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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### HAILEY FIRE DEPARTMENT BEGINS BASIC FIRE FIGHTER TRAINING Hailey Fire Department Begins Innovative Program for Training New Members

The City of Hailey and the Hailey Fire Department are pleased to announce a new program for training firefighters. This innovative new training is based on curriculum established by the Montana State Fire School, and modified for local needs. The training consists of almost one hundred hours of intense practice and drills, and is made up almost entirely of hands on training. The program has been specifically designed to meet the needs of local, part-time firefighters. It is also intended to meet the criteria recommended by both the National Fire Protection Association and the State of Idaho, and to do so in a dynamic and focused way. The effectiveness of this pilot program will be evaluated both as the training progresses and at the end of the program.

The 2009 Basic Firefighting Training began the weekend of March 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> with nine trainees. Course instructor Deputy Chief Carl Hjelm states "We have been really pleased with the progress of the program, but even more pleased with the students. It takes a pretty special person to volunteer for very rigorous training, to be put through the demands that we place on them, so that they can go forward and serve their neighbors. They provide an enormous benefit to our community, and deserve our thanks".



At Left: Trainees Misty McConnell, Dan Durand, Rick Osenga, and Skyler Vollmer receive some training tips.

The nine trainees who started the program are Misty McConnell, Scott Davis, Aymen Senosi, Skyler Vollmer, Dan Durand, Pat Deal, Rick Osenga, Tyerel Goddard, and Danny Martinez.

At Right: Firefighters learn and practice search and rescue techniques.



If you'd like more information about this program, please contact the Hailey Fire Department at 788-3147.