



Today's discussion is from the
Fireline Safety Category.

TAKING A NAP NEAR THE FIRELINE

Firefighting is often exhausting work and firefighters can find themselves needing to sleep while on the fireline. Before pausing to rest, firefighters must weigh the following considerations:

- Are lookouts posted? Discuss who that lookout can be. Can the lookout on the knob across the draw watch over you or does it need to be your partner on the fireline alternating rest times?
- Is the area free of hazards? (Falling snags or rolling materials) Discuss what you need to do to create a safe resting area.
- Are you still within agency work and rest guidelines? Review what these guidelines are.
- Does your crew need a break? Have they been pushed too hard? Talk about situations where you need to simply take yourself and/or your crew off the fire for uninterrupted rest.
- To reduce risks:
 - Keep lookouts posted; rotate lookouts.
 - Communicate crew conditions and status to supervisor or chain-of-command contact. Have firefighters discuss ways that they find to rest on the fireline and suggestions for methods to alternate shifts for more effective firefighting.

References:

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

Have an idea? Have feedback? Share it.

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