make them known	Post lookouts when there is possible danger	Be alert. Keep calm. Think clearly. Act decisively
		
Maintain prompt communications with your forces, your supervisor, and adjoining forces	Give clear instructions and be sure they are understood	Maintain control of your forces at all times
		



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REQUIREMENT 11b: 18 Watch Out Situations

Fire not scouted and sized up	In country not seen in daylight	Safety zones and escape routes not identified
Unfamiliar with weather and local factors influencing fire behavior	Uninformed on strategy, tactics, and hazards	Instructions and assignments not clear
No communication link with crew members or supervisor	Constructing line without safe anchor point	Building fireline downhill with fire below
Attempting frontal assault on fire	Unburned fuel between you and fire	Cannot see main fire; not in contact with someone who can
On a hillside where rolling material can ignite fuel below	Weather becoming hotter and drier	Wind increases and/or changes direction
Getting frequent spot fires across line	Terrain and fuels make escape to safety zones difficult	Taking a nap near fireline



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REQUIREMENT 11c: Lookouts, Communication, Escape Routes and Safety Zones (LCES)

Lookouts

Have experience to recognize potential threats
Be decisive
Communicate clearly
Be in a position to see potential threats and the entire crew
Be in a safe location

Escape Routes

Easily traveled and lead away from the fire, directly to the safety zone
If there is cut-off potential, two routes should be planned and discussed
Establish new escape routes as the effectiveness diminishes

Communications

Have a communication plan
Command to retreat must be clearly understood by all

Safety Zones

Locations of adequate refuge from advancing fire
Large enough for all who might use them
Located for effectiveness
Large enough for protection without a fire shelter.:

REQUIREMENT 12: List the major government agencies involved with fire suppression in the United States, and the role that these agencies play in fire suppression.

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 13: Draw a diagram of the Incident Command System.

REQUIREMENT 13: Explain the functions of the positions that make up the Command and General Staff.

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 14: Learn about three career opportunities in wildland fire.

Career Opportunity #1:

Career Opportunity #2:

Career Opportunity #3:

REQUIREMENT 14: Select one and research the education, training, and experience required for this position. Discuss this position with your counselor.

Selected Career Opportunity:

Education Requirements:

Training Requirements:

Experience Requirements:

REQUIREMENT 14: Explain why a career in wildland fire might interest you.

Notes:



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DO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING (15A, 15B, 15C, or 15D) FOR REQUIREMENT 15

REQUIREMENT 15a: Develop a fire readiness plan for a wildland area with which you are familiar. The plan should include a map showing available resources, water supplies, natural and manmade barriers, and access. The plan should discuss fuel loads, available fire apparatus, structure protection needs, values at risk, medical and evacuation considerations and potential fire suppression tactics.

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REQUIREMENT 15b: Visit with a state or federal forestry official or your local fire warden. Discuss the causes of and types of wildland fire that occur in your area. Discuss the prime fire season(s) in your area. Identify the agency responsible for wildland fire suppression in your area. Write a brief report about what you learned during your visit.

Name, Title, and Organization they Represent with whom you Visited:

Date, And Location of Visit:

Causes of and types of wildland fire that occur in your area:

Prime fire season(s) in your area:

Identify the agency responsible for wildland fire suppression in your area:

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 15c: Conduct a fire wise assessment of a home or a building in the wildland-urban interface, which could include a Scout camp building or facility. Identify potential risks and fire hazards. With your counselor's approval, complete a project to reduce the wildfire risk and increase the preparedness of the building. Write a brief report about what you did and learned from the assessment and project.

COUNSELOR APPROVAL: IS REQUIRED.

Counselor's Name

Phone or Email

Counselor's Signature

Date *approved*

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 15d: Participate in a fire prevention campaign with your local fire department or forestry agency. Write a brief report about what you did and what you learned from it.

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 16: Research an historic catastrophic wildland fire incident that has occurred in the United States. Write a report of no less than 500 words describing the incident, the conditions that led to the incident, how the incident was managed, and how the incident could have been prevented. Explain what lessons were learned and how this incident affected future fire suppression policy or suppression tactics. There are many historic fires that can be researched online, here are four examples.

Selected Historic Catastrophic Wildland Fire Incident:

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 17: Complete the survey to complete the test lab requirements. [Click here](#)

You will need to complete the survey and follow its instructions in order to gain credit for completing this Test Lab Merit Badge