MILITRARY USE HANDBOOK

APPENDIX C: MILITARY GROUND RESOURCES PLAYBOOK

Background and Intent:

This playbook is an augmentation of the Military Use Handbook (MUHB). There have been several iterations of the MUHB, primarily documents developed form USDA Forest Service personnel that mobilized, trained, and deployed the military. The lessons learned and best practices were formed into a playbook and shared on the NICC site. The most recent was completed in July 2021.

In spring of 2025, NMAC formed a working group to update the existing MUHB. The working group identified that the current military use handbook focused nearly exclusively on ground resource deployment. Subsequently the MUHB was retooled, re-envisioned, and rewritten to meet all facets of a military wildland fire deployment. Additionally, a determination was made that the handbook would belong to NMAC and was to be implemented and maintained by the NICC just like the international handbook.

The intent is to provide additional information specific to military ground resource deployments. The playbook is laid out to provide understanding of the military capabilities, structure, ranks, operational make up, and interface with NIFC) Then in chronological order from the initiation of the RFA to the demobilization of the military unit, and additional information for support functions. The playbook is written to be descriptive, not prescriptive. While there are some prescriptive sections (best practices), it would be impossible to write prescriptive information for all potential situations that could arise during a military deployment to support the NMAC fire suppression effort. This playbook is a living document that will be updated during and after every military deployment and subsequent after-action review capturing lessons learned and best practices in real time.

Military Units:

When military ground resources are mobilized/deployed in support of wildland fire missions, they are typically from either the U.S. Army or the U.S. Marine Corps. Historically, there have been several different military units deployed in support of the NMAC fire suppression mission including, Engineers, Cavalry, Scouts, and Infantry. While all units provided excellent service it became clear Engineer and Cavalry units provided the best fit based on the utilization and understanding of tools and equipment (saws, pumps, heavy equipment etc.) The following section provides each of the unit's capabilities and focus areas on their traditional roles, training, and capabilities (non-fire mobilizations).

Military Engineer Units:

The U.S. Army and U.S. Marine Corps both have engineer units that play crucial roles in supporting combat and logistical operations. The Army's engineer units, like the Brigade Engineer Battalion (BEB), focus on providing sustained engineering support across the spectrum of military operations, including building bridges, clearing obstacles, and constructing

fortifications. The Marine Corps' engineer units, such as Combat Engineer Battalions (CEB) and Engineer Support Battalions (ESB), are primarily focused on supporting the Marine infantry and providing mobility, counter-mobility, and survivability.

U.S. Army Engineer Units:

Brigade Engineer Battalion (BEB): Assigned to and co-located with a Brigade Combat Team, BEBs provide engineering support to their respective brigades, including providing mobility, counter-mobility, and survivability.

14 BEB: Based at Joint forces Base Lewis McChord, Washington, supporting 2nd Stryker Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, I Corps.

7th Engineer Support Battalion (ESB): ESBs provide engineering support to the Marine Corps as a whole, including general engineering, Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD), and construction.

Military engineer training involves specialized education and training to prepare individuals for roles in construction, repair, demolition, and other engineering tasks within the armed forces. It builds upon basic military training and often includes advanced courses focused on specific engineering specialties like combat engineering, utilities, or construction. All these skills prepare and form a logical understanding of hand crew fire suppression tactics and tasks.

DoD Training Components:

Physical Fitness Requirements/Standards

Army

https://usarmybasic.com/army-physical-fitness/apft-standards/

• Marine Corp

https://www.fitness.marines.mil/Training/PFT-CFT/Fitness-Test-Standards/

Basic Military Training: All military personnel, including engineers, undergo basic military training to develop fundamental military skills (marksmanship, armed/unarmed combat, field sanitation, first aid, land navigation, individual/collaborative problem-solving etc.), discipline, and teamwork.

Advanced Individual Training (AIT): After basic training, specific AIT courses focus on the specialized skills needed for military engineering roles.

Specialized Courses: Beyond AIT, military engineers may attend specialized courses like the Sapper Leader Course or Engineer Basic Officer Leadership Course (BOLC), which provide advanced leadership, tactical, and technical skills.

Field Training Exercises: Practical exercises and field training scenarios allow engineers to apply their knowledge in realistic military environments (Bivouac, utilization of hand tools, heavy equipment to complete tasks, field sanitation problem-solving etc.).

Continuous Learning: Military engineering is a dynamic field, and continuous learning through advanced courses, certifications, and professional development is often encouraged.

Key Areas of Training:

- **Combat Engineering:** Training in demolitions, bridge construction, obstacle clearing, and other tasks related to battlefield mobility and survivability.
- Utilities Engineering:

Skills in water management, sanitation, electrical systems, and other essential infrastructure services.

• Construction and Infrastructure:

Training in building construction, repairs, and maintenance of military facilities and infrastructure.

• Specialized Skills:

Engineers receive specialized training heavy equipment and specialized equipment. (Dozers, Fork-lifts, Chain Saws, pumps, etc.) Additional specialized skills (to many to list) can be requested via the RFA.

Army Cavalry Units:

Army cavalry units are trained to perform reconnaissance and security missions, focusing on gathering information and protecting their parent organization. They utilize a variety of tactics, including mounted and dismounted operations, and integrate with other military branches to provide a mobile, versatile force. Training focuses on applying reconnaissance and security fundamentals, synchronizing assets, and developing tactical skills in various scenarios.

4th **Squadron, 10**th **U.S. Cavalry Regiment**: based at Fort Carson, Colorado, 3rd Armor Brigade Combat Team of the 4th Infantry Division

Military ground forces staffing model:

Army

• Squad: 8-12 soldiers.

• Platoon: 20-50 soldiers (3-4 squads).

• Company: 100-200 soldiers (3-5 platoons).

• Battalion: 300-1000 soldiers (3-5 companies). (Half Battalion 225-250 Soldiers)

• **Regiment:** 1000-3000 soldiers (3-5 battalions).

• **Brigade:** 4000-5000 soldiers (3-4 regiments).

• **Division:** 10,000-25,000 soldiers (several brigades).

Marine Corps

- **Squad:** 9 Marines.
- **Platoon:** 27 Marines (3 squads).
- Company: 90 Marines (3 platoons).
- Battalion: 300-800 Marines (3-4 companies). (Half Battalion 225-250 Marines)
- **Regiment:** 3-4 battalions.
- **Division:** 10,000-25,000 Marines.
- Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU): Based around a reinforced infantry battalion and a composite squadron.
- Marine Expeditionary Brigade (MEB): 4,000-16,000 Marines.
- Marine Expeditionary Force (MEF): 46,000-90,000 Marines

Officers:

Military Officers General KSAs:

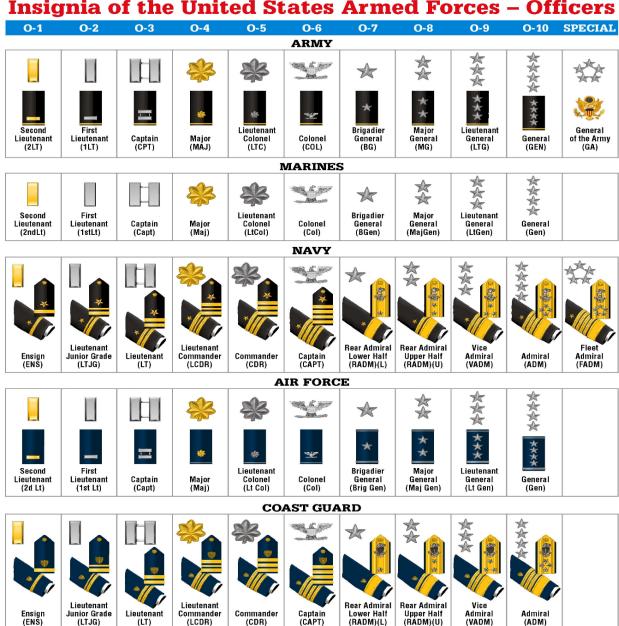
- Leadership: Officers are leaders, responsible for planning, assigning tasks, and ensuring work is completed to the highest standard.
- **Command:** Officers lead and manage military units, from platoons to divisions and beyond.
- **Decision-making:** Officers are responsible for strategic decision-making that impacts the outcome of missions.
- **Training and Development:** Officers are responsible for training and developing service members, both in military skills and leadership qualities.
- Welfare of Soldiers: Officers are responsible for the well-being and morale of their service members.
- Operational and Administrative Tasks: Officers are involved in a wide range of operational and administrative tasks, depending on their rank and assignment.

Officer Ranks Roles/Responsibilities USA/USMC:

O-1	Second Lieutenant	The entry-level rank, typically serving as a platoon leader, responsible for training, discipline, and the welfare of service members.
O-2	First Lieutenant	Gains more experience and responsibility, often serving as executive or staff officer within a company or battalion, involved in mission planning and execution.
O-3	Captain	Leads and manages platoons or companies, taking on leadership and command responsibilities. Leads and manages staff "S" sections. (S- Staff described on Pg. 11)
O-4	Major	Holds a significant leadership position, responsible for leading and executing various operational and administrative tasks.
O-5	Lieutenant Colonel	May serve as a battalion commander or general staff officer "G" section. (G-Staff described on pg. 11)
O-6	Colonel	Often the chief of divisional-level staff agencies or commands brigade-sized units.

O-7	Brigadier General	Serves as a deputy commander for divisions.
O-8	Major General	Often commands division-sized units.
O-9	Lieutenant General	Usually commands corps/(brigade USMC)-sized units.
O-10	General	The highest-ranking officer, commanding entire armies or
		serving as the Chief of Staff and/or Service Chief.

Insignia of the United States Armed Forces - Officers



Enlisted Roles and Responsibilities:

ARMY

Enlisted:

E-1	Private	Private (PV1) is the lowest rank in the U.S. Army and is primarily for recruits in basic combat training (BCT). They're typically automatically promoted to private second class after six months' Time in Service (TIS). However, soldiers may be demoted to private as part of disciplinary action.	
E-2	Private Second Class	Most enlisted soldiers are promoted to private second class (PV2) after completing BCT. Completing the U.S. Army's Future Soldiers Program or having prior military training college credit may allow a soldier to enter service as a PV2. Primary duties are applying what they learned in BCT and learning how to follow orders.	
E-3	Private First Class	PFCs automatically receive a promotion to specialist after two years TIS and six months' Time in Grade (TIG). Promotion to corporal, a noncommissioned officer rank, also requires a leadership position, such as a team leader. Also, security clearance is required for their military occupational specialty (MOS).	
E-4	Specialist	Specialist (SPC) is the highest of the junior enlisted ranks and entitles soldiers to manage enlisted personnel of lower rank. Specialist duties focus on technical expertise. Enlisted soldiers with a four-year college degree or certain specialized skills may start BCT as an SPC.	

Non-Commissioned Officer:

E-4	Corporal	A corporal (CPL), referred to as a "junior NCO," is the lowest	
		NCO rank. They serve as team leaders for small U.S. Army units	
		responsible for soldiers' training and appearance.	
E-5	Sergeant	A sergeant (SGT) is typically the NCO who oversees a group of	
		soldiers, especially privates, in daily tasks. A sergeant typically	
		leads a four-soldier team, the smallest element in the U.S.	
		Army's organizational structure. They're the first-line leaders	
		with the most direct impact on soldiers. Sergeants are	
		responsible for ensuring those in their command receive MOS	
		training and maintain a professional appearance.	
E-6	Staff Sergeant	A staff sergeant (SSG) typically leads a squad made up of two to	
		three teams or eight to 16 soldiers with one or more sergeants.	
		They're often directly responsible for privates, specialists and	
		lower-ranked NCOs. SSGs are responsible for developing,	
		maintaining and using a soldier's full range of potential. Staff	
		sergeants develop and train their soldiers in their MOS, enforce	
		military standards and lead unit missions.	

Senior Noncommissioned Officer:

E-7	Sergeant First Class	A sergeant first class (SFC) is a senior NCO who typically serves as a key assistant and adviser to a platoon leader. This is a duty position, not a rank. Also known as "platoon sergeants," they lead the platoon in the commanding lieutenant's absence. A
		platoon usually has two to four squads with 16 to 44 soldiers.

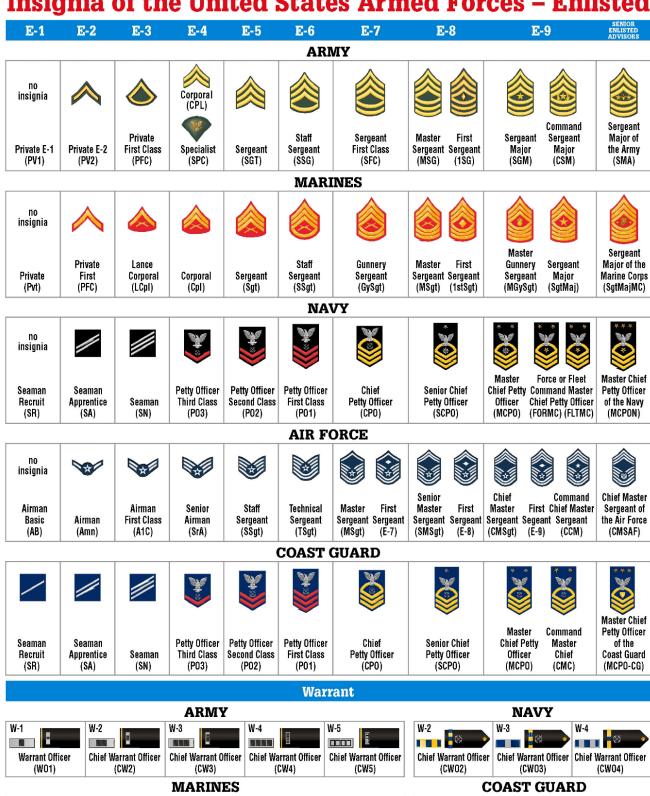
		Depending on their assignment, they may be the NCO in Charge (NCOIC).	
E-8	Master Sergeant	A master sergeant (MSG) is the principal NCO at the battalion	
		level or higher. Although they share the same pay grade as first	
		sergeants, master sergeants have fewer direct leadership	
		responsibilities.	
E-8	First Sergeant	A first sergeant (1SG) is the senior NCO in a company, troop or	
		battery. At the company level, they assist officers overseeing 60	
		to 200 soldiers. A first sergeant trains enlisted soldiers, instructs	
		other sergeants and serves as an adviser to the commander.	
E-9	Sergeant Major	A sergeant major (SGM) is a subject matter expert in their	
		technical field and a primary adviser regarding policy	
		development, analytical review and regulatory guidance. They	
		serve as the senior enlisted adviser to a primary staff officer at	
		the battalion level (300 to 1,000 soldiers) or higher. A sergeant	
		major may command other enlisted personnel or junior officers,	
		depending on their assignment.	
WO 1-5	Warrant Officer	Technical experts who provide experience and guidance to	
		commanders in their specific career field.	

Marine Corps

Enlisted:

E-1	Private	These Marines are new to the Corps and are focused on	
E-2	Private First Class	developing and growing as an individual while honing	
E-3	Lance Corporal	their skills and core values.	
Non-Comr	nissioned Officer:		
E-4	Corporal	Marine NCOs have faced several physical and mental challenges and are considered experienced Marines. Beginning at the rank of Sergeant, Marine NCOs can seek	
		the opportunity to serve as Drill Instructors in	
E-5	Sergeant	charge of a recruit training platoon.	
Staff Non	commissioned Officer:		
E-6	Staff Sergeant	Responsible for the proficiency, training and administration of Marines in their charge.	
E-7	Gunnery Sergeant	Serves as their unit's operations chief, working with superior officers on training, operations, and tactical advising.	
E-8	Master Sergeant	Provides technical leadership as specialists in their specific MOS.	
E-8	First Sergeant	Serves as the senior enlisted Marine in the company, assisting in their unit's discipline, administration, morale, and Marine welfare matters.	
E-9	Master Gunnery Sergeant	Provides technical leadership as specialists in their specific MOS.	
E-9	Sergeant Major	Serves as the principal enlisted advisor for a senior Marine commander, making high level strategic decisions that impact the entire Marine Corps.	
WO 1-5	Warrant Officer	Technical experts who provide experience and guidance to commanders in their specific career field.	

Insignia of the United States Armed Forces - Enlisted



W-1

Warrant Officer

(W0)

W-2

Chief Warrant Officer

(CW02)

W-3

Chief Warrant Officer

(CW03)

W-4

Chief Warrant Officer

(CW04)

W-5

Chief Warrant Officer

(CW05)

W-2

(CW02)

W-3

48

Chief Warrant Officer | Chief Warrant Officer | Chief Warrant Officer

(CW03)

(CW04)

Military Command Staff:

Staff "S": Units below divisions use an "S" in their Staff function designations (e.g., S-1 etc.) Utilized traditionally at the Battalion and Regimental level.

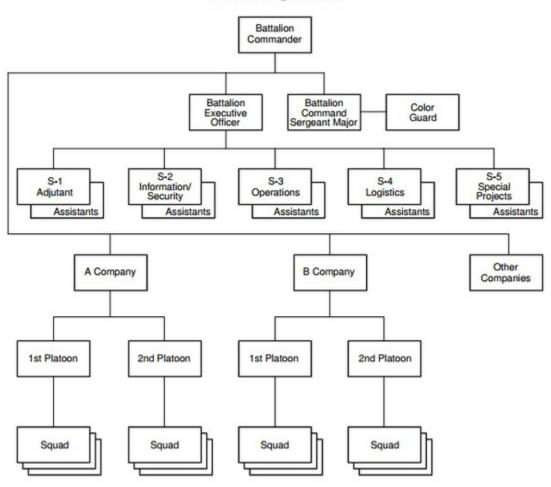
- **S1:** Manpower and Personnel (or Adjutant).
- **S2:** Intelligence and Counterintelligence.
- S3: Operations and Training.
- S4: Logistics.
- **S5:** Plans and Policy.
- **S6:** Signal (Communications and IT).
- **S7:** Training.
- **S8:** Finance and Resource Management.
- **S9:** Civil Affairs (Civil-Military Cooperation).

General Staff "G": Units below divisions use a "G" in their general staff function designations (e.g., G-1 etc.) Utilized traditionally at the Division, Brigade (USMC) and Service level.

- **G-1:** Personnel.
- **G-2:** Intelligence.
- **G-3:** Operations and training.
- **G-4:** Logistics.
- **G-5:** Planning.
- **G-6:** Command, control, communications, and computers (C4).
- **G-7:** Information operations (in some units).
- **G-8:** Finance (in some units).
- **G-9:** Civil-military operations (in some units).

Military Battalion Organization:

Battalion Organization



Military IMO/IMT interface and counterparts: (basic suggested not all inclusive)

Relationships and overcommunication is the path to successful deployment

Military Position	ICS Counterpart/Interface	
Army North (Colonel/Civilian)	IC, DIC, MLO and any SME (SOF, PSC etc.)	
All "G" functions	IC, DIC, MLO and any SME (SOF, PSC etc.)	
Battalion Executive Officer	IC, DIC, MLO	
Battalion Sergeant Major	IC, DIC, MLO	
Battalion S-1	IC, DIC, LOFR, FSC, PIO, PSC	
Battalion S-2	IC, DIC, LOFR, PIO, PSC	
Battalion S-3	OPS, SOF, PSC	
Battalion S-4	LSC, SOF	
Battalion S-5 (Rare in Field)	PSC	
Battalion S-6	LSC, SOF, PSC	
Battalion S-7 (Rare in Field)	PIO, LOFR, PSC	
Battalion S-8 (Rare in Field)	FSC	
Battalion Surgeon	SOF, LSC, MEDL	
Company Commander	DIV, TFLD, MCAD	
Platoon Sergeant	STLD, CRWB, MCAD	

Traditional Role of the Battalion Tactical Operations Center (TOC):

The TOC serves as the command-and-control hub for military operations, assisting commanders in synchronizing activities and ensuring effective communication and resource management. Here are the six essential functions performed by a TOC:

1. Receive Information:

The TOC collects messages, reports, and orders from subordinate units and higher headquarters. It monitors tactical situations and maintains a journal of significant activities and reports, including unit locations and enemy situations.

2. Distribute Information:

This function involves submitting reports to higher headquarters, serving as a communications relay between units, and processing and distributing information to appropriate units or staff sections.

3. Analyze Information:

The TOC consolidates reports and anticipates events, conducting predictive analysis based on the tactical situation. It identifies information relevant to the commander's critical information requirements (CCIRs) and conducts the Tactical Decision-making Process.

4. Submit Recommendations to the Commander:

Based on the analysis of information received, the TOC submits recommendations to the commander to aid in decision-making and operational planning.

5. Integrate Resources:

The TOC coordinates the integration of combat multipliers and ensures that all resources are effectively utilized to support operations.

6. Synchronize Resources:

These functions are critical for maintaining situational awareness, effective communication, and operational success in military engagements. The TOC plays a vital role in ensuring that commanders have the information and resources they need to make informed decisions.

Wildfire deployment role of the TOC:

Pre-deployment/mobilization conversations should clarify and define how the TOC, IMT, and IMO will coordinate to assure unity of command. It is critical on the wildland assignment to avoid redundant, misaligned, or siloed systems causing distraction, confusion, or mishap. Regular check-ins to assess interface should occur throughout the duration of the deployment.

NIFC Advance Party:

The advanced party is a small group of Subject Matter Experts (SME) [Training, Safety, and Logistics] who go ahead of the IMO, MCADs, supplies and equipment, to prepare the way for their arrival. The primary responsibility and intent of the advance party is to provide the following:

- Establish/coordinate procedures for NIFC personnel to gain access to the military base to support training, gear issues, and mobilization.
- Establish a relationship and rapport with the representatives from Army North and the command staff of the activated military unit.
- Identify training areas for Just in Time (JiT) or Basic 32 training.
- Coordinate equipment delivery, sizing, and issue of all required NWCG equipment.

NIFC Cadre/IMO:

The full contingent of NIFC personnel supporting the military deployment including MLO/IMO, MCAD, training staff, and support staff

- Have preliminary face-to-face meeting consisting of NMAC representative, MLO/IMO IC with required Staff, Army North, and Military Unit Staff.
- Coordinate mobilization from the military installation to the selected fire and/or base of operations within a theater. (NICC, MLO, and DoD)
- Provide additional/as needed, one on one interactions with military command staff (operations, medical, logistics, supply, and communications) to assure clear understanding of the interactions and differences between DoD operations and Wildland Fire operations.

Preliminary meeting suggested agenda:

- Clarification of roles and responsibilities for DoD, Army North, military unit, NMAC, NICC, and MLO/IMO (generally all DoD resources are responsible for administration, health, and welfare of DoD personnel). (NIFC provides SME tactical advisement to appointed/assigned DoD leadership) Primarily the shared understanding and agreement of the symbiotic relationship that must exist to ensure mission success and troop welfare.
- Uniform Code of Military Justice UCMJ, military customs, and courtesies; (Implementation and Enforcement understanding) dictated by the military unit commander for complete understanding by NIFC personnel.
- Understanding of the ICS system. The roles and utilization of IMT and IMO. The systematic understanding of the NIFC system for all military command staff deploying with the military unit.
- Understanding/agreement for the utilization of the TOC during deployment and tactical operations.
- Clarification and agreement (as much as possible) on issues that are different based on DoD versus NWCG. (NWCG Food Contract vs. DoD, Garrison grooming standard vs. Field/NWCG, and Work rest).
- Implementation/integration of the NWCG Incident within an Incident (IWI) for accidents and injuries (described in detail on p. 21).
- Clear delineation ensuring no communication system crossover. The DoD system and NWCG system remain distinctly separate. NWCG system is the primary system for fire line, transportation, ICP, Base, and Camp utilization (details on p. 25)
- Notifications, reporting, and geopolitics of accident/injury reporting, investigation, and documentation.
- Identification and understanding of all licensors and certifications required for utilization of any equipment including but not limited to passenger vehicles, commercial vehicles, UTVs, chainsaws, forklifts, generators and specialized equipment.
- Complete transparency and understanding regarding equipment issued, training, deployment, operational use and tempo, and demobilization.
- Identify special circumstances and/or special need utilization for DoD equipment and systems (p. 25)

(Note: Additional one-on-one meetings will occur as the training, gear issue, and mobilization/deployment occur. There will be a pre-field briefing to cover the current situation and specifics relevant to the deployment model and the specific incident(s) being supported).

Equipment Issue:

At the military base ideally, a minimum of 6000 ft.² unencumbered by equipment (open space if possible) in a climate-controlled environment for set up of the initial equipment issue. A base surface allowing the utilization of a pallet jack and a forklift (commercial warehouse type not all terrain type).

• Boots Sizing/Issue

The sizing/issuing area will need to accommodate 16 chairs, eight on each side forming a foot walkway down the center with approximately 18 inches to 2 feet in between the chairs laterally. There will be two (2) personnel who are acclimated and trained in sizing fire line footwear. Two (2) NWCG sizing kits and a tare of boots for 300 personnel (standard DoD recommendation for quantities). This configuration historically has completed 45 to 50 sizing's per hour.

• PPE and Field Gear Issue

All items should be issued in order. Tables and chairs should be set up at each station where sizing needs to be completed.

Tables should be set up in a horseshoe shape, allowing military personnel to enter and exit in an orderly one-way traffic flow fashion. Utilization of eight tables and approximately 15 chairs with 7-8 staff personnel to assist with the issuing.

- 1. Red Bag
- 2. Pants
- 3. Shirts
- 4. Shelter Sign needed at table showing the sizing parameters of each shelter
- 5. Gloves
- 6. IA Pack with Helmet Packs should be pre-packed with all necessary items for issue. Sign posted at table (or designated area) listing what should be in the pack.

Once all gear has been issued, military personnel are to exit to a designated area for verification of proper fit/no missing gear. Additional staffing, either a veteran crew or additional IMO staff to aid and address any deficiencies or unserviceable equipment.

Items to be pre-packed within IA pack:

- Fire Shelter with Carrying Case (1 each)
- Hard Hat (1 each)
- Safety Glasses (1 each)
- Headlamp with Batteries (1 each)
- Flat File and Handle (for sharpening) (1 each)
- 1 Quart Canteens without Covers (2 each)

Training:



Training Plan-S130/190 or "Just in Time" Training:

To maximize flexibility and allow for different training scenarios, this playbook covers two different options to train soldiers. Various factors may influence which delivery is chosen, including military timelines, availability of trainers, cost, logistical challenges, the current fire situation, and the number and frequency of battalion mobilizations. Generally speaking, "Just in Time" (JIT) training can be accomplished with a shorter lead time, less trainers, and at a lower overall cost due to its abbreviated nature. The decision on which training delivery to utilize will be made by USFS and NIFC leadership in close consultation with staff from WO FAM Workforce Development and the US Military.

The intent of either training delivery option is to prepare the military battalion for everything they may encounter as new wildland firefighters.

Training Delivery Intent- S130/190:

The intent of either training delivery option is to prepare the military battalion for everything they may encounter as new wildland firefighters. S130/190 allows us to train these soldiers to the same proficiency level as we would any new agency firefighter, while at the same time recognizing and capitalizing on the unique training and skill sets they possess as soldiers. This training will meet all requirements of a traditional NWCG entry level firefighting or "Basic 32" curriculum as follows:

ICS-100- Introduction to Incident Command System

L-180- Human Factors in the Wildland Fire Service

S-130- Basic Wildland Firefighter Training

S-190- Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior

IS-700- National Incident Management System: An Introduction

There is an intent to incorporate "experiential learning" into this training delivery by using a high proportion of training time in "hands on" and field-based lessons. Classroom time point will be minimized in favor of interactive and collaborative learning, based outdoors. Cadre will seek opportunities to incorporate existing military strengths to foster learning in the wildland fire environment.

Training Delivery Intent- "Just in Time" Training (JiT)

JIT training may be a better option if conditions warrant an expedited deployment of the battalion to a fire incident, or if multiple battalions are mobilized in rapid succession. This training has been the standard model for previous deployments and takes place at the installation after the Request for Assistance (RFA) has been issued and before soldiers depart for the incident. Just in Time training consists of one full day of classroom instruction, gear issue, and is reinforced with 1-2 days of "live fire" training upon arrival at the fire incident. While JIT training meets objectives of \$130/190 training, the curriculum is not the same - soldiers do not receive certification as a Type 2 Wildland Firefighter. For simplicity, the following instructions apply to both training options except for the "training schedules", which are broken out below for both scenarios.

Advanced Training Cadre Site Visit:

Members of the training cadre will visit the military installation several weeks/months prior to training delivery. This group will meet with representatives of the military and the tasked unit to discuss the training plan. Locations will be visited including classroom space, field training locations, and cadre prep/breakout areas. The following topics should be evaluated during meetings with military leadership:

- 1) Access to base for agency cadre (visitor list, PIV Card, temporary base passes)
- 2) AV materials needed/accessibility by agency employees
 - a. WIFI connectivity
 - b. Projectors, screens, computers for classroom material delivery
- 3) Integration of military unit leadership with cadre
- 4) Appropriate timelines/schedules for training delivery
- 5) Logistical needs/support from military
- 6) Public Information Officer
- 7) Student roster for tracking and issuance of completion certificates

In addition, the cadre will meet with potential training delivery partners. These may include local agency district fire management programs, as well as DOD military fire departments. These programs can provide additional training capacity and serve as a local conduit for ongoing collaboration and recruitment between the military units, local fire departments and regional land management locations.

The cadre advance party may also include a representative of the IMO leadership team that will be tasked with overseeing the deployment of the battalion to a fire assignment. It may be helpful to include the IMO logistics chief to assess potential training support needs on base and assess how to integrate the training phase with the actual deployment to incident.

Cadre Organization:

Training delivery will be organized as a Type 3 Incident, including an Incident Commander, Operations, Logistics, Plans and Safety. In addition, 10 "Crew Bosses" will be used as well as 10 additional instructors. Efforts will be made to prioritize utilization of agency employees who meet the following criteria:

- 1) Previous agency fire training experience at the unit, district, forest or national level
- 2) Previous experience working on an agency veterans crew
- 3) Previous deployment of an active-duty military fire assignment
- 4) Intent to also deploy with soldiers if battalion is activated to a fire incident
- 5) Qualified in ICT3 team roles, Task Force Leader, Strike Team Leader Military (STLM), Military Crew Advisor (MCAD), Crew Boss, or FFT1
- 6) Military Veteran

Cadre Logistics:

Prior to the fire season, an outreach will be conducted to find instructors to assist with training delivery. Once a date and location are determined, Workforce Development Training and Education (WDTE) staff will contact potential instructors to determine their availability for the assignment. Resource orders will be placed for these individuals as the specific qualification they will be serving as during the training, or as Technical Specialists. Trainers will need to possess travel cards and be able to pay for hotels, meals, and possibly rental vehicles. The training coordinator will work with the military liaison to ensure base access is attained for all trainers.

Training Layout:

To efficiently train 250-500 soldiers, and begin to acclimatize them to Wildland fire operations, soldiers will be divided into "crews" of roughly 25 soldiers. Each crew will be assigned a trainer designated as a "Crew Boss" or "Crew Boss Trainee". These trainers will move with their crews through all training rotations throughout the week and serve as trainers, mentors, and advisors. Training will include roughly 10 hours of classroom time and 20 hours of field station training. Each training session will focus on learning objectives from the basic wildland firefighter curriculum, and include classroom, videos, small group breakouts, field exercises, and group activities.

Training Delivery Schedule- S130/190:

Day 1- Cadre travel to installation training location

Day 2- Cadre preparation day:

- 1) Meet with military and unit leadership and brief the week's activities
- 2) Validate base accessibility for all cadre
- 3) Assess classroom spaces, AV materials, breakout rooms, and field activity locations
- 4) Meet with cadre members and military to ensure schedule is viable
- 5) Confirm delivery of training aids, classroom materials and hand tools

- 6) Dry run course content and allow instructors time to collaborate
- Days 3-6- Course content Delivery Basic 32 2025 Curriculum GENERIC.docx
- Day 7- Cadre close out, AAR, and gear return. Close out with military leadership. Travel home

Training Delivery Schedule-"Just in Time" training

- **Day 1-** Cadre travel to installation training location
- **Day 2-** Cadre Preparation Day:
 - 1) Meet with military and unit level leadership and brief the week's activities
 - 2) Validate base accessibility for all cadre
 - 3) Assess classroom spaces, AV materials, breakout rooms, and field activity locations
 - 4) Meet with cadre members and military to ensure schedule is viable
 - 5) Confirm delivery of training aids, classroom materials and hand tools
 - 6) Dry run course content and allow instructors time to collaborate
- **Day 3-** Course content Delivery (see Appendix B)
- Day 4- Cadre close out, AAR, and gear return. Close out with military leadership.
- Day 5- Travel home

Training Supply Needs List:

Hand tools: 50 Pulaskis, 5 shovels, McLeod, Flapper, Combi tools

250 Incident Pock Response Guides (IRPG's)

Firing devices including 5 drip torches, box of fusees

Type 6 engine (can accompany local resources)

Mobilization/Deployment:

There are three mobilization/deployment models that will be utilized:

- Aviation via the NICC jet: This mobilization is the most complex and will involve coordination between the NICC, the IMO Logistics Chief, the military installation (if there is an airfield), the aviation contractor, and potentially commercial/military ground transport (motor coaches and/or trucks). After the decision is made to utilize aviation the NICC will need a minimum of 72 hours (preferably 96 hours) to coordinate the contractor and the airfield receiving the aircraft. The IMO Logistics Chief will be coordinating with the military liaison for the military airfield and/or the utilization of a commercial field that's been pre-established by the military unit. (Note: if military installation will be the airfield utilized, ensure flight crews have quarters/R.O.N. accommodations on the base to eliminate issues with base access if they stay off the installation).
- Commercial/military motorcoach: This mobilization requires coordination for procurement of commercial motorcoach transportation and/or authorization documentation for Department of Defense motor coaches, depending on the situation. The IMO Logistics Chief will coordinate with the NICC, and the military embark officer (a military officer assigned to coordinate mass movement of military units). For commercial motor coaches the ordering process is straight forward through traditional means of agreements and S numbers. Utilizing military motor coaches requires several layers of documentation and requires 48 hours (preferably 72 hours) for the military system to provide the resources needed. (Note: ensure access to the installation is prearranged through military liaison.)
- NERV rental vehicles: This mobilization requires coordination with the NICC and the utilization of 50-55 commercially rented heavy duty and medium duty pickup trucks/SUVs (for a half battalion mobilization). The IMO Logistics Chief will coordinate the ordering through standard systems with the NICC. The NERV system requires 96 hours of notice to provide time to mobilize vehicles from other regions to the area of need. (Note: coordinate to avoid bringing multiple rental vehicles onto the installation which will create administrative burdens on the military and the IMO staff. Identify an appropriate off installation staging area). Assure all military drivers have been approved by the commanding officer in writing or via licensure endorsement for the class/type of vehicle being they are operating.

All the mobilizations require transparent, collaborative conversations and detailed documentation. It is suggested whenever possible utilization of available regional mobilization center is the first choice. The individuals who staff the centers have knowledge skills and abilities to assist in the seamless and smooth mobilization/deployment via all the options listed above.

Medical:

DoD:

A military battalion surgeon is the chief medical officer of a battalion, responsible for the health and medical readiness of its personnel. While the title "surgeon" is a historical term, most battalion surgeons are primary care physicians specializing in areas like family medicine or emergency medicine. They act as clinicians, leaders of the medical platoon, and medical advisors to the battalion commander. Military units generally are staffed with a physician, physician's assistant, or nurse practitioner. In addition, there are medical assistants, line medics and/or hospital corpsmen that make up the remainder of the platoon. The facility housing the medical personnel is customarily referred to as a Battalion Aid Station (BAS). Given their level of licensure and credentialing, they provide prescription medications, perform invasive lifesaving procedures, acute pre-hospital care, and palliative care in the field as a part of their regular duties. The DoD has a robust supply and support system for deployed units.

The medical care and wellness of military units is one of the top priorities of the chain of command. Generally, the battalion commander will act exclusively on the advice of the battalion surgeon regarding medical support for the military members. All the command staff members are very familiar with the DoD model of medical care, follow-up, and documentation. This system is very similar to the NWCG, agency, and workman's compensation documentation utilized by the civilian population; however, it is distinctly different and parallel and must be fulfilled for reporting and documentation to the DoD.

(Note: It cannot be emphasized enough the communication necessary to assure the battalion surgeon and/or his or her designee are educated and comfortable with the IWI process. The success will be based exclusively on the trust of the battalion surgeon and their staff in the IWI system. That understanding and trust relationship needs to be developed from the very first interaction with the battalion surgeon and their staff.)

Addressing Medical/Injury situations on the Deployment:

Preliminary meetings will occur during the advanced party visit with the military unit. The intent is to identify and clarify the nature of the NWCG Incident Within an Incident (IWI) https://www.nwcg.gov/committee/risk-management-committee. The utilization of the eight-line understanding of the ICS- 206WF, evacuation/transportation, clarification of roles and responsibilities including administrative during the deployment of the military. The meeting should end with the military unit having full understanding and trust in our medical system.

Military medical personnel can be utilized at their level of certification to treat military personnel in coordination and as a part of the IWI medical plan. The utilization of military medical personnel to treat NWCG personnel will be dependent on licensure/certification in alignment with the primary agency having jurisdiction for medical response at the incident.

The coordination of the two medical systems into one harmonious response is critical to the success of the military deployment. Historically, siloing and/or independent action on either side of the equation has provided less than desirable outcomes. There will have to be continuous clear

text communication during the deployment to ensure the best outcomes in all potential situations. The medical playbook will be maintained in real time and updated based on the location of the incident requesting the military deployment.

There are potentially/probably two IWI activation models:

(Note: Not all scenarios can be anticipated or articulated in this document, this document is a framework to ensure transparent communication and discussion occurs to assure the greatest likelihood of success during a limited discretionary time high risk event.)

IWI while attached to a hosting IMT: (i.e. on the fireline)

Command and Control of the IWI will be activated and managed through the Incident Management Team (IMT) utilizing the standard IWI protocol. The IMO designated staff members will be added to the IMT IWI notification process. The IMO and Military will be involved for situational awareness (listening to radio traffic, text messages, etc.); however, neither the IMO nor the military will intervene or disrupt any ongoing IWI response. The triage, treatment, and transport will be dictated by the on-scene IWI Incident Commander in conjunction with the prehospital providers on the scene. It is recommended that the battalion surgeon and/or his or her designee and the IMO SOF meet with their IMT counterparts to develop a relationship, understanding and confidence in the system that will be utilized in the field. This additional communications step will eliminate second guessing, and/or parallel systems that could lead to potentially less than desirable outcomes in the IWI process. Once the incident is stabilized, a tactical pause for communication between the military unit, the IMO and the IMT should occur regarding follow-up, support, and documentation.

IWI while attached to the IMO: (i.e. in the military camp, etc.)

Command-and-control of the IWI will be activated and managed through the IMO utilizing the standard IWI protocol. The IWI protocol, notification, response, stabilization, and recovery/documentation phases should all be understood and should be practiced with the IMO and the military staff members. All coordination of outside resources to support the IWI will be the responsibility of the IMO. Once the incident is stabilized, there is a tactical pause for communication between the military unit, the IMO should occur regarding follow-up, support, and documentation. The success of this operation is the reliance on the understanding of roles and responsibilities of the IMO and military members involved. The high likelihood is this will be an issue in camp and/or in transit to or from an incident worksite. The delineation of when the IMO will be responsible for the IWI will need to be clearly established with each IMT utilizing military personnel.

Daily/Routine Medical Care:

Military medical staff generally will provide daily health and maintenance (morning sick call, as per the traditional military model). The key difference is reporting not only to the military but also to the IMO (SOF), who will coordinate assuring the IMT (SOF) is notified if needed, for

documentation of trends, occurrences, and/or issues and outbreaks. It is in alignment with the normal reporting process of a standard medical unit leader/ section chief within NWCG

Logistical Infrastructure:

Please note that National Caterers will adhere to NWCG Contract Requirements of traditional meals or vegetarian options.

Direct attachment to an IMT: (Recommended 5-to-6-acre footprint with 2 acres to be utilized for the parking of the 55+ NERV vehicles).

Much of the primary infrastructure will be shared with the entire incident not exclusive to Military Mobilization.

- 4) 17' X 35' Yurts with lights, HVAC, and power
- 2) 20' Octagon Yurts with lights, HVAC, and power
- 50 folding chairs
- 20 6' folding tables
- Area for 250 individual tents
- 20) port-a-potties (twice a day cleaning supporting BIVWAC area)
- 2) 8 sink hot hand wash stations
- Shared infrastructure (lights, generators [personal device charging limited], cell service, showers, laundry, and caterer)
- Available in limited supply currently through the Cache System (there is no set number as we can order until the need is met and/or items are not in stock)
 - Extension cords
 - Power strips
 - Box fans
 - Lighting kits
 - o Basic admin supplies (pen, paper, etc.)

Base of Operations with IMO: (Theater Support)

(Recommended 20-to-22-acre footprint [traditional base layout] with 2 acres to be utilized for the parking of the 55+ NERV vehicles).

All the primary infrastructure will be exclusive to Military Mobilization. (Full Logistical support)

- 9) 17' X 35' Yurts with lights, HVAC, and power
- 2) 20' Octagon Yurts with lights, HVAC, and power
- 200 folding chairs
- 70 6' folding tables
- Area for 250 individual tents

- 40) port-a-potties (twice a day cleaning supporting BIVWAC area)
- 3) 8 sink hot hand wash stations
- Infrastructure lights, generators, [personal device charging limited], cell service, showers, laundry, supply, ground support, caterer, hybrid communications and medical. The contract for national shower units is located here:
 https://www.fs.usda.gov/business/incident/static/logistics/2024-2028%20National%20Mobile%20Shower%20Facilities%20Contract.pdf
- Available in limited supply currently through Cache System (a bit more potential to fill requests)
 - Extension cords
 - Power strips
 - Box fans
 - Lighting kits
 - o Basic admin supplies (pen, paper, etc.)

Supply:

The National Interagency Support Cache system will be utilized to provide Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), suppression tools and equipment, infrastructure items (tables, chairs, tents, yurts, extension cords, light kits, administrative supplies etc.). The supply and ordering system for the military deployment will have two primary modalities after the initial equipment issue for the military unit:

Replacement equipment and consumables utilized in day-to-day operations will be handled through the supply unit of the IMO. Even if attached to one specific IMT or incident there will be a supply set up by the IMO to support the military for PPE switch out and replacement of consumables. The mechanism will be face-to-face one-for-one exchange on all durable property and via face-to-face presentation of a general message for consumables (batteries, MRE, flagging etc.)

Operational supplies, damaged equipment and consumables when spiked out will all be done through the IMT supply unit. The reason for the differentiation is to ensure cost accountability for damage or operational supplies utilized on a specific project code or P number.

It is recommended to have a logistician with an understanding of supply to ensure the process is handled correctly. Suggestions would be a qualified supply unit leader or tenured receiving and distribution manager.

Cache Pre-Order:

Incident to cache ordering and pre-order supply information can be found in the Military Use Handbook working group sharepoint.

Local Supply Procurement:

Local procurement of non-cache items will be done in two ways:

Items in support of the military infrastructure will be requested on a general message to the IMO which will then utilize traditional business practices. (Approval of the Incident Business Advisor (IBA), local purchase card, At-Incident Management Support (AIMS), and/or Buying Team (BUYT).

When items are utilized operationally and/or damaged while assigned to an incident, that incident local supply procurement process will be utilized.

Communication and collaboration with the IMO logisticians and finance will ensure all processes are followed in accordance with NWCG and/or agency guidance.

Transportation: (Recommended 2 acres of parking and EQPM supplies/support)

The NWCG will provide commercial ground or air transportation from garrison to the deployment location and return to garrison. This will be coordinated with NICC, IMO logistics chief, designated military unit contract and garrison unit contract.

The NMAC/NICC will provide transportation for the military unit which may include heavy duty rental vehicles, buses, or agency vehicles. (Note: If a local fuel station cannot be utilized because of distance or refusal to do a BPA, a fuel tender will be needed to support operations).

The driving of these vehicles will be addressed through DoD policy in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture vehicle rentals parameters. (See NERV website for specific current information):

"Minimum age requirement per the Blanket Purchase Agreement (BPA) is restricted to government employees who are properly licensed individuals. Age restrictions apply to certain classes as provided below:

- 21 for large SUV's, Luxury, Premium Cars, Stake Bed, and Box/Cutaway Trucks
- 18 for all vehicles unless noted otherwise.
- Minimum driver age for Large Vans is 25
- See NERV-EM BPA for 12 to 15 Passenger Van Requirements."

Additional transportation options and/or support will be discussed during the preliminary meeting between the advanced party and the military unit for special circumstances and/or special need utilization for DoD equipment and systems.

Communications:

The NWCG will provide training and issue of two-way radio communications devices for the military unit. Two-way radio communication will be distributed to operational units in the field and programmed with the correct frequencies for the incident (s) being supported by the military. Equipment will be issued and tracked by the IMO Logistician or Communication Technician.

The communication system will be supported by the incident communication unit and/or with a communications technician assigned to the military IMO.

There will be cellular communication sites enhanced by cell towers on wheels for official and personal telecommunication, to the extent possible. There are rare occasions when there is no ability to extend cell signal to the area the military will be staying at, in those cases we will attempt to utilize the Star-link system; however, this will limit personal telecommunication based on system capacity.

All DoD issued communications will be utilized with the military only and will not be used in place of NWCG communications.

Any additional communications concerns and/or systems utilization issues will be discussed during the preliminary meeting between the advanced party and the military unit.

PIO Considerations:

Guidance / Resources

- Military Use Handbook Chapter 80 Public Information (2025 version)
- 2025 Military Ground Mobilization Key Messages Template
 2025 Military Ground Mobilization Key Messages Template.docx
- Military ground Mobilization Overall Structure and Public Affairs Contact List Template <u>Military Ground Mobilization Overall Structure and Public Affairs Contact List</u> Template.docx
- 2025 Military Ground Deployment FAQs
 2025 Military Ground Deployment FAQs.docx
- U.S. Army Style Guide https://www.army.mil/e2/downloads/rv7/armydotmil_style_guide.pdf

NIFC Resources

- Military Support | National Interagency Fire Center (nifc.gov)
- National Interagency Fire Center | Flickr
- 2024 Military Support | Flickr (publishing to this site was extremely cumbersome and the process did not allow for timeliness with media cycles or deadlines, suggest publishing to Flickr and let NIFC be a customer to take images at their leisure)
- NIFC provided a point of contact within the External affairs staff
- NIFC produced a press release/press invite for the day the jets landed
- NIFC produced talking points (important to have these ahead of troupe arrival to refer to)

GroupMe

- WFF24 with PAOs/PIOs-included all Army North Public Affairs onsite and off
- C&G
- MCADs and Military Mob Support

Linktr.ee

• Set up a QR code for info boards with Linkre.ee for the military with links to

- Army accounts
- NIFC
- Forest accounts
- Inciweb
- News Clips

Artwork / Product Needs

- Daily Summary
- Communication Plan (negotiate who does this with NIFC POC)
- Talking Points (negotiate who does this with NIFC POC)
- Structure/Contact Sheet (produced in conjunction with Army)
- Challenge Coin
- Stickers/Patches
- Camp Logo

Gather Incident Intel

- Consider setting up an established call with NIFC External Affairs POC
- Military Activation IAP Linktree https://linktr.ee/militaryactivation2024
- Middle Fork Complex IAP Linktree https://linktr.ee/2024middleforkcomplex
- West Mountain Complex IAP Linktree https://linktr.ee/boulderfire2024
- Attend morning Briefing/Evening AAR

Finance Considerations:

Financial support is to encompass:

- Personnel time tracking for agency support personnel assigned under the National Military Mobilization Code
- Cost tracking of support items such as cache, rental vehicles, equipment
- Camp payment processing for logistic items
- Daily Cost reports

Cost Responsibility Breakout:

The list is not inclusive and is to identify the intent of the support costs allocation.

Item	National Military	Incident Code
	Mobilization Code	
Training, transportation, care and feeding, infrastructure, mobilization, demobilization	National Military Mobilization Code	
Hydration- water, ice, and sports drinks	National Military Mobilization Code- Baseline amounts	Incident code- may charge spiked out support
Consumable items		Incident code. Example batteries, fuel, flagging, cache consumable items
Damaged items		Replace items charge damage to incident. <i>Example</i> : tools, Nomex
Gear and outfitting	Resources will arrive fully outfitted with gear assigned	
Caterers	National Military Mobilization Code	Incident code- may charge spiked out support
Specialty meals required for dietary or religious needs	National Military Mobilization Code	
Barber	National Military Mobilization Code for Normal care and grooming standards	
Laundry	Normal care and grooming standards	Incident conditions drive additional laundry. Example: Nomex needs additional washing/ treatment for exposure to poison ivy
Medical items	National Military Mobilization Code- military medical personnel may request PA with the military requested to have available.	Incident Code. Fireline treatment – for blisters or incidental support items
Infrastructure and logistic items for camp	National Military Mobilization Code	
Support Agency Personnel	National Military Mobilization Code	
Rental vehicles	National Military Mobilization Code	
Agency vehicles	National Military Mobilization Code for those assigned	
Fuel tender	National Military Mobilization Code for camp support and NERV vehicles in the military	Spiked or misc. needs
Propane	National Military Mobilization Code	