

2018 Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations Executive Summary of Changes

Chapter 1 – Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy Overview

- Clarified BLM-specific text regarding Response to Wildfire.

Chapter 2 – BLM

- Inserted heading “Sexual Harassment, Harassment Non-Sexual and Illegal Discrimination” and associated text.
- Clarified text under heading “National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) Relationship to BLM.”
- Under heading “Program Manager Responsibilities,” subheading “Assistant Director, Fire and Aviation (FA-100) Deputy Assistant Director, Fire and Aviation (FA-100)”:
 - Removed text regarding the Large Fire Cost Review process and inserted responsibilities associated with the Significant Wildland Fire Review process.
 - Removed text regarding supervises the Fire Management Specialist (Veterans Initiatives) and Senior Fire Advisor (Sage-Grouse) positions.
- Inserted text under subheading “Fire Operations Division Chief (FA-300) regarding supervises the Fire Management Specialist (Veterans Initiatives) position.
- Clarified “Program Manager Responsibilities” for State Director, District Manager, State Fire Management Officer and District Fire Management Officer.
- Inserted text regarding “Program Manager Responsibilities” for Agency Administrator.
- Inserted or clarified text in the “Management Performance Requirements for Fire Operations” tables regarding Authority and Assigned Program Responsibility for State Director, District Manager, Agency Administrator, State Fire Management Officer and District Fire Management Officer.
- Inserted or clarified text in the “Fire Staff Performance Requirements for Fire Operations” table regarding Assigned Program Responsibility for State Fire Management Officer and District Fire Management Officer.
- Clarified text under subheading “Delegation for State Fire Management Officers (SFMO).”
- Changed subheading from “Delegation for District/Zone/Field Office Fire Management Officers (FMO)” to “Delegation for District Fire Management Officers (DFMO)” and clarified text.
- Inserted heading “Agreements with Cooperators (Rangeland Fire Protection Association (RFPA) and Local Fire Department” and associated text.
- Removed text in table “Safety and Health Responsibilities for the Fire Program,” block 9, regarding reference to 1112-2, Manual, Wildland Fire Incident Management Field Guide and inserted DOI Occupational Safety and Health Program – Field Manual.
- Moved heading “Employee Conduct” with clarified text forward in the chapter.
- Removed text under heading “BLM Firefighters General Non-Fire Training Requirements” under table “Agency Permanent, Career Seasonal, and Temporary Firefighters” regarding for a complete listing of safety and health training, refer to the BLM Manual Handbook 1112-2, Safety and Health for Field Operations.
- Revised Type 21A sawyer qualifications from 3-FAL3 to 1-FAL2 and 2-FAL3 in the “BLM Hand Crew Standards by Type” table.
- Inserted text in footnote 2 of table under subheading “BLM Engine Minimum Staffing Requirements” regarding WCF class 669 non-tactical water tender operators will pass the moderate WCT and take BL-300/RT-301.
- Clarified text under subheading “BLM Smokejumper Mission” regarding a smokejumper spotter may coordinate smokejumper operations with on-scene aircraft over a fire until a qualified ATGS arrives.
- Clarified text under subheading “BLM Smokejumper Coordination and Dispatch” regarding “one-load” is 8 smokejumpers.

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- Removed text under subheading “BLM Ram-Air Parachute System Management” regarding smokejumper reporting of incidents/accidents on the Interagency Smokejumper Mission Incident Worksheet.
- Removed text in “BLM Exclusive Use Helicopter Locations” table regarding Boise, ID has one Type 2 helicopter and inserted one Type 1.
- Changed heading from “Sage Grouse Conservation Related to Wildland Fire” to “Sagebrush Rangeland and Sage-Grouse Conservation Related to Wildland Fire” and clarified text.
- Moved text regarding BLM use of the WFDSS to Chapter 11.

Chapter 3 – NPS

- Inserted heading “Employee Conduct” and associated text.
- Removed and/or inserted text in table under heading “Agency Administrator Management Performance Requirements for Fire Operations” regarding:
 - 4. NPS Director, Regional Director and Park Superintendent – Where applicable, an Inter-park Agreement that specifies the reciprocal responsibilities of the Superintendent and Park Group FMO assigned Duty Officer, will be prepared.
 - 5. Park Superintendent – Fire Management Plans do not expire. They are considered valid until superseded by a new or revised Superintendent approved plan. Ensure applicable park unit resource management objectives are included in the Fire Management Plan (FMP). The comprehensive 7-year review of the FMP is no longer required. Annual updates are required. Then newly established FMP Update Checklist must be completed, signed by the Superintendent and uploaded in the Integrated Resource Management Application (IRMA) under the established park unit name. The new checklist can be found at <https://irma.nps.gov/DataStore/Collection/Profile/3868>. Ensure the FMP annual update is completed in advance of the fire season. The regions will determine specific deadlines. If the annual review is not completed by your regional deadline, an interdisciplinary team may need to be assembled to determine if the FMP is still adequate to support the park unit fire management program.
 - 21. Regional Director and Park Superintendent – Ensure park superintendents who have potential wildland fire response in their park, their designated acting superintendents, and supervisors of FMOs attain and maintain Agency Administrator (AADM) qualification in the IQCS and attained within two years of appointment to positions listed above.
 - 24. Park Superintendent – For fires requiring WFDSS decision in Chapter 11, the park superintendent will ensure local unit staff specialists are involved in development and all decisions are consistent with objectives and requirements contained in the Park’s Fire Management Plan.
 - 26. Park superintendents or other designated approving officials will maintain WFDSS user profiles (as appropriate), allowing them to approve wildfire decisions in WFDSS.
 - 30. Regional Director and Park Superintendent – Serve as the Management Official (MO) within the DOI Wildland Firefighter Medical Standards Program.
- Inserted or clarified text in table under heading “Fire Management Staff Performance Requirements for Fire Operations” regarding:
 - 17. RFMO and FMO – For all fires identified as requiring a WFDSS decision in Chapter 11, ensure local unit staff specialists are involved in the development and that all decisions are consistent with the objectives and requirements contained in the Park’s Fire Management Plan.
 - 36. FAM Chief, RFMO and FMO – Ensures compliance with DOI Wildland Firefighter Medical Standards processes to include Risk Mitigation/Waiver processes.
- Removed subheading “Training for Park Superintendents” and associated text.
- Clarified “Training for Fire Management Officers” is *Fire Program Management – An Overview* (M-581).
- Updated “Engine Operating Standards” Sharepoint site.
- Inserted text in table and table footnote under subheading “Engine Module Standards” regarding tactical water tender.
- Moved text associated with “NPS use of WFDSS” to Chapter 11.

- Clarified text under heading “National Park Service Specific Qualifications and Qualifications Exceptions” regarding park superintendents who have potential wildland fire response in their park, their designated acting superintendents, and supervisors of fire management officers (FMOs) must attain and maintain the Agency Administrator (AADM) qualification in the Incident Qualifications and Certification System (IQCS). The qualification must be attained within two years of appointment to the positions listed above. Requirements for the AADM qualification may be found in the *Federal Wildland Fire Qualifications Supplement* hosted at <https://www.nwecg.gov/publications/310-1>.

Chapter 4 – FWS

- Inserted or clarified text in table under subheading “Management Performance Requirements for Fire Operations” regarding:
 - 5. Project Leader/Refuge Manager will provide a written Delegation of Authority to Zone Fire Management Officer (ZFMOs) giving an adequate level of operational authority. When applicable, develop an Inter-refuge Agreement specifying reciprocal responsibilities of the Project Leader/Refuge Manager and the Zone FMO.
 - 7. FWS Director, Regional Director, Regional Chief/Refuge Supervisor, Project Leader/Refuge Manager – Ensure investigations and reviews are conducted for incidents, accidents, escaped prescribed fires, and near misses as described in Chapter 17 of *Fire Management Handbook* and Chapter 18 of the *Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations*.
 - 16. Project Leader/Refuge Manager will personally visit at least one wildland fire each year.
- Inserted new heading “Line Officer Team (LOT)” and associated text.
- Clarified text under heading “Fire Duty Officer” regarding FDOs will not fill Incident Command System (ICS) functions. If the FDO needs to fulfil an ICS function, they must re-assign the FDO duties.
- Inserted or clarified text under subheading “Agency Administrator Training” regarding:
 - Refuge Managers/Project Leaders with Service lands under their jurisdiction which require the development and maintenance of a Fire Management Plan must attend *Fire Program Management – An Overview* (M-581), or may upon concurrence of the RFMC, attend the *Prescribed Fire Workshop for Agency Administrators* offered by the National Interagency Prescribed Fire Training Center.
 - Projects leaders/refuge managers who oversee or have the potential to oversee complex fire management programs should consult with their RFMC about attending *Fire Program Management – Leading Complex Programs* (M-582).
 - Field supervisors who may approve prescribed fire plans must attend *Fire Program Management – An Overview* (M-581), or may upon concurrence of the RFMC, attend the *Prescribed Fire Workshop for Agency Administrators* offered by the National Interagency Prescribed Fire Training Center.
- Clarified text under subheading “Zone Fire Management Officer Training” regarding all ZFMOs are required to attend M-581, *Fire Program Management – An Overview* course, either as a student or as a member of the instructor cadre. If attending as an instructor, the ZFMO must be present for the entire course. See IFPM requirements.
- Clarified text in table under subheading “FWS Firefighter General Training Requirements” for Agency Permanent, Career Seasonal, and Temporary Firefighters regarding Recurring Training for A-100, Basic Aviation Safety, is every two years.
- Clarified text under subheading “FWS Firefighter General Training Requirements” regarding AD and EFF are required to take defensive driving training every three years.

Chapter 5 – FS

- Reorganized the chapter as follows: Introduction, Vision and Objectives for Fire Management, Foundational Doctrine, Risk Management Protocol, Line Officer Responsibilities for Fire and Aviation at the Field Level, Agency Administrator Roles and Responsibilities for Incident Management, Specific Fire Management Staff Responsibilities for Fire Operations at the Field Level, Structure Exposure Protection Principles.

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- Inserted heading “Vision and Objectives for Fire Management” and associated text.
- Clarified and inserted text under heading “Foundational Doctrine.”
- Changed subheading “Risk Management Framework” to heading “Risk Management Protocol.”
- Changed heading from “Specific Agency Administrator Responsibilities for Fire and Aviation at the Field Level” to “Specific Line Officer Responsibilities for Fire and Aviation at the Field Level.”
- Under heading “Specific Line Officer Responsibilities for Fire and Aviation at the Field Level”:
 - Preparedness – removed, “Identify resource management objectives to maintain a current Fire Management Plan (FMP) that identifies an accurate level of funding for personnel and equipment.”
 - Preparedness – Inserted, “Ensure the plans contained in the Fire Management Reference System (FMRS) are based on resource objectives found in the LRMP.”
 - Preparedness – Inserted, “Ensure budget requests and allocations reflect preparedness requirements from the program of work and support objectives from the LRMP.”
 - Wildfire Response – Clarified that WFDSS will be used to approve and publish decisions on all fires. See Chapter 11 for the fire criteria that require a published decision.
 - Responsibilities and Oversight – clarified that line officers are responsible for all aspects of fire management.
 - Fuels – Inserted, “Plan and implement a hazardous fuels management and prescribed fire program applying principles and policy elements described in FSM 5100 and 5140 and guided by the goals described in the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Strategy.”
 - Prescribed Fire – Removed, “Adhere to procedures for Regional and/or National level approvals for new and continued prescribed fire activities at national Preparedness Levels 4 and 5 as described in the *National Interagency Mobilization Guide*.”
 - Prescribed Fire – Inserted, “Review and approve Prescribed Fire Plans.”
 - Prescribed Fire – Clarified if more than one year has elapsed since a prescribed fire plan was last approved, the plan will be reviewed, updated as necessary, and re-approved before implementation.
 - Prescribed Fire – Inserted, “Authorize ignition of prescribed fire as delegated and adhere to procedures as described in 5140 for Regional and/or National level approvals for initiation of new and continued prescribed fire activities at National Preparedness levels 4 and 5 or when forecast National Fire Danger Rating System adjective ratings are at “Extreme” category. Report all instances of prescribed fires resulting in a wildfire declaration and/or air quality Notice-of-Violation as required in FSM 5140.”
- Inserted or clarified text under heading “Agency Administrator Roles and Responsibilities for Incident Management” regarding:
 - Use the Learning Action Plan and Pathways Chart located in the *Line Officer Desk Reference for Fire Program Management* at <https://wfmrda.nwcg.gov>.
 - Training for “Working Level” is M-581 *Fire Program Management – An Overview*; or M-582 *Fire Program Management – Leading Complex Programs*.
 - Training for “Journey Level” is M-581 *Fire Program Management – An Overview*; or M-582 *Fire Program Management – Leading Complex Programs*.
 - Training for “Advanced Level” is M-582 *Fire Program Management – Leading Complex Programs*.
 - The purpose of the Learning Action Plan is to provide consistency for the Agency Administrator Coach/Evaluator to evaluate trainees and document their demonstrated abilities to achieve the core competencies, which will be used as a component to achieve the next level certification.
 - Every trainee will complete a Learning Action Plan for evaluation from an Agency Administrator/Agency Administrator Representative or coach using the Learning Action Plan form as identified in the *Line Officer Desk Reference for Fire Program Management*.
- Clarified and inserted text under heading “Specific Fire Management Staff Responsibilities for Fire Operations at the Field Level” regarding:

- Preparedness – Develop, maintain, and annually evaluate both the FMRS and Spatial Fire Planning in WFDSS to ensure accuracy and validity.
- Preparedness – Ensure budget requests and allocations reflect preparedness requirements from the program of work and support objectives from the LRMP.
- Inserted subheading “Fire and Aviation Management (FAM) Duty Officer” and associated text.

Chapter 6 – BIA

- Inserted or clarified text under heading “Agency Administrator’s Roles” regarding:
 - Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs
 - Adopts and establishes wildfire prevention policies to protect Indian Lands and Indian natural resources from human-caused wildfires.
 - Ensures compliance and capacity to comply with statutes, regulations, IA policy, and Department of the Interior (DOI) policy applicable to the prevention of human-caused wildfires on Indian Lands.
 - Director, Office of Trust Services
 - Reviews and recommends national wildfire prevention policy for Indian Country.
 - Coordinates wildfire prevention activities among and between Office of Trust Services programs.
 - Coordinates with Division Directors to ensure consistent implementation of wildfire prevention policies.
 - Branch Chief, Wildland Fire Management
 - Oversees prevention policy development and evaluates impacts on other wildland fire programs.
 - Provides policy and procedural guidance to Regional Directors to achieve wildland fire prevention and education objectives.
 - Develops policies and standards for firefighter safety, equipment and training for the prevention, investigation, suppression and use of wildland fires on Indian trust and restricted lands.
 - Regional Directors
 - Ensures that wildfire prevention needs are met.
 - Ensures that activities and/or plans reflect a commitment to firefighter and public safety and the reduction of property loss.
 - Integrates wildland fire prevention program evaluations into fire readiness reviews conducted at Tribal and agency locations.
 - Ensures prevention needs are included in national long-term severity requests.
 - Oversees wildland fire prevention management programs within the region.
 - Develops regional directives for standards and additional procedural policy, as needed, for wildland fire prevention planning, operational implementation, evaluation and fiscal accountability.
 - Approves and certifies that agency and Tribal WFPP’s meet or exceed the IA policy requirements for wildfire prevention.
 - Coordinates with the Office of Justice Services (OJS) Special Agent in Charge when criminal activity associated with wildfires occurs on Indian Lands.
 - Agency Superintendent (unless excepted in regional directives)
 - Manages personnel to ensure that prevention goals and objectives are being achieved.
 - Ensures that all escaped prescribed fire or any prescribed fire that results in resource or property damage are reviewed or investigated.
 - Ensures established wildfire investigation procedures and guidance are followed.
 - Coordinates with appropriate law enforcement agency when wildfire crimes are suspected and/or detected.
 - Coordinate the development of Published Decisions within WFDSS for all fires identified as requiring a decision and consistent with authority identified in Chapter 11.

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- Use prevention funding to implement the wildfire prevention actions in the agency or Tribal WFPP; ensuring that carryover is held to below the one-half of one percent.
- Changed subheading “Fire Weather” to “Fire Weather/RAWS” and inserted or clarified RAWS information.
- Inserted subheading “Weather Module in Wildland Fire Management Information (WFMI)” and associated text.
- Changed heading from “Program Preparedness/Readiness Reviews” to “Program Preparedness.”
- Changed heading from “National Program Preparedness” to “National Program Preparedness/Readiness Reviews.”
- Inserted subheading “Interagency Severity Funding Request Procedures” and associated text.
- Removed text under heading “Wildland Fire Decision Support System (WFDSS)” and inserted BIA follows interagency policy regarding use of WFDSS found in Chapter 11.
- Inserted subheading “Prescribed Fire Review” and associated text.

Chapter 7 – Safety and Risk Management

- Removed BLM-specific text under heading “Policy” regarding agency-specific safety policy document 1112-2 and inserted DOI Occupational Safety and Health Program – Field Manual.
- Clarified BLM, NPS, FWS and BIA-specific text under heading “Driving Standard” regarding employees under the age of 21 that possess a CDL may operate wildland fire vehicles under the following conditions:
 - Drivers under the age of 21 with a CDL may only drive within the state that issued the CDL and must comply with that state’s special requirements and endorsement; and
 - Supervisors must annually establish and document that those drivers have a valid driver’s license (i.e., that the license has not been suspended, revoked, canceled, or that he/she has not been otherwise disqualified from holding a license (485 DM 16.3D (1)), have the ability to operate the vehicle(s) safely in the operational environment assigned (485 DM 16.3B (2)), and review and validate the employee’s driving record (485 DM 16.3D (4)).
- Under heading “Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)” regarding:
 - Required Fireline PPE – Inserted yellow is the recommended color for NFPA 1977 compliant long-sleeved flame resistant shirt.
 - Required Fireline PPE – Inserted flame resistant flight gloves or NFPA 1977 compliant Driving Gloves can be used by heavy equipment operators, drivers and fireline supervisors when not using fireline hand tools.
 - Wildland Fire Boot Standard – Clarified that the 8-inch height requirement is measured from the bottom of the boot’s heel to the top of the boot.
 - Head Protection – Inserted BLM-specific text regarding helmets and hats used for protection from impact of falling and flying objects and from limited electric shock and burn must meet the specifications of American National Standards Institute Z89.1-2009. Equivalent hardhat meeting ANSI Z89.1-2009 Type 1, Class G or NFPA 1977.
 - Head Protection – Clarified that helmets consist of the shell and the suspension, which work together as a system. Both components require frequent inspection and maintenance. Detailed helmet inspection procedures and helmet service life can be found at <https://www.nwcg.gov/committees/equipment-technology-committee/resources>.
- Removed reference to NWCG memorandum EB-M-14-001 under subheading “Incident Medical Emergency Management Planning.”
- Removed text under subheading “Incident Emergency Medical Services” regarding Interim NWCG Minimum Standards for Medical Units and inserted website for NWCG Incident Emergency Medical Subcommittee.
- Inserted text under subheading “Incident Emergency Medical Services” regarding home units that choose to utilize and support higher level medical responders to provide medical support for internal agency medical emergencies (beyond basic first aid/CPR) may do so; however, certification and credentialing must follow respective state laws and protocols unless there is other agency direction.

- Inserted or clarified text under heading “Required Treatment for Burn Injuries” regarding:
 - Special consideration should be given to referring a burned firefighter to a burn center if there is poor pain control during care at the medical facility.
 - ABA Burn Injury Criteria – Burn injury in someone who will require special social, emotional or rehabilitative intervention (PTSD, severe anxiety, etc.).
 - Percentage Total Body Surface Area (TBSA) – Rule of 9s (pictures included) or Rule of Palms.
 - Rule of 9s defined: The body is divided into sections of 9 percent, or multiples of 9 percent, each as per the drawing.
 - Rule of Palms defined: Patient’s palm equals 1% of their body surface. Estimate how many times the patient’s palm could be placed over the burned areas to estimate the percentage of body that has been burned.
 - A map and search engine of burn care facilities can be found at <http://ameriburn.org/public-resources/find-a-burn-center/>.
- Clarified FS-specific text under heading “Accident/Injury Reporting,” subheading “Agency Reporting Requirements” regarding employees will use the eSafety system through the Forest Service Dashboard at http://fsweb.asc.fs.fed.us/HRM/owcp/WorkersComp_index.php//.
- Clarified BIA-specific text under heading “Accident/Injury Reporting,” subheading “Agency Reporting Requirements” regarding in addition to reporting accidents using the Safety Management Information System (SMIS), Fire Management Officers will complete the Early Alert at <https://www.bia.gov/bia/ots/dfwfm/bwfm/safety>, and submit to Regional Fire Management Officers within 24 hours after the accident/injury.

Chapter 8 – Interagency Coordination and Cooperation

- Inserted BLM-specific text under heading “Elements of an Agreement” regarding refer to Chapter 2, Agreements with Cooperators (Rangeland Fire Protection Association (RFPA) and Local Fire Department).
- Removed text under heading “Annual Operating Plans (AOPs),” subheading “General Elements of an Annual Operating Plan,” bullet “Qualifications/Minimum Requirements” regarding NWCG memorandum *Qualification Standards During Initial Action, March 22, 2004* and inserted that the PMS 310-1 outlines the minimum requirements for training, experience, physical fitness level, and currency standards for wildland fire positions, which all participating agencies have agreed to meet for national mobilization.

Chapter 9 – Fire Management Planning

No substantial changes.

Chapter 10 – Preparedness

- Changed heading from “Fire Danger Operating Plan Rating” to “Fire Danger Operating Plan.”
- Clarified or inserted text under heading “Fire Prevention/Mitigation Plans.”
- Removed BLM-specific text under heading “Fire Prevention/Mitigation Plans” referencing the BLM Wildland Fire Prevention, Education and Mitigation Planning Guide available at https://www.blm.gov/nifc/st/en/prog/fire/fuelsmgmt/fire_prevention_and.html.
- Inserted subheading “National Fire Prevention Education Teams” and associated text.
- Clarified BLM-specific text under heading “Fire Danger PocketCard for Firefighter Safety” regarding all units will develop, maintain and ensure PocketCards are available to all personnel. Alaska is required to complete a Seasonal Trend Analysis in lieu of PocketCards. Final approval for PocketCards and Seasonal Trend Analyses will be obtained from the BLM representative to the NWCG Fire Danger Subcommittee (current contact information available at <https://www.nwcg.gov/committees/fire-danger-subcommittee/roster>).
- Clarified NPS-specific text under subheading “National-Level Fire Severity Funding” regarding National office approves all single or cumulative requests exceeding \$100,000.

Chapter 11 – Incident Management and Response

- Inserted text under heading “Incident Management Teams,” subheading “Area Command” regarding see Appendix O for Area Command (AC) Complexity Assessment.
- Consolidated all agency’s direction for WFDSS under heading “Wildland Fire Decision Support System (WFDSS)” and inserted or clarified text.
- Changed subheading from “WFDSS Approval Requirements by Agency” to “WFDSS Approval Authorities by Agency” and clarified text.
- Changed table heading from “DOI WFDSS Approval Requirements (outside of Alaska)” to “DOI WFDSS Approval Authorities (outside of Alaska).”
- Clarified BLM-specific text in the “DOI WFDSS Approval Authorities (outside of Alaska)” table that WFDSS approval authority is with the BLM District Manager.
- Clarified NPS-specific text in the “DOI WFDSS Approval Authorities (outside of Alaska)” table that WFDSS approval authority is with the NPS Park Superintendent.
- Clarified footnote specific to NPS, FWS and BIA under table “DOI WFDSS Approval Authorities (outside of Alaska)” regarding cost estimate should be based on estimated final cost of the incident.
- Inserted BLM and NPS-specific footnote below table “DOI WFDSS Approval Authorities (outside of Alaska)” regarding cost notification requirements.
- Changed table heading from “USFS WFDSS Approval Requirements” to “USFS WFDSS Approval Authorities.”
- Inserted table heading “DOI WFDSS Approval Process in Alaska” and associated table and text.
- Removed reference throughout the chapter regarding “IBA” and inserted “INBA.”
- Removed text under subheading “Release of Incident Management Teams” regarding transition plan and inserted Transfer of Command Plan.
- Removed text under heading “Post-Wildfire Activities” regarding 620 DM 3 and inserted 620 DM 7.
- Clarified text under heading “Post-Wildfire Activities” regarding Rehabilitation – Efforts taken within five years following 21 days after the ignition date of a wildfire to repair or improve wildfire-damaged lands unlikely to recover naturally to management approved conditions, or to repair or replace minor assets damaged by wildfire. These efforts are documented in:
 - DOI – a separate Burned Area Rehabilitation Plan (BAR) or in combination with Burned Area Emergency Response Plan (BAER).
 - FS – a Burned Area Emergency Response Plan (BAER).
- Changed subheading from “Large Fire Cost Reviews” to “Large Fire Cost Review (FS)” and removed associated text. See Chapter 18 for Forest Service Large Fire Cost Review information.
- Inserted subheading “Significant Wildland Fire Review (DOI).” See Chapter 18 for information.

Chapter 12 – Suppression Chemicals and Delivery Systems

- Clarified text under heading “Endangered Species Act (ESA) Emergency Consultation” regarding procedures for emergency consultation are described in the *USFWS Endangered Species Consultation Handbook*, Chapter 8 (March, 1998).

Chapter 13 – Firefighter Training and Qualifications

- Inserted FS-specific text under heading “Medical Examinations” regarding see the USFS WCT Implementation Guide at www.fs.fed.us/fire/safety/wct/wct_index.html as well as the eMedical website at <https://www.fs.fed.us/fire/safety/wct/MQP.index.html>.
- Clarified text under subheading “Medical Exam Process for Light and Moderate Fitness Levels” regarding if any qualifying answer is indicated on the HSQ, a medical examination is required prior to the employee taking the WCT.
- Inserted FS-specific text under subheading “Medical Exam Process for Light and Moderate Fitness Levels” regarding medical exams will be paid from a Washington Office fund code.

Additional specialized testing other than the tests listed on the OF-178 will not be covered by the Forest Service.

- Clarified the approved OMB Health Screen Questionnaire (HSQ) may be found at https://www.fs.fed.us/fire/safety/wct/FS_5100_31%20exp2019_2.pdf.
- Inserted FS-specific text under subheading “Health Screen Questionnaire (HSQ)” regarding HSQ’s are NOT to be done at the WCT site. They are to be completed at least 4 weeks before taking the WCT unless in an emergency hire situation. Further direction can be found in the USFS WCT Implementation Guide at www.fs.fed.us/fire/safety/wct/wct_index.html.
- Removed text under subheading “Work Capacity Test (WCT) Administration” regarding WCT Record available online as Appendix O. The WCT Record is only available online and is now Appendix Q. https://www.nifc.gov/policies/pol_ref_redbook.html
- Inserted FS-specific text under subheading “Work Capacity Test (WCT) Administration” regarding failed or not completed WCT attempts are to be entered into the eMedical system by the HSQ Coordinator.
- Inserted BIA to bullets under heading “Chainsaw Operators and Fallers” regarding use of NWCG position task books is required, and individual tasks required for completion of the FAL1 PTB must be evaluated by a qualified FAL1. The Final Evaluator’s Verification for a FAL1 trainee must be completed by a qualified FAL1.
- Removed and clarified BIA-specific text under heading “Chainsaw Operators and Fallers.”

Chapter 14 – Firefighting Equipment

- Inserted text under subheadings “Engine Typing” and “Water Tender Typing” referencing that engine and water tender typing and respective standards have been established by NWCG (reference the *Wildland Fire Incident Management Field Guide* (PMS 210), Chapter 4.
- Clarified “Fire Engine Staffing” for Type 4, 5, 6, and 7 engines regarding minimum staffing is two individuals, one of which is Engine Boss qualified.
- Removed FWS-specific text under subheading “Fire Engine Staffing” regarding minimum staffing for Type 6 and 7 engines (on Refuge lands) is one ENOP and one FFT2. A minimum of one ICT5 must be available on the engine crew.
- Clarified BLM-specific text regarding Water Tender (Non-Tactical) to refer to the *Federal Wildland Fire Qualifications Supplement*.
- Inserted or clarified NPS and FWS-specific text under subheading “Water Tender Qualifications and Staffing Standards,” bullet “Water Tender (Tactical)” regarding Qualifications is ENGB and CDL (tank endorsement) and Staffing is one ENGB and one FFT2.
- Deleted, inserted or clarified text under heading “All-Terrain Vehicles (ATV)/Utility Terrain Vehicles (UTV)” regarding:
 - BLM-specific – Personnel will not use ATVs for any wildland fire management activity including preparedness, suppression, prescribed fire, hazardous fuels reduction, post-fire rehabilitation, and emergency stabilization and restoration, regardless of incident jurisdiction or project/activity location after January 1, 2018. Employees of cooperating agencies/entities may utilize ATVs on BLM incidents if allowed by their individual agency/entity policy.
 - BIA-specific – Effective immediately, all BIA programs will cease the procurement of ATVs used for wildland fire management activities (including preparedness, suppression, prescribed fire, hazardous fuels reduction, post-fire rehabilitation, and emergency stabilization and restoration). Any ATV currently in service may continue to be utilized for non-industrial wildland fire management activities/operations until January 1, 2019. After this date, BIA personnel will not utilize ATVs for any wildland fire management activities, regardless of incident jurisdiction or project/activity location.
 - BIA-specific – Programs may continue to procure and utilize other commercially available utility terrain vehicles (UTVs), provided the vehicle has manufactured-installed seat belts, a steering wheel, is a multi-seat or newly available single-seat model (e.g., Polaris Ace) and is equipped with a certified roll-over protection structure (ROPS) designed and installed by the original equipment manufacturer as standard equipment.

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- BLM-specific – Upon completion of agency-specific UTV training and operator certification requirements, Utility-Terrain Vehicle Operator (UTVO) will be placed on the employee’s Incident Qualification and Certification (IQCS) Card (Red Card). IQCS Certifying Officials are responsible for verifying that UTV operator qualifications are current, and that the UTVO qualification is removed from the Red Card if agency-specific training, certification, or currency requirements lapse.
- BIA-specific – Upon completion of agency-specific ATV/UTV training and operator certification requirements, All-Terrain Vehicle Operator (ATVO) will be placed on the employee’s Incident Qualification and Certification (IQCS) Card (Red Card). IQCS Certifying Officials are responsible for verifying that ATV/UTV operator qualifications are current, and that the ATVO qualification is removed from the Red Card if agency-specific training, certification, or currency requirements lapse.
- Required PPE –
 - ATV helmets must meet Snell SA2010, SA2015, or DOT certification. A ¾ face model meeting Snell SA2010, SA2015 certification is acceptable for use.
 - UTV helmets must meet DOT, ANSI Z90.1; or Snell SA2010, SA2015 certification unless certain conditions apply.
 - BLM-specific - A hard hat meeting NFPA 1977 or ANSI Z 89.1 2009 Type 1, Class G standards may be worn with chin straps secured in place under chin.
 - If operating ATV/UTV on the fireline, leather or leather/flame resistant combination gloves are required. Flame resistant flight gloves or NFPA 1977 compliant Driving Gloves can be used by heavy equipment operators, drivers and fireline supervisors when not using fireline hand tools.
 - Yellow is the recommended color for NFPA 1977 compliant long-sleeved flame resistant shirt.
 - BLM-specific – Removed BLM reference to Instruction Memorandum No. FA-IM-2016-022, *Procurement and Use of All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) by the Fire Program*.
- Moved BLM-specific text regarding a 10 lb. class BC fire extinguisher for UTVs equipped with a ground ignition device up under heading “Ground Ignition Devices and Transporting/Dispensing Fuel.”
- Inserted text under heading “Ground Ignition Devices and Transporting/Dispensing Fuel” regarding for transporting and dispensing fuel, follow the *Interagency Transportation Guide for Gasoline, Mixed Gas, Drip-Torch Fuel, and Diesel* (PMS 442) or agency-specific guidance.

Chapter 15 – Communications

- Clarified text under subheading “National Air Guard Frequency (168.6250 MHz)” regarding a Continuous Tone Coded Squelch System (CTCSS) tone of 110.9 Hz must be used when transmitting on the National Air Guard Frequency.
- Clarified text under subheading “National Flight Following Frequency (168.6500 MHz)” regarding a CTCSS tone of 110.9 must be used when transmitting and receiving on the National Flight Following frequency.
- Clarified text under subheading “Smokejumper and Rappel/RADS Air-to-Ground Frequency (168.550 MHz)” regarding a CTCSS tone must be used when transmitting and receiving on the Smokejumper and Rappel/RADS Air-to-Ground Frequency. Smokejumpers use CTCSS tone 123.0; Rappel/RADS crews use CTCSS tone 110.9.
- Removed or inserted text under subheading “National Interagency Fire Tactical Frequencies (168.0500 MHz, 168.200 MHz, 168.6000 MHz, 168.2500 MHz, 166.7250 MHz, 166.7750 MHz)” regarding these frequencies are approved for ground tactical operations (line of sight) on incidents. Maximum transmitter output is 5 watts. Permission to use these frequencies requires prior approval from the NIFC CDO (or COMC when mobilized).
 - Not authorized for:
 - Air-to-air communications;
 - Air-to-ground communications; or
 - Radio transmitter power output more than 5 watts.

Chapter 16 – Aviation Operations and Resources

- Removed text “Lead/ATCO” and inserted “Leadplane” throughout the chapter.
- Removed or inserted text under heading “Unmanned Aircraft Systems” and subheading “Key Points.” Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) operations shall be conducted under the provisions of the *Interagency Fire Unmanned Aircraft Systems Operations Guide* (PMS 515).
- Inserted text under subheading “Interim Flight and Duty Limitations Implementation” Phase 1 regarding two days off within any 14-day period.
- Removed text under heading “Aviation Assets” regarding “Lead” and inserted HLCO and Leadplane to the list of typical agency aviation assets.
- Changed heading from “Aerial Supervision Principles for ATGS, ASM and Lead” to “Aerial Supervision Principles for ATGS, HLCO, ASM and Leadplane.”
- Removed text regarding Lead/ATCO throughout the chapter and inserted Leadplane qualified pilot (LEDP) and Air Tactical Supervisor (AITS).
- Inserted text under heading “Airtankers” regarding early-ups for large fire support can have a significant effect on the resource availability late in the day. NICC must be included in this discussion. The rationale for use of airtankers prior to normal start times for large fire support must include obtainable incident objectives in support of ground resources.
- Clarified text under subheading “Airtanker Types” regarding Very Large Air Tanker (VLAT) load capacity is 5,000 gallons or more and Type 1 load capacity is 3,000 to 5,000 gallons.
- Inserted heading “Airtanker Payloads” and associated text.
- Clarified text under heading “Airtanker Base Operations,” subheading “Loading Operations” that Forest Service contracted airtankers, owned airtankers and Modular Airborne Firefighting System (MAFFS) airtankers shall be loaded using a Mass Flow Meter to measure the payload in pounds.
- Inserted heading “Helicopters” and associated text.

Chapter 17 – Fuels Management

- Changed heading from “Regarding Planned Fuels Treatments Burned in a Wildfire” to “Reporting Planned Fuels Treatments Burned in a Wildfire.”
- Removed text referencing “DOI agencies” under heading “Reporting Planned Fuels Treatments Burned in a Wildfire” and inserted “NPS and FWS” regarding acres burned in a wildfire may only be reported in the NFPORS Hazardous Fuels Reduction Module as “Fire Use” if certain conditions are met.
- Inserted BLM-specific text under heading “Reporting Planned Fuels Treatments Burned in a Wildfire” regarding offices will report (using instructions from Attachment 1 of IM FA-2017-034) all acres burned in a naturally-caused wildfire (accomplishments of resource objectives for known human-caused fires will not be reported) that accomplish resource objectives in the HFR module of NFPORS when an interdisciplinary team approach is used to determine the specific burned acres where LUP resource objectives were met by wildfire; and an Agency Administrator approves the determination and notifies the State Fuels Lead/Specialist. Together they ensure appropriate reporting in NFPORS.
- Removed, inserted or clarified text under heading “Prescribed Fire During Preparedness Levels 4 and 5” regarding:
 - FWS-specific – During Geographic Area Preparedness Level 4 or 5, written concurrence from RFMC is required prior to ignition. During National Preparedness Level 5, concurrence from Headquarters, Branch of Fire Management must be obtained prior to implementing prescribed fires. Refer to FMH, Chapter 17 for additional information.
 - FS-specific – The Regional Forester will approve or disapprove new prescribed fires or continue existing prescribed fire at National Preparedness Levels 4 and 5 or if National Fire Danger Rating System forecasted adjective rating is “Extreme” for the county that the prescribed fire is located or any adjacent county. Reference FSM Interim Directive WO-ID-5140-2017-1.
 - BIA-specific – National Preparedness Levels 4 and 5, prescribed fire (Rx) applications can be initiated or continued if the proposed action is approved by an agency at the

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Regional level. The approval must be based on an assessment of risk, impacts of the proposed actions on Area resources and activities, and include feedback from the GMAC. At National Preparedness Level 5, for Rx applications to be initiated or continued that require additional support of resources from outside the local unit or require resource ordering of an IMT, the Regional Fuels Specialist must prepare a written justification to request permission to implement a new prescribed fire and submit to the BIA Director of Fuels Management. A National MAC representative will assess risk and impacts of the proposed action(s) and present to NMAC for review prior to proceeding. The final decision to implement resides with the implementing agency.

- Inserted text under heading “Use of AD Pay Plan for Prescribed Fire” regarding the DOI AD Pay Plan does not allow for use of Casuals for mechanical or chemical treatment fuels reduction projects.

Chapter 18 – Reviews and Investigations

- Inserted text under heading “Reviews” regarding Large Fire Cost Reviews (FS) and Significant Wildland Fire Reviews (DOI).
- In table “Review Types and Requirements”:
 - Clarified text regarding Large Fire Cost Review (FS) are conducted at Washington Office discretion and the Delegating or Authorizing Official is the Washington Office.
 - Inserted text regarding Significant Wildland Fire Review (DOI).
 - Inserted NPS and FS-specific text under “Lessons Learned Review” that FLA may be used.
- Clarified text under subheading “Large Fire Cost Reviews (FS)” regarding a Large Fire Cost Review may be conducted at the discretion of the Washington Office, at the request of the Regional Office, or when requested by multi-jurisdictional cooperators.
- Inserted subheading “Significant Wildland Fire Reviews (DOI)” and associated text.
 - BLM-specific – The Assistant Director, Fire and Aviation will initiate, facilitate, and provide oversight for the SWFR process. Upon determination of the need for a SWFR, the AD will coordinate with the appropriate state director and assemble a SWFR team, provide a Delegation of Authority, and initiate the SWFR using direction found at http://web.blm.gov/internal/fire/budget/Reports/Report_Menu_new.htm. The AD will provide briefings to the Bureau Director, as appropriate.
 - NPS-specific – Significant Wildland Fire Reviews (SWFR) will be conducted at Management discretion and the Delegating Official may be at the Local, Regional, or National level. See the Agency Administrator and Fire Management Performance Tables in Chapter 3 and the “Review Types and Requirements” table for further information.
- Inserted NPS-specific text under subheading “Lessons Learned Reviews (LLRs)” regarding Facilitated Learning Analysis (FLA) may be used for incidents meeting the AI criteria.
- Inserted FS-specific text under subheading “Lessons Learned Reviews (LLRs)” regarding Facilitated Learning Analysis (FLA) may be used for incidents meeting the AI criteria or if a CRP is not being utilized for an incident meeting SAI criteria. A guide for the FLA process is available at http://bit.ly/FLA_guide.
- Removed FS-specific text under subheading “Lessons Learned Reviews (LLRs)” regarding The Forest Service has combined the Accident Prevention Analysis (APA) with the Facilitated Learning Analysis (FLA). A guide for the FLA process is available at http://bit.ly/FLA_guide.
- Removed text under subheading “Rapid Lesson Sharing (RLS)” regarding, “...(usually within 24 hours).”
- Inserted BIA-specific text under subheading “Declared Wildfire Reviews” regarding refer to *Bureau of Indian Affairs Fuels Management Program Supplement to the Interagency Prescribed Fire Planning and Implementation Procedures Reference Guide* (December 2008), Chapter 3.
- Clarified text under subheading “Wildland Fire Incident and Accident Types and Definitions” regarding Fire Shelter Deployment definition which is the removing of a fire shelter from its case and unfolding it to use as protection against heat, smoke and burning embers.
- In table “Investigation Types and Requirements”:

- Inserted FS-specific text in row “Serious Wildland Fire Accident” and column “Investigation Types” regarding, “If CRP is not activated, then an FLA will be implemented using a Regional Delegation of Authority.”
- Inserted “Regional/State” in row “Entrapment/Burnover” and column “Management level that determines review type and authorizes review.”
- Inserted “Regional/State” in row “Fire Shelter Deployment” and column “Management level that determines review type and authorizes review.”
- Removed FS-specific text regarding FLAs are a type of Lessons Learned Review.
- Clarified text under heading “Wildland Fire Serious Accident Investigation (SAI) Process,” subheading “Notification” that OSHA will be notified according to agency policy when an employee is killed on the job or suffers a work-related hospitalization, amputation, or loss of an eye. <https://www.osha.gov/report.html>. A fatality must be reported within **8 hours** and an in-patient hospitalization, amputation, or eye loss must be reported within **24 hours**.
- Removed BLM-specific text in table under heading “Related Policy Documents” regarding Manual 1112-2 and inserted DOI Occupational Safety and Health Program – Field Manual.

Chapter 19 – Dispatch and Coordination System

- Under heading “National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC) Functional Responsibilities,” bullet “Management of National Aviation Resources”:
 - Deleted text regarding Type 1 and 2 Call-When-Needed (CWN) helicopters and inserted Type 1 and 2 FS Exclusive Use/Call-When-Needed contracted helicopters.
 - Inserted text regarding GACCs hosting national Type 1 and 2 helicopters will coordinate with NICC prior to releasing flight crews for the day when those resources are not being used within the host area and could be utilized elsewhere for emerging or ongoing fire activity.
- Removed text under heading “Incident Emergency Management Planning” referencing Chapter 7 and NWCG Memorandum EB-M-14-001.

Appendices

- Appendix D – Removed IBA and inserted INBA in table under “Finance Section.”
- Appendix G – Removed IBA and inserted INBA under subheading “Finance.”
- Appendix I – Changed heading from “Interagency Incident Management Team Evaluation” to “Incident Management Team Performance Evaluation.” Inserted text in block 10 regarding Large Fire Cost Review (FS)/Significant Wildland Fire Review (DOI).
- Appendix K
 - Changed heading from “Minimum Standards of Incident Emergency Medical Services” to “Recommendations for Incident Emergency Medical Services.”
 - Removed the subheading “Interim NWCG Minimum Standards.”
 - Removed table column heading “Incident Size” and inserted “Resources.”
 - Inserted “People” to table columns containing “<250, 250 to 500, and >500.”
 - In the “NOTE,” removed “guidelines” and inserted “recommendations.”
- Appendix N
 - Inserted text under heading “WFDSS Account Information” regarding federal accounts are granted automatically, non-federal accounts are granted by Geographic Area Editor (GAE) or National Editors (NE), depending on the geographic area a user’s account is associated with. (Note: Each federal entity has different overlapping regions which may not coincide with geographic areas. A GAE from a perceived different geographic area may assist you as a result.)
 - Clarified text for “Geographic Area Editors WFDSS Duties” regarding participation in GAE calls to keep up to date on system changes or other relevant information to be shared with field units.
 - Inserted text under heading “Fire Behavior Analysis” regarding if a local FBS is not available to provide analysis for an active incident, you can request assistance by selecting Fire Behavior Request from the Information tab of an Incident and submitting the request, contacting a Geographic Area Editor, or...

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- Appendix O – Removed “Work Capacity Test Record” (internet only) and inserted “Area Command (AC) Complexity Assessment.”
- Appendix Q – Inserted Work Capacity Test Record (internet only).