

# CALFIRE/SISKIYOU ROP 67HR WILD LAND ACADEMY



# HOW WE GOT STARTED

- 2001 CALFIRE CONTACTED ROP LOOKING FOR WAYS TO TRAIN AND KEEP KIDS IN SISKIYOU COUNTY FOR EMPLOYMENT.
- THE FIRST CLASS HELD INVOLVED ONE HIGH SCHOOL
- INTEREST WAS EXPRESSED IN PROGRAM BY OTHER HIGH SCHOOLS WITHIN ROP

# PARTNERSHIPS

- CALFIRE
- Siskiyou ROP JPA
- COLLEGE OF THE SISKIYOU (COS)



**CALFIRE CREW  
ADDRESSING CLASS**

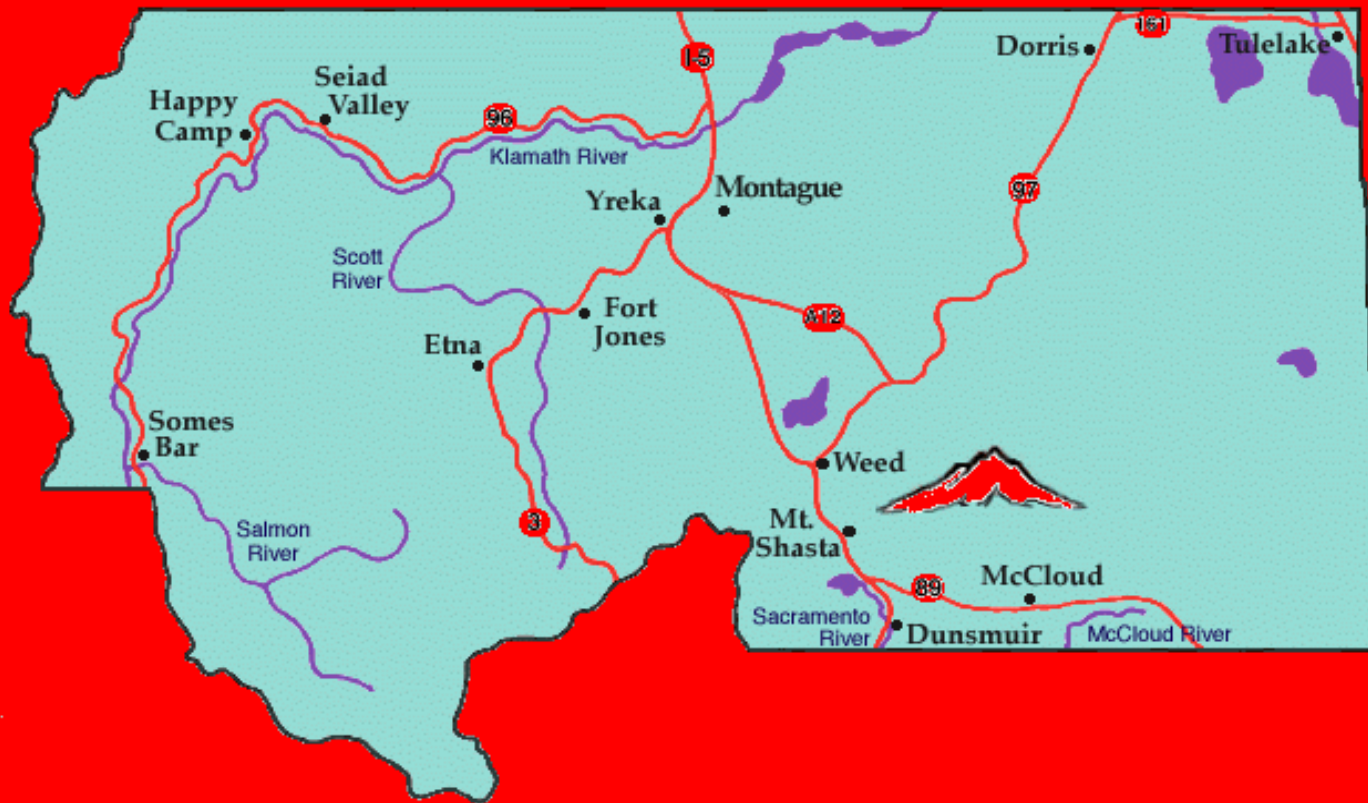
# HOW THE CLASS IS SET UP

- THERE ARE 3 CLASSES IN THE ROP COURSE
  - FIREFIGHTING (9 DAYS)
  - HAZMAT (3 DAYS)
  - FIRST RESPONDER MEDICAL (8 DAYS)
- 
- WE TRY TO RUN THE FIREFIGHTING PORTION FIRST.



# RECRUITMENT

- CHALLENGES



# RECRUITMENT

- LOGISTICS

5 High School Districts/Calendars

12 High Schools

Students throughout the county interested in taking class, but not enough at any one school to run the class

# RECRUITMENT

- SOLUTION:

Schedule class on school vacations and weekends at a central location

College of the Siskiyous/CALFIRE Fire Training Tower



# FIRE TRAINING TOWER



# FIRE TRAINING TOWER



# RECRUITMENT

- ROP DIRECTOR AND CALFIRE RECRUITMENT OFFICERS HOLD RECRUITING SESSIONS AT EVERY HIGH SCHOOL BY POSTING INFORMATION IN THE SCHOOL BULLETINS
- STUDENTS THAT ATTEND RECRUITING SESSIONS ARE GIVEN INFORMATION REGARDING CLASS SCHEDULE, LOCATION, REQUIREMENTS AND EXPECTATIONS

# RECRUITMENT

- CALFIRE RECRUITERS EXPLAIN WORKING AND LIVING CONDITIONS, ON AND OFF DUTY HOURS OF OPERATION, WAGES, BENEFITS AND GENERAL EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION.
- STUDENTS ARE GIVEN CLASS SCHEDULE AND REGISTRATION INFORMATION FOR SISKIYOU ROP AND COLLEGE OF THE SISKIYOU



# UNIFORMS



# UNIFORMS CONTINUED

- WE REQUIRE UNIFORMS
- COS / CALFIRE T-SHIRT & SWEATSHIRT
- BLUE PANTS
- BLACK BELT
- 8 INCH LEATHER BOOTS WITH VIABRAM SOLE



# UNIFORMS CONTINUED

- THE UNIFORM IS A MUST
- WE WANT ALL THE KIDS TO LOOK PROFESSIONAL
- IT GIVES THEM SOMETHING TO BE PROUD OF AND BE A PART OF
- SHIRTS TUCKED
- GIG LINE STRAIGHT
- BOOTS OILED

# UNIFORMS CONTINUED

- EVERYTHING CLEAN
- UNIFORM INSPECTIONS DONE EVERYDAY BEFORE CLASS
- THE CLASS IS GIVEN PUSH UPS IF UNIFORMS ARE NOT CORRECT

# THE PROGRAM ITSELF

- WE START OFF WITH EXPECTATIONS FOR THE CLASS AND THE INDIVIDUAL STUDENT
- FIRST THING WE LET THE STUDENTS KNOW : THIS IS A DICTATORSHIP NOT A DEMOCRACY, WHAT WE SAY GOES!
- WE EXPLAIN TO THEM THAT THIS IS VERY SERIOUS BUSINESS
- FIRE DOES NOT CARE HOW OLD THEY ARE

# THE PROGRAM CONTINUED

- THE STUDENTS ARE GIVEN A HANDOUT OF THE RULES AND EXPECTATIONS
- IF THEY AGREE THEY SIGN A “BECOMING A FIREFIGHTER” CONTRACT THAT WE KEEP ON FILE
- WHAT IS A “BECOMING A FIREFIGHTER” CONTRACT?

# THE PROGRAM CONTINUED

- WE UNDERSTAND THAT THESE ARE HIGH SCHOOL KIDS, BUT OUR SET OF RULES AND REGULATIONS ARE VERY IMPORTANT TO THE SAFETY AND WELL BEING OF THE STUDENTS
- MORE SO THAN MOST CLASSES
- THERE ARE A LOT OF RULES AND WE EXPECT THEM TO BE FOLLOWED RIGHT FROM THE BEGINNING OF TRAINING

# ADVANCING HOSE





# THE PROGRAM CONTINUED

- FROM DAY 1 WE DON'T BEND ON THE RULES
- WE START SLOW WITH THE SEVERITY OF THE PUNISHMENT
- PUSH UPS, SIT UPS, JUMPING JACKS
- WE NEVER DISCIPLINE INDIVIDUALS, ALWAYS AS A GROUP
- WE NEVER DISCIPLINE FOR TEST GRADES

# THE PROGRAM IN CONCLUSION

- WE USE THE CHAIN OF COMMAND
- OPEN DOOR POLICY
- WE HAVE A HUGE RESPONSIBILITY
- WHEN THEY LEAVE OUR CLASS THEY ARE CERTIFIED FOR ENTRY LEVEL JOBS WITH CALFIRE, USFS, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

# ENGINE TRAINING



# A TYPICAL DAY IN THE ACADEMY

- 7 A.M. TO 8:45 A.M. PHYSICAL CONDITIONING
- (RUNNING, HIKING, PUSH UPS, SIT UPS, FF AGILITY)
- 9 A.M. UNIFORM INSPECTION
- 9:10 TO 12:00 CLASS ROOM (VARIOUS SUBJECTS)
- 1:00 P.M. TO 5:30 P.M. OUTSIDE RAIN OR SHINE HANDS ON LEARNING. APPLYING WHAT WE LEARNED IN THE CLASSROOM OUT IN THE FIELD.

# TESTS





# SCBA





# TESTS

- 5 WRITTEN TESTS
- 2 GRADED HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS
- 5 MANIPULATIVE TESTS (HANDS ON / PHYSICAL)

# GRADING POLICY

- TO BE CONSIDERED PASSING, ALL TEST SCORES MUST BE 80% OR HIGHER
- NO ONE WANTS A C+ FIRE FIGHTER SHOWING UP AT THEIR DOOR.
- IF THEY FAIL A TEST THEY GET 1 RETAKE
- IT'S THE SAME TEST (NO TRICKS NO GAMES)
- THE MOST IMPORTANT THING TO US IS THAT THEY RETAIN THE MATERIAL

# GRADING POLICY CONTINUED

- IF THEY FAIL THE RETAKE THEY ARE OUT
- THEY ARE ONLY ALLOWED 3 RETAKES  
THROUGHOUT THE CLASS
- IF SOMEONE FAILS OUT WE TALK TO THEM IN  
THE OFFICE (NEVER IN FRONT OF THE CLASS)

# DIFFERENT LEARNERS

- LANGUAGE BARRIERS (WE DON'T HAVE MANY)
- TROUBLED STUDENTS (A FEW) = THIS IS WHERE WE HAVE SEEN THE PROGRAM WORK THE BEST.
- DIFFERENT STUDENTS RESPOND DIFFERENTLY TO OUR TEACHING METHODS
- WE WALK A FINE LINE WHERE THE FIRE SERVICE MEETS THE HIGH SCHOOL

# LESSONS LEARNED

- SCHEDULING THE CLASSES (FIREFIGHTING BEFORE MEDICAL AND HAZ MAT)
- ONLY HIGH SCHOOL KIDS CURRENTLY ENROLLED

# CONCLUSION

- WE HAVE CREATED PARTNERSHIPS
- WE HAVE TRAINED OVER 100 STUDENTS FROM SISKIYOU COUNTY AND ARE NOW REACHING STUDENTS THROUGHOUT CALIFORNIA
- WE HAVE GIVEN STUDENTS FIREFIGHTING AS WELL AS LIFE SKILLS TRAINING
- WE HAVE STARTED SOME STUDENTS ON THEIR CAREER PATH



# WORKING IN THE RAIN



# WORKING IN THE SNOW





# FIRE SHELTER DEPLOYMENT





# HAND LINE CONSTRUCTION



# CONTACT INFORMATION

## Siskiyou ROP

Kim Greene 530-842-6151 ext. 410

Email: [kgreene@sisnet.ssku.k12.ca.us](mailto:kgreene@sisnet.ssku.k12.ca.us)

## CALFIRE

Kent Cunningham 530-859-5612

Email: [kent24@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kent24@sbcglobal.net)