Unit 4C Fire Shelter

Unit 4C Objectives
1. Explain the two most important functions of the fire shelter.
2. Discuss the inspection and care of the fire shelter.
3. Discuss the last resort survival options.
4. Define entrapment and deployment site.
5. Demonstrate the correct deployment procedures for the fire shelter in 25 seconds or less.

Most Important Functions of a Fire Shelter
1. To reflect radiant heat.
2. To provide cooler, breathable air to protect your lungs and airway.
Mandatory Carrying

Fire shelter will be carried by:

- all fireline personnel during fire suppression and prescribed fire operations.
- all fire support personnel who may be required to enter a fire area.

Items to Wear/Take into Fire Shelter

1. Gloves
2. Radio
3. Hard hat
4. Water

Care & Handling

1. Keep shelter away from sharp objects.
2. Do not load heavy objects on top of shelter.
3. Avoid rough handling.
4. Do not lean against objects when wearing shelter.
Care & Handling

5. Do not sit on shelter or use as a pillow.
6. Carry in polyethylene liner.
7. Carry where you can reach; NEVER inside your pack.
8. Treat your fire shelter with respect.

Inpections

• When Issued (Beginning of the season)
• Every 2 Weeks
• When suspected of damage
Survival Options

1. Stay alert, keep calm, think clearly and act decisively. DON’T PANIC!
2. Wear all PPE.
3. Protect your airway.
4. Escape if possible.
5. Note survivable deployment sites throughout the work day.
6. Don’t plan on sharing a shelter.

Survival Options

1. If entrapment is imminent, but there is time to prepare…
2. If there is no time for preparation, and the fire is on you…

Heat Barrier Options

1. Vehicles as barriers
2. Dozers, tractor plows, and water-tenders as barriers
3. Structures as barriers
The Standard Firefighting Orders, LCES, their operational component, and the Watch Out Situations are tools that must be used on every assignment. If they are used properly, the LAST RESORT SURVIVAL techniques should not be needed.

**LEARN TO USE THEM!**

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**Review Unit 4C Objectives**

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