



This house in Dobbins was donated to the fire department to be used in a live fire training exercise.

Firefighters from Dobbins/Oregon House and Foothill Fire get a briefing from Mike Bernardis, the Operations Officer for this training. With special emphasis on safety, the planned exercise was explained.



After the fire was lit, groups of three or four firefighters entered the building on their knees to avoid the smoke layer at head level. Each group in turn extinguished the fire. The fire would then be relit for the next group.

Mike Bernardis keeps a close eye on the crew as they enter the building. He also tends the firehose to keep it straight as it leaves the building so that the firefighters inside can follow the path of the hose out in an emergency.



A group of firefighters exit the formerly burning building.

Don Forgunson demonstrates the capabilities of the Thermal Imager. With this device the firefighters can "see" the fire before it actually shows itself. Here there is a hotspot in the attic registering several hundred degrees.





As the fire erupts through the roof it isn't any longer necessary to use the Thermal Imager.

The firefighters job here is not to put out the fire. Instead they are simply assuring that the fire does not expand into the surrounding vegetation.



Here a firefighter is demonstrating a hose nozzle setting that is designed to protect firefighters from the extreme heat put out by this fire. The equipment located directly behind this firefighter actually became hot to the touch.

All photos courtesy Mike Hatherly