



# Four Corners Wildland Fire Academy

March 13<sup>th</sup> - March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023

## About the 4 Corners Wildland Fire Academy

The 4 Corners Wildfire Academy (4CWFA) started in 2018 under the guidance of CO/NM fire departments assisted by a New Mexico State BLM grant. The 4CWFA's intent is to provide low/no cost training to local agencies that may be unable to send people out of town or to academies that coincide with our fire season. Each year the 4CWFA has grown in class offerings and attendance. Interagency cooperation starts with training. When we know our partners & train with them, we can be successful managing emerging incidents in an effective & safe manner. 4CWFA utilizes instructors from local fire departments, national IMTs, federal, & state fire agencies.

## 2023 Academy Format:

The 2023 4CWFA will be presented via in-person learning at the [Sky Ute Casino](#) in Ignacio Colorado. 11 Classes will be offered over the course of 1 week. This Academy will again be provided at no cost to students. This is made possible with generous funding provided by Colorado BLM, New Mexico BLM, Colorado Department of Fire Prevention and Control, and the BIA-Southern Ute Agency. Instructors are provided at no cost by various federal and state agencies as well as regional fire departments. The Sky Ute Casino has a block of rooms reserved at a special rate, please mention the academy when booking.

Contact Scott Nielsen ([scott.nielsen@durangofire.org](mailto:scott.nielsen@durangofire.org)) or John Gilbert ([jgilbert@lospinosfire.com](mailto:jgilbert@lospinosfire.com)) with any questions.

**Waitlists For Full Classes:** Some classes registration may exceed capacity. Course coordinators will communicate with the student's supervisor to determine what students are to be prioritized for development and needed qualifications for current positions. Classes that have a waitlist will be offered again in 2024.



Register Here <https://forms.gle/6wYQRG97dvGw6yiv5>  
View Updated Course Catalog, Information & Waitlist [Here:](#)



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## **S-190, Introduction to Fire Behavior / S-130, Firefighter Training / L-180, Human Factors In The Wildland Fire Service**

**Dates:** March 13<sup>th</sup> through March 17<sup>th</sup>

**Location:** Sky Ute Casino Convention Center, 14324 Hwy 172 North, Ignacio, CO

**Course Coordinator:** TBD - Southern Ute Agency of BIA

Course Description: The following three courses along with ICS-100 and ICS-700 are the minimum requirements to be qualified as a wildland firefighter. A Work Capacity Test, aka Pack Test, is an annual requirement to gain/keep a firefighter certification. The Work Capacity Test will not be offered at the 4 Corner's Academy.

**S-190** is the first and foundational wildland fire behavior course in a five-course sequence in the NWCG curriculum. It introduces students to the basic concepts of wildland fire behavior, characteristics and components of wildland fire and the risk fire behavior poses to firefighters.

**S-130:** The intent of this course is to train new firefighters in basic firefighting skills. This includes a required field exercise that may be arduous in nature. This course will introduce students to various topics including: safety, communication methods on wildland fires, standard tools and equipment used, and basic methods of fire suppression and extinguishment.

**L-180:** This course exposes students to human performance concepts as part of basic wildland firefighter training. The course is specifically designed for entry-level operational personnel; however, this course also applies to all wildland fire service personnel, including non-operational personnel.

## **S-131, Firefighter Type 1**

**Dates:** March 15<sup>th</sup> & March 16<sup>th</sup>

**Location:** Sky Ute Casino Convention Center, 14324 Hwy 172 North, Ignacio, CO

**Course Coordinator:** Peter Stockwell – Durango Fire Protection District

Course Description: S-131, Firefighter Type 1, is designed to meet the training needs of the Firefighter Type 1 (FFT1) and/or Incident Commander Type 5 (ICT5). This course is designed to be interactive in nature. It contains class discussion and several tactical decision games designed to facilitate learning objectives. Topics include: operational leadership, communications, LCES, and tactical decision-making exercises.

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## **S-200, Initial Attack Incident Commander**

**Dates:** March 15<sup>th</sup> through March 17<sup>th</sup>

**Course Coordinator:** Scott Nielsen – Durango Fire Protection District

**Lead Instructors:** Southern Ute Interagency Type 3 Team

Course Description: This course is designed to meet the training needs of the incident commander type 4 ([ICT4](#)). This course will adhere to the NWCG guidelines for presentation and exercises but will be enhanced by fast paced scenarios that put each student in a scenario-based simulation. Simulation modules will include: Intelligence Gathering and Documentation, Size Up the Incident, Develop a Plan of Action, Post-fire Activities, Evaluating Incident Objectives and Managing the Incident. Evaluation of the student is by unit tests and performance-based evaluations. Student participation, speaking, and interaction will be required for successful completion of this course. Space is limited for this class.

## **S-230, Crew Boss / S-231, Engine Boss / S-236 Heavy Equipment Boss**

**Dates:** : March 13<sup>th</sup> through March 17<sup>th</sup>

**Location:** : Sky Ute Casino Convention Center, 14324 Hwy 172 North, Ignacio, CO

**Course Coordinator:** Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control

Note: these 3 course will be blended, and not standalone courses!

Course Description 230: This is a classroom course designed to produce student proficiency in the performance of duties associated with the single resource boss position from initial dispatch through demobilization to the home unit. Topics include operational leadership, preparation and mobilization, assignment preparation, risk management, entrapment avoidance, safety and tactics, offline duties, demobilization, and post-incident responsibilities.

Course Description 231: This is a skill course designed to produce student proficiency in the performance of the duties associated with Engine Boss, Single Resource ([ENGB](#)). Topics include engine and crew capabilities and limitations, information sources, fire size up considerations, tactics, and wildland/urban interface.

Course Description 236: This is a skill course designed to meet the training needs of a Heavy Equipment Boss, Single Resource ([HEQB](#)) on an incident as outlined in the *NIMS: Wildland Fire Qualification System Guide*, [PMS 310-1](#), and the position task book developed for the position. Primary considerations are tactical use and safety precautions required to establish and maintain an effective dozer operation. A field exercise is required as part of the course.

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## S-290, Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior

**Dates:** : March 13<sup>th</sup> through March 17<sup>th</sup>

**Location:** : Sky Ute Casino Convention Center, 14324 Hwy 172 North, Ignacio, CO

**Course Coordinator:** Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control / NM State Forest Service

Course Description: This is a classroom-based skills course designed to prepare the prospective fireline supervisor to undertake safe and effective fire management operations. It is the second course in a series that collectively serves to develop fire behavior prediction knowledge and skills. Fire environment differences are discussed as necessary; instructor should stress local conditions.

### Objectives

- Identify and describe the characteristics of fuels, weather, and topography that influence wildland fire behavior.
- Describe the interaction of fuels, weather, and topography on wildland fire behavior, fireline tactics, and safety.
- Describe the causes of extreme fire behavior conditions (long range spotting, crowning, and fire whirls) that develop due to weather, fuels, and/or topography.
- Interpret, communicate, apply, and document wildland fire behavior and weather information.

## L-280, Followership to Leadership

**Dates:** : March 13<sup>th</sup> & March 14<sup>th</sup>

**Location:** : Sky Ute Casino Convention Center, 14324 Hwy 172 North, Ignacio, CO

**Course Coordinator:** Matt Shethar – Cortez Fire Protection District

Course Description: This training course is designed as a self-assessment opportunity for individuals preparing to step into a leadership role. The course combines one day of classroom instruction followed by a second day in the field with students working through a series of problem-solving events in small teams (Field Leadership Assessment Course). Topics include leadership values and principles, transition challenges for new leaders, situational leadership, team cohesion factors, ethical decision-making, and after-action review techniques. Some course delivery may be arduous in nature.

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## L-380, Fireline Leadership

Dates: : March 13<sup>th</sup> through March 17<sup>th</sup>

Location: : Sky Ute Casino Convention Center, 14324 Hwy 172 North, Ignacio, CO

Course Coordinator: Robert Picazo – New Mexico BLM via Wildland Learning Portal

Course Description: L-380 is targeted at leaders whose decisions have immediate consequences in dynamic, high-risk environments. The intent is to provide small unit supervisors with the tools to build and maintain effective and cohesive crews/teams. Beyond a set of tools and techniques, this training experience should be designed to make an emotional and lasting impact. Essential guiding principles for achieving this impact include: enhancing the students’ understanding of the human dimension when leading others in dynamic work environments; utilizing experiential training techniques that will engage students in ways that challenge them to perform under realistic and high-stress situations; and motivating students to examine their role, strengths, and weaknesses as a leader.

Please note that registration for this class is prioritized for students in the 4 Corners area. Registration must be done via the [Wildland Fire Learning Portal](#).

## 4CWFA CALENDAR

	Course Coordinator	Monday 3/13/2023	Tuesday 3/14/2023	Wednesday 3/15/2023	Thursday 3/16/2023	Friday 3/17/2023
S-130 / S-190 L-180	SUA					
S-131	Stockwell - DFPD					
S-200	Nielsen - DFPD					
S-230 / S-231 S-236	Huston - DFPC					
S-290	DFPC/NM					
L-280	Shethar - Cortez Fire					
L-380	NM -BLM					

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