



Today's discussion is from the  
Fireline Safety Category.

## IN COUNTRY NOT SEEN IN DAYLIGHT

Often firefighters arrive on a fire after dark. This is recognized as Watchout Situation #2. Before safely fighting fire in country not seen in daylight, firefighters must be able to answer the following questions:

- Can the resources you are replacing give you a thorough briefing? Identify whom you might get information from. Can you meet up with the departing overhead/resource leaders?
- Can you observe the area/use scouts? List ways you could observe the area you need to work.
- Have escape routes and safety zones been thoroughly scouted and marked for night use? Talk about what constitutes an escape route and a safety zone; who would identify them; and in what ways might they be marked.
- Have potential dangers been located; can they be mitigated? What are the dangers associated with Watchout Situation #2? How can they be worked around?
- Reduce the risks by:
  - Posting lookouts.
  - Checking communications.
  - Retreat if you have doubts about your escape routes or safety zones or the situation becomes too complex. Give examples of arriving on a fire after dark and what was done to allow you to fight fire safely in country not seen in daylight.
  - Identifying prominent geographic features

### References:

[Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations Incident Response Pocket Guide](#)

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**Have an idea? Have feedback? Share it.**

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