

# National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group

3833 South Development Avenue; Boise, ID 83705

NMAC Correspondence #2016-08

April 7, 2016

To: Geographic Area Training Representatives  
From: National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group  
Subject: NMAC Intent on Priority Trainee Program

At the January 2016 meeting of the National Multiagency Coordinating Group, Coordinating Group Advisory Council, and the Geographic Area Coordination Centers (NMAC/CGAC/GACC), the priority trainee program was discussed. Attendees believed it to be a valuable program to develop the workforce, especially those positions experiencing shortages of qualified personnel. Realizing this program is still evolving, and the Geographic Area Training Representatives (GATRs) will be meeting in May 2016, NMAC is providing leader's intent for the priority trainee program:

1. The Geographic Area Training Representatives should have a documented methodology for the equitable coordination of priority trainees across all Geographic Areas during all Preparedness Levels.
2. During times of Preparedness Levels 3, 4, and 5, NMAC may request a representative from the GATR community to assist NMAC and the NICC with coordinating priority trainee assignments.
3. Consider conducting GATR conference calls during PL 4 and PL 5 to facilitate national priority trainee coordination.
4. While use of the closest forces concept is a fundamental business practice of wildland fire mobilization, in some cases priority trainees may be mobilized from more distant areas in order to accomplish training and qualification goals.

NMAC requests an update on the above points after the GATR May 2016 meeting.

NMAC thanks the GATRs for collectively working on the priority trainee program and seeking continuous improvement.

**/s/Dan Buckley**  
NMAC Chair

CC: National Wildfire Coordinating Group  
Coordinating Group Advisory Council  
Geographic Area Coordination Centers

