



United States Department of the Interior
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

****ELECTRONIC COPY ONLY – NO HARD COPY TO FOLLOW****

IN REPLY REFER TO:
A7627 (2460)

March 21, 2008

Memorandum

To: Regional Directors
Attn: Superintendents

From: **for** Director /s/ **Daniel N. Wenk**

Subject: Interagency Fire Program Management Qualification Standards and Guide-
Implementation Responsibilities and Consequences

As we approach the Interagency Fire Program Management (IFPM) Qualifications Standards and Guide (IFPM Standard) implementation deadline of October 1, 2009, it is important that we ensure that all of our employees in one of the 14 key IFPM positions meet the minimum qualification standards by the implementation deadline.

The attached memorandum from Associate Deputy Secretary, James E. Cason, Interagency Fire Program Management Qualifications Standards and Guide – Implementation Responsibilities and Consequences, is intended to reaffirm the roles and responsibilities of employees and their supervisors. Additionally, the memorandum defines the consequences of not meeting the minimum qualification standards by the established deadline.

The responsibility does not rest only with employees and their supervisors. Park managers must also take an active role in ensuring that fire management personnel within their organizations develop and maintain qualifications in accordance with current policy. Likewise, Human Resources managers have an integral role within IFPM. Human Resources Specialists are responsible for evaluating qualifications and notifying employees of their status, as well as providing guidance to wildland fire managers.

The National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) is responsible for overall program implementation of the IFPM Standard. They have asked the IFPM Implementation Team to look at possible alternatives to the existing qualification standards. Regardless of the outcome of the requested review the intent of the attached memorandum remains.

Please be assured that implementation of the IFPM Standard has been a collaborative effort and will continue to be in order to ensure its success. Implementation of a new workforce development initiative such as the IFPM Standard has its challenges, but the long-term benefits of shaping our future fire management workforce are immeasurable.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter. If you have questions related to the implementation of the IFPM Standard please contact Mark Koontz, Wildland Fire Training Program Manager, at (208) 387-5090 (Mark_Koontz@nps.gov) or Melissa Anglin, Human Resources Specialist, at (252) 473-3468 (Melissa_Anglin@nps.gov).

Attachment