

Appendix 8

JUSTIFICATION FOR REQUESTING INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAMS, AREA COMMAND, AND NIMO TEAMS

When situations warrant, the NMAC requires rationale and information for assignment of Area Command, National Type 1 and 2 Incident Management Teams, and NIMO Teams prior to mobilization. For example, this would also apply to a California Type 1 IMT being mobilized within California. The rationale must include an identification of the immediate threat to firefighter or public safety along with a short and long term assessment of the risk to communities, which could include threats to natural resources supporting a community.

1. At National Preparedness Level 4 and 5 rationale will be required for Type 1 IMTs, NIMO, and Area Command regardless of the number of teams available.
2. At any National Preparedness Level when there are only five IMTs (any combination of IMT1, IMT2, or NIMO) available nationally, rationale will be required. This includes the assignment of nationally available IMT2s.

Once this threshold has been met, rationale will continue to be required until NMAC determines that IMT availability nationally is adequate.

The following are considerations that should be addressed in composing rationale to the NMAC:

- 1) Life threatening situations (firefighter or public safety)
 - Evacuations currently taking place
 - Advisory evacuations
 - Evacuation plans in place
 - Road, highway, or freeway closures
- 2) Real Property Threatened
 - Number of structures, commercial and/or residences
 - Number of subdivisions
 - Name communities and number of populace
 - Historical significant cultural resources
 - Natural resources, such as crops, grazing, timber, watershed
 - Major power lines, energy sources
- 3) High Damage Potential
 - Long term or short term damage potential
 - Plausible impacts on community
- 4) Incident Complexity
 - Multi-jurisdictional
 - Fuel type, size and growth potential
 - Political situations

- Severity, extreme fire behavior and fuels conditions

As warranted, written rationale will also be required with an order for an Area Command or NIMO Team. The GMAC or the GACG should address the following:

- an assessment of the risks/threats which warrant the use of an Area Command to include political sensitivities and management implications, general size of the area of responsibility and complexity.
- a description of how the Area Command Team will be used to manage the Geographic Area's existing and anticipated fire workload.

Rationale should be sent to NICC by E-mail and/or fax. The e-mail address is cod@nifc.blm.gov and fax is 208-387-5414 or 5663.