



Fire Protection Training

Procedures Handbook 4300

MOBILE EQUIPMENT

TOPIC: Bulldozer Swamper

TIME FRAME: 30 Minutes

LEVEL OF INSTRUCTION:

BEHAVIORAL OBJECTIVE:

Condition: A written quiz

Behavior: The student will list and describe the job of the bulldozer swamper.

Standard: With a minimum of 70% accuracy

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- A bulldozer transport
- Dozer tender if available or appropriate visual aids
- Audio visual equipment

REFERENCES: None

PREPARATION: As a fire fighter you may be assigned as a bulldozer swamper. This is a normal fire suppression activity and your job is to assist the Heavy Fire Equipment Operator by acting as an assistant during fireline construction and other emergency operations.



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BULLDOZER SWAMPER

PRESENTATION

APPLICATION

I. BULLDOZER SWAMPER DUTIES

A. Assist Bulldozer Operator in Safely Performing Fire Control Duties

1. Serve as an "extra" set of eyes and ears
 - a. Design of bulldozer is such that forward and rearward visibility is limited
 - (1) Wrap-around canopy
 - (2) Front mounted blade
 - (3) Oversize engine compartment
 - b. Environmental conditions further limit visibility
 - (1) Dust
 - (2) Smoke
 - (3) Night operations
 - c. Ambient noise level is high during active operations
 - (1) Radio traffic may be difficult to hear
 - (2) Other forms of verbal communication may be impossible to hear
 - (3) Noise associated with threatening fire behavior may go unheeded
2. Seek out potential hazards
 - a. Cliffs
 - b. Shafts

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PRESENTATION	APPLICATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none">c. Rock outcroppingsd. Power linese. Weakened, dead, or diseased treesf. Unstable boulders or embankmentsg. Fence linesh. Other firefighting personnel and equipmenti. Extreme fire behavior or conditionsj. Spot firesk. Potentially dangerous topographical land features<ul style="list-style-type: none">(1) Saddles(2) Chimneys(3) Box canyons3. Maintain communications with<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Dozer operator<ul style="list-style-type: none">(1) Standardized hand signals may be most effective means(2) Handie-talkie should be availableb. Fireline supervisorsc. Adjacent resources4. Assist operator in picking best route to construct fire control line<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Generally as near fire's edge as possible	

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PRESENTATION	APPLICATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none">b. Minimum exposure to hazardsc. Maximum advantage of fire barriers<ul style="list-style-type: none">(1) Natural(2) Human improvementsd. Minimum number of obstacles <p>II. SAFETY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Observe Ten Standard Firefighting OrdersB. Consider the Thirteen Fire Situations that Shout "Watch Out"C. Consider the Five Common Denominators of Fire FatalitiesD. If You've Any Questions of What Operator Expects of You:<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Reflect on instructions previously given2. Attract operator's attention prior to approaching for further direction3. Mount the bulldozer only after it has come to a complete stop <p>III. MISCELLANEOUS BULLDOZER SWAMPER DUTIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Administrative Duties<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Assist in inspecting, maintaining, and repairing<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Bulldozerb. Transportc. Bulldozer tender	



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PRESENTATION	APPLICATION
<p>2. Assist in preparation and submission of records and reports</p> <p>B. Operational Duties</p> <p>1. Assisting with loading and unloading the bulldozer</p> <p>2. Operating the bulldozer tender</p> <p>IV.</p>	

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SUMMARY:

The bulldozer swamper assignment is an important assignment. An experienced swamper can substantially increase the safety and the effectiveness of mechanized fireline construction operations.

EVALUATION:

A written quiz.

ASSIGNMENT:

To be determined by instructor(s).