

# WILDLAND – OVERHAUL

## KEY CONSIDERATIONS:

- Many structures have been lost after successfully pushing the fire front around but not following up with adequate overhaul. Embers may maintain heat for long durations in the right fuel beds.
- Thermal Imagers provide great value when seeking out hot spots.
- Many injuries occur during this phase due to exhaustion and compromised landscape; use caution.

**For overhaul in the Structural Interface refer to the Wildland – Structural Protection protocol**

## PROTOCOL:

- The objective is to ensure the entire fire area is cold and no smokes remain.
- Protect the origin – flag off and stay away if necessary.
- Coordination with ODF for dual assessed lands is imperative; there may be resource objectives we are unaware of.
- Utilize wildland hand tools during mop up; this will ensure the water/foam penetrates the materials (leaf litter, duff, etc.) to reduce the potential for flare up and allow the water to go farther.
- Where appropriate utilize hand tools to construct a hand line to secure the edge of the fire; as a rule of thumb, the line width should be 1 ½ times the height of the fuel.
- Repair any fences or gates damaged in the suppression efforts; ensure all livestock are contained.
- Look up and down. Dig out stumps, roots, and rock piles; seek out smoldering moss, snags, or crotches in trees.
- Limited felling of trees may be performed in conjunction with a thorough risk assessment, approval of the IC, and capabilities of the personnel. It is preferable to use ODF contract fallers.
- Heavy equipment may be used where appropriate, considering the long term scars.
- Department hose may be left on scene for ODF use. Document on the apparatus bay board upon return to the station.
- Perform follow-up checks on the fire based on intervals established by the Battalion Chief.