



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Fire Management Program Center
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IN REPLY REFER TO:

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August 4, 2006

Memorandum

To: Regional Fire Management Officers, Regional Human Resources Managers

From: NPS Fire Director, NIFC /s/ *Mike Wallace*
NPS HR Franchise Manager *D. Burton Orton*

Subject: IFPM Standards for Regional/National Fire Management Positions

This letter is to clarify the application of the Interagency Fire Program Management Qualifications Standards and Guide (IFPM Standard) at the Regional and National level. The IFPM Standard identifies 14 key fire management positions; all but two are unit level positions. The only positions that fall under the IFPM Standard at the Regional and National level are the Geographic Area Fire Program Manager (Regional Fire Management Officer) and National Fire Program Manager (National Fire Director).

When the IFPM Standards were adopted it was not intended that subordinate positions at the Regional or National level (i.e. Operations Specialist, Fuels Specialist, etc...) be included in the IFPM Standard. Thus, there are no IFPM minimum qualification standards or competencies for these subordinate positions at this time. Applying similarly titled unit level IFPM standards to Regional or National level subordinate positions is neither required nor appropriate.

However, the NWCG qualifications, additional required training and competencies in the IFPM Standard can be used as a guide for career development through the use of an Individual Development Plan (IDP). If the qualifications, training and competencies are used for this purpose it is imperative that the employee understand they do not have to meet these requirements by October 1, 2009. The qualifications, training and competencies can also be used as a tool for the development of rating criteria when recruiting for new employees.

If you have any questions please contact Mark Koontz at (208) 387-5090 or via email at mark_koontz@nps.gov.