



Today's discussion is from the
LCES (Lookouts, Communication, Escape
Routes, and Safety Zones) Category.



ESCAPE ROUTES

An escape route is a preplanned and understood route to reach a safety zone.

- What are the primary concerns in choosing an escape route?
 - - Select the closest, least obstructed route.
 - Plan for more than one escape route.
 - Avoid an uphill escape.
 - Scout and clearly mark the route for visibility (aids during smoky situations or night operational periods). NWCG recommends using hot-pink flagging marked "Escape Route" (NFES 0566). Crews with colorblind members may wish to carry and utilize fluorescent chartreuse flagging (NFES # 2396).
 - - Determine escape time--consider slowest person, fatigue, and temperature factors.
 - Continuously reassess the situation with regard to work progress and additional resource arrivals.
 - Assure all line personnel are familiar with escape routes.
 - Vehicles parked for escape.

References:

[Incident Response Pocket Guide](#)

[Fireline Handbook](#)

[Interagency Standards for Fire and Aviation Operations](#)
["LCES and Other Thoughts" by Paul Gleason](#)

Have an idea? Have feedback? Share it.

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