



Fire Protection Training

Procedures Handbook 4300

HANDTOOLS

TOPIC: California Barron Tool

TIME FRAME: 30 Minutes

LEVEL OF INSTRUCTION:

BEHAVIORAL OBJECTIVE:

Condition: A written quiz

Behavior: The student will identify, describe the basic use, care, maintenance, and safety precautions associated with the California Barron tool.

Standard: With a minimum of 70% accuracy

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- California Barron tool with guard
- Appropriate visual aids
- Audio visual equipment
- Vise
- Wooden blocks
- Gloves
- File with handle and guard

REFERENCES:

- Wildland Firefighting, Clayton, Day, McFadden, Chapter 6
- IFSTA, Ground Cover Firefighting Practices, 2nd Edition, Chapter 1

PREPARATION:

The California Barron tool can be used in both wildland and structure fire environments. The tool was designed and named by a former CDF State Forester. It's long metal shank and ferrule make it suitable for use on burning operations and on firing operations.



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CALIFORNIA BARRON TOOL

PRESENTATION	APPLICATION
<p>B. Raking - The California Barron Tool is Best Suited for Raking Pine Needles, Light Duff, Pre-cut Vegetative Covers and for Structure Debris Removal Operations.</p> <p>To Rake:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Obtain secure footing. 2. Extend head of California Barron tool outward from the body to full arms length with raking tines in the down position. 3. Pull head of the tool back toward the feet of the user while exerting sufficient downward force to move the debris or the material to the new location. <p>C. Burning Operations - This Tool Can Be Utilized as a Firing Tool in the Event that Other Means of Initiating a Burn Project Are Not Available.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Start a fire in a pile of pine needles or light flashy fuel. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The metal shank will protect the base of the tool's handle. 2. Tow the burning debris through unburned native vegetation to spread fire. 3. Repeat these steps as necessary to complete the firing operation. <p>III. CARE AND MAINTENANCE</p> <p>A. Inspect Tools Before and After Each Use:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Handle 	<p>Demonstrate the proper raking motion</p>



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<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Smooth<ul style="list-style-type: none">(1) Sand as necessary(2) Do not apply<ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) Linseed oil(b) Waxb. Straight<ul style="list-style-type: none">(1) Place out of service if<ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) Warped(b) Twisted(c) Not properly aligned with headc. Sound<ul style="list-style-type: none">(1) Free of cracks(2) Free of burnsd. Clean and dry <p>2. Head</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Free of cracks<ul style="list-style-type: none">(1) If found place out of service(2) Do not paint head<ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) Paint will hide cracksb. Free of burrs or chips<ul style="list-style-type: none">(1) File as necessaryc. Secure	



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Head is tightly fastened to the handle d. Sharp <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Cutting and scraping edges properly sharpened <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Use a 12" flat mill bastard file (b) Apply even pressure across full width of the cutting edge (c) Sharpened at 60o angle (d) Cutting edge even across full width (2) Free of dips or bows (3) Permissible to treat with a rust inhibitor (4) Tool guard in place whenever tool is not in use 	
<p>IV. SAFETY PRECAUTIONS</p> <p>A. When Using</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maintain 10 foot interval 2. Maintain firm footing 3. Watch for obstructions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Overhead b. Within arc of swing 4. Wear gloves and full safety uniform 	



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<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Pay particular attention when gloves are wet5. Do not allow head of tool to get too near body6. Concentrate on impact area to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Prevent ricochet or glancing blowb. Avoid rocks and other hard objectsc. Avoid hazards<ul style="list-style-type: none">(1) Beehives(2) Electrical wires(3) Barbed wire7. Pace yourself8. Use proper tool for the jobB. When Carrying<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Grasp at balance point with head forward2. Carry on downhill side3. Carry horizontally (parallel) to the ground4. Sound off when passing another person with "coming through" and wait for that person to yield right of way5. Carry with rake tines toward the body and the blunt edge upward.C. When Passing<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Pass handle (butt) first2. At arms length from other person	



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<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Never tossD. When Grounding Tool<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Place head of tool toward center of circle if a group of tool, otherwise cover with a shovel2. Shield the head of the tool to the extent possible<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Use tool guards whenever practicable3. Place all crew tools in the same areaE. When Sharpening<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Secure tool in vise<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Utilize wooden blocks orb. Newman tool holder2. Use gloves3. Use file with handle and a file guard in place4. Rest the palm of the hand on the tip of the file<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Do not wrap the fingers over the tip of the file5. Sharpen in a motion away from the body6. Remove tools from the vise if leaving the area7. Make visual check for sharpness, do not run finger across cutting edgeF. When Storing<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Store in a clean, cool, dry area2. Store in a secure area or in the proper compartment	



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<ol style="list-style-type: none">3. Separate in-service and out-of-service tools4. Always keep the tool guards in place5. Secure tools properly in tool racks	



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SUMMARY:

With the advent of newer methods of performing firing operations, a major use of the California Barron tool has been largely eliminated. Its usefulness in line clearing operations and in removal of sparse fine fuels is still intact. Regardless of which operation is undertaken, the tool is only of value if properly cared for and properly utilized.

EVALUATION:

A written quiz.

ASSIGNMENT:

To be determined by instructor(s).