CONTROL OF FOREST FIRE

AND RELATED RISKS FOR URBAN, PERI-URBAN AND TOURISTIC AREAS
“Don’t play with fire”

Pay attention on the concrete risks connected with forest fire and about the economic and social importance of the forest heritage for the community.
VALUE OF THE FOREST

• Production of timber and firewood in a local economy of subsistence or at business level

• Improvement of local climate and consequently of the life quality

• Control of the water supply into the soil

• Prevention of the erosion of the soil

• Prevention of the desertification

• Safeguard of landscape, environment and, consequently, tourist’s attraction
FOREST FIRE EFFECTS

1. Destruction of the arboreal, herbaceous and shrubby vegetation
2. Destruction of the fauna and the microganism of the ground
3. Destruction of ecological niches
4. Cessation of the moderating and protecting action of the vegetation on the soil
5. Potential erosion of the ground with possibility of landslide after fire on the occasion of intense precipitations.
6. Damaging or destruction of buildings and structures interested from the fire.
7. Risk for the safety of the people (poisonings from smoke or fumes, burn, injuring or death)
Is important:
1. To reduce the wood mass near the buildings and close to the margins of the woody area.
2. To reduce or limiting the understory.
3. To replace species with high combustibility as many resinous (conifers) with others having lower combustibility (e.g. *Quercus suber*).
4. To realize and to maintain a continuous accessible road network (avoiding blind roads).
5. To have accessible and operative points of water supplying.
6. To Maintain areas along the edges of the roads clean of combustible mass for approximately 10 m each side.
7. To arrange an effective systems for sight fires.
PREVENTION OF FIRE RISK

OPERATION PLAN FOR FIRE REPRESSION

The operation plans characterize:

- The institutional or voluntary subjects involved to the fires control.
- The means at disposal for the fire repression: jeep, truck (with water tanks), helicopters (with bucket), airplane (with self-filling tank, e.g. Canadair).
- Staff, well trained, informed, and equipped with disposal instruments adapted to fire extinction and self-protections for not put in danger its safety.

Fire may represent a moment of extreme confusion and chaos!!
PREVENTION OF FIRE RISK

PLANNING

Building have to be realized in an opportune location observing criteria counting fire risks:

Is important to realize a protection belt with a little presence of combustible mass all around the buildings, in forest zones one. It can eventually be maintained also through controlled ovine or caprine grazing.

It would be opportune to have hydrant in proximity of the buildings.

Is also important that buildings have to be rounded from roads not blind.
**FIRE REPRESSION**

**TIME OF INTERVENTATION = TIME BETWEEN TRIGGER AND EXTINCTION OF THE FIRE**

**SHORT TIME OF INTERVENTATION = MORE EFFECTIVE**

**PRIORITY:**

1. **PEOPLES**
2. **BUILDINGS AND GOODS**
3. **FOREST**

- Activate order to the fire team
- Establish formally a responsible
- Organize (with communal administrations) logistics and subsistence aid for the operator staff
- Put in alert the sanitary service

Headquarters and responsible are constantly in contact each other by radio


FIRE MAY HAVE:

• FRAUDELENT ORIGIN (INTENTIONAL = PYROMANIACS)
• CULPABLE ORIGIN (DUE TO OVERSIGHT)

AN APPROPRIATE POLICE SQUAD INVESTIGATE FIRE ORIGIN LOOKING FOR SUSPECT PEOPLE
PREVENTION OF FIRE RISK

Information of the citizens (cultural awakening of the citizens)

Regarding the risk of culpable fire

• Lessons at school
• Lesson by staff of fire brigade
• Distribution of engaging booklets

NOT only about dangerousness of fire but also about RESPECT of the NATURE, GOODS and PEOPLE
COMPETENCES OF THE INSTITUTIONAL SUBJECTS IN THE ITALIAN NORMATIVE PICTURE AND THE EXPERIENCE IN TUSCANY

INSTITUTIONAL SUBJECTS:

Region – Regional laws and regional operation plan

C.O.R. = Regional headquarters (24h – 365 days)

C.O.P. = Provincial headquarters (15 June-30 Sept.)

Volunteers, National military forest corp (CFS), National fire department (VVFF)

What happens when a fire occur?
Utilisation du cyprès dans la sauvegarde de l'économie rurale, de l'environnement et du paysage méditerranéen: prévention et gestion des risques naturels.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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