



Firefighters United for Safety, Ethics, and Ecology

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NATIONAL NEWS

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Firefighters' Group Issues New "*Reporter's Guide to Wildland Fire*"

Features Fresh Tips for Monitoring Wildfires on the Web

(Further Information: Timothy Ingalsbee, FUSEE, 541-338-7671)

(Editor's Note: The new "*Reporter's Guide to Wildland Fire*" is available at www.fusee.org)

Eugene, OR – Today's fast-paced news business is challenged by the even faster pace of events that can unfold during wildfires, according to **Firefighters United for Safety, Ethics and Ecology** (FUSEE). To meet reporters' needs, the nonprofit firefighters' group today released "*A Reporter's Guide to Wildland Fire*," that includes entirely new information detailing how journalists can use the Internet to monitor wildfire incidents.

"Using information posted daily on a number of government Websites, journalists can gather essential facts, statistical data, maps and photos on specific wildfires almost instantaneously," said Timothy Ingalsbee, FUSEE executive director. "This gives reporters more time and ability to fully pursue the many facets of wildland fires, explained by the *Reporter's Guide*."

"We want reporters and their readers, listeners, and viewers to get the *whole* story about wildland fire," Ingalsbee said. "*A Reporter's Guide to Wildland Fire*" offers indispensable tools for making news stories about wildfires more accurate," said Ingalsbee, a former wildland firefighter and author of the *Reporter's Guide*. "Equally valuable are the *Reporter's Guide's* suggestions on how to cover underreported issues, interview alternative voices, and ask critical questions about firefighting budgets and strategies."

The *Guide's* new section on "*Monitoring Wildfires on the Web*" reviews specific information available from agency sources concerning wildfire incidents, said Ingalsbee. "We've compiled a complete table that lists and compares all topics available in the top wildfire Websites and reports," he said. "If reporters utilize FUSEE's own Website, (www.fusee.org), they will find hyperlinks that take them directly to specific agency Web pages."

“Getting the whole story about wildland fire means more than the past’s ‘box scores’ and ‘body count’ style of wildfire reporting,” Ingalsbee said. “We need to look beyond the number of acres burned or structures destroyed to include the social, political, economic, and ecological context of wildfire events, and the full spectrum of wildland fire management activities. The whole story is so much more than just Man fighting Nature.”

The “*Reporter’s Guide to Wildland Fire*” is available at: www.fusee.org.
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