

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Office of Fire and Aviation
3833 South Development Avenue
Boise, Idaho 83705

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To: All Field Offices
From: Director, Office of Fire and Aviation
Subject: Fire Shelter Safety

Since the wildland fire agencies made it mandatory, the fire shelter has saved the lives of well over 250 firefighters. At the same time, it has prevented countless serious injuries and illnesses from burns and smoke inhalation. The fire shelter works by reflecting radiant heat and trapping air. This means two things: there's a supply of more breathable air inside the shelter, and the shelter gives you a way to protect airways and lungs from flames and hot gases, which are the two leading killers in an entrapment.

Recently, the Forest Service's Missoula Technology and Development Center conducted research on fire shelters. New information on the shelter and specifically about avoiding flame contact with the fire shelter is being shared through the attached brochure.

The safety and well being of our employees remains our most important commitment. Please share this information with all fire-going personnel. To order more copies of the brochure, contact the National Interagency Fire Center, Attn: External Affairs, 3833 South Development Avenue, Boise, ID 83705.

/s/Lynn P. Findley
Acting

1 - Attachment

1 - "Fire Shelter Deployment: Avoid the Flames" Brochure