

The only review and comments being allowed right now is through the Parent Group (NWCG members).

## **2008 REVISION SUMMARY**

### **Background**

The following summarizes the May 2008 revision of the *Wildland Fire Qualification System Guide*, PMS 310-1, and identifies major changes since the April 2006 version. **This revision is based on the adoption of competency based position task books (PTBs).** This revision involved field review, solicitations of comments from state, tribal, and federal agencies under the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG), and the combined efforts of NWCG Working Teams.

### **Objectives**

Establish minimum interagency training and qualification standards for national mobilization (mobilization of resources outside defined geographic areas) to wildland fire assignments.

Maintain the foundation of the performance based qualification system established in previous versions of this guide.

Strengthen the training and qualifications standards for positions related to responder health and fireline safety identified in agency reviews, as a result of national studies, and through subject matter expert (SME) input during the development process.

Keep required training to a minimum and allow for other training that supports the development of knowledge and skills to be determined at the agency level.

### **Major Changes**

**Position task books (PTBs) can be initiated prior to attendance and successful completion of Required Training.** However, trainees cannot become fully qualified for the position until Required Training has been successfully completed. A Trainee must be qualified in the prerequisite position(s) before a PTB can be initiated. Upon satisfactory prerequisite position performance, the next level PTB may be initiated once agency certification is documented on the PTB Agency Certification page.

NWCG PTBs must be used for Wildland Fire, Incident Support, and Associated Activities Position Categories. For Positions in the ICS category that do not have tasks specific to wildland fire, other all-hazard PTBs may be used as per agency direction.

**Evaluators must be either qualified in the position being evaluated or supervise the trainee; however, Final Evaluators must be qualified in the trainee position they are evaluating.** The term “qualified” means “qualified with currency.”

Some PTBs have been combined to include common tasks—with additional tasks for specific positions. The common tasks need only be completed once. While these PTBs have been combined, the positions have not been combined. Refer to Individual Position Qualification pages for more specific direction.

For PTBs containing multiple positions, specific Agency Certification Pages have been included. Complete the appropriate Certification Page for the position being evaluated.

The Complex Incident Management Course (CIMC) is interchangeable with Advanced Incident Management (S-520).

Recurrent training (RT) has been identified for certain positions. Annual Fireline Safety Refresher (RT-130) training is required to maintain currency for designated positions.

Required Training cannot be challenged. The only exception to this is for structural firefighters using the Skills Crosswalk for qualification in FFT2, FFT1, ENGB and/or STEN. Those using the Skills Crosswalk must use the identified gap course material and obtain appropriate course certificates. Refer to the Skills Crosswalk for Structural and Wildland Firefighters section of the PMS 310-1 for further guidance.

Positions have been deleted or added:

The Helicopter Boss, Single Resource (HELB) and Helicopter Manager (HELM) positions have been combined and replaced by the position of Helicopter Manager, Single Resource (HMGB). This position is included in the Single Resource Boss PTB.

The position of Wildland Fire Investigation Team Member (INTM) has been added.

Requirements have changed for some positions:

The Firefighter Type 2 (FFT2) PTB has been eliminated and will be replaced with a Job Aid.

Any Single Resource Position (CRWB, DOZB, ENGB, FELB, FIRB, TRPB, HMGB) meets the prerequisite experience for Incident Commander Type 4 (ICT4).

The prerequisite Required Experience for Situation Unit Leader (SITL) is Incident Commander Type 4 (ICT4).

Published NWCG directives since the 2006 version have been incorporated into this version:

A national review of Incident Command System (ICS) skills has been conducted by the U.S Fire Administration (USFA) and the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) to identify core competencies for each ICS position.

A Skills Crosswalk comparing National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards for structural firefighters with National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) wildland firefighter skills has been developed for the FFT2, FFT1, ENGB, and STEN positions.

A definition of Technical Specialist has been added.