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Global Changes
- Updated web addresses.
- Removed references to NWCG Wildland Fire Incident Management Field Guide (PMS 210).

Chapter 1 – Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy and Doctrine Overview
- No substantial changes.

Chapter 2 – BLM
- Inserted new heading “Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Program” and associated text.
- Clarified text regarding, “The BLM Fire and Aviation Directorate (FAD) consists of the assistant director (FA), deputy assistant director (FA) …”
- Clarified text that there is only one deputy assistant director, Fire and Aviation (FA-100).
- In the “Management Performance Requirements for Fire Operations” table:
  - Block 16 - Inserted and clarified text regarding assigned program responsibility for state director and district manager to annually update and review the Agency Administrator’s Guide to Critical Incident Management, or Serious Incident or Fatality (SIOF) Response Plan, or equivalent.
  - Block 23 - Inserted assigned program responsibility for district manager and agency administrator to, “Ensure smoke impacts to the public and fire personnel are addressed through incident management teams ordering of Air Resource Advisors (THSP ARA) on Type 1 fires to the maximum extent practicable. Consider ordering ARAs to Type 2 fires (as per Public Law 116-9, the Dingell Act, 2019).”
- Clarified text for state and district FMO in “Fire Staff Performance Requirements for Fire Operations” table, block 36, regarding, “Annually update and review the Agency Administrator’s Guide to Critical Incident Management, or Serious Incident or Fatality (SIOF) Response Plan or equivalent.”
- Clarified text under subheading “Fire Equipment Identifier Standards” regarding, “All 600-class fire equipment and all fire equipment equipped with a Location Based Services (LBS) terminal shall meet all Fire Equipment Identification and Numbering Standards found at https://doimspp.sharepoint.com/sites/blm-fa/fire-operations/SitePages/NFEP-Policy-Resources.aspx.”
- Clarified “600-Class Command Vehicle Procurement Standards” for standard vehicle configuration for wildland fire modules.
- Inserted text under “Fire Equipment Maintenance Procedure and Record (FEMPR)” regarding, “Additional information on WCF 600 series fire fleet vehicle tire inspection and replacement standards can be found at https://doimspp.sharepoint.com/sites/blm-fa/fire-operations/SitePages/Policy-and-References.aspx.”
- Inserted text under subheading “Location Based Services (LBS)” regarding, “When a new terminal is received, replacement equipment arrives, or an error with the terminal has been identified, the installation, transfer or repair will be completed in no more than 15 days. Equipment location can be viewed in the Vehicle Tracker Portal (VTP) or Fire Enterprise Geospatial Portal (EGP). VTP access can be requested for an individual or a group account for dispatch centers. The VTP account request form and additional information can be found at https://doimspp.sharepoint.com/sites/blm-fa/fire-operations/SitePages/Location-Based-Services-(LBS).aspx.”
- Removed subheading “BLM Fire Equipment Status Report (FES)” and associated text.
- Inserted text under heading “BLM Firefighters” regarding, “Addition or establishment of the following assets requires approval from the assistant director, fire and aviation:
  - Firefighting engines and water tenders (refer to existing guidance regarding acquisition of Working Capital Fund Equipment in this chapter);
  - Firefighting dozers and dozer modules (refer to existing guidance regarding acquisition of Working Capital Fund Equipment in this chapter);
  - Type 1, Type 2 IA, and Type 2 hand crews;
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- Fire suppression modules funded as a preparedness resource (modules assembled for individual fire assignment are exempted);
- Wildland fire modules;
- Exclusive-use helitack crews; and
- Fuels management modules/crews.


- Removed text under subheading “BLM Engine Minimum Staffing Requirements” regarding, “Fire Management Officers should consider requiring these employees to attain BLM required training and qualifications for long-term details/assignments.”

- Under heading “BLM Exclusive Use Helitack Crews”:
  - Clarified that, “These aviation resources are Type 1, Type 2 or Type 3 helicopters and are located at BLM districts throughout the western United States.”
  - Inserted text regarding, “The BLM Type 1 helicopter’s primary mission is initial attack. While most effective at providing rapid initial response, the crew is well equipped to respond to extended attack incidents and critical need missions on large fires. Extended attack incidents that utilize the crew to fill critical positions should immediately order replacement personnel for those positions in case the aircraft and crew are reassigned. BLM states may request to preposition the helicopter and crew, either directly to the BLM state duty officer hosting the crew, or through the national duty officer (208-387-5876) followed by a resource order placed through the established dispatch channels.”

- Removed heading “Type 1 Helitack Program” and associated text.

Chapter 3 – NPS

- Removed performance requirement for regional director in table “Agency Administrator Management Performance Requirements for Fire Operations” regarding, “At National Preparedness Level 4 and 5, approve the initiation or continuation of prescribed fire applications based on an assessment of risk, impacts of the proposed actions on area resources and activities and include feedback from the Geographic Area Multi-Agency Coordinating Group.”

- Under subheading “NPS Firefighters General Training Requirements” table, clarified reference for HAZMAT-First Responder Awareness Level is OSHA Publication 2254.

- Inserted text under subheading “Delegation for Regional Fire Management Officers,” regarding, “Ensure smoke impacts to the public and fire personnel are addressed through incident management teams ordering of Air Resources Advisors (THSP ARA) on Type I fires to the maximum extent practicable. Consider ordering ARAs on Type 2 fire (as per Public Law 116-9, the Dingell Act 2019).”

- Removed text under subheading “Engine Module Standards” regarding, “Engines with four or more personnel assigned will always have a qualified engine operator (ENOP) in addition to an ENGB.”

Chapter 4 – FWS

- Inserted performance requirement for project leader/refuge manager in “Management Performance Requirements for Fire Operations” table, block 18, to “Ensure smoke impacts to the public and fire personnel are addressed through incident management teams ordering of Air Resources Advisors (THSP ARA) on Type 1 fires to the maximum extent practicable. Consider ordering ARAs on Type 2 fire (As per Public Law 116-9, the Dingell Act, 2019).”

- Clarified text under subheading “Zone Fire Management Officer (ZFMO)” regarding, “A sample delegation of authority can be found in appendix C.”

Chapter 5 – FS

- Changed chapter heading from “USDA Forest Service Wildland Fire and Aviation Program Organization and Responsibilities” to “USDA Forest Service Program Organization and Responsibilities.”

- Under heading “Specific Line Officer Responsibilities for Fire and Aviation at the Field Level”.

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- Inserted bullet under subheading “Wildfire Response” regarding, “Ensure smoke impacts to the public and fire personnel are addressed through incident management team ordering of Air Resource Advisors (THSP ARA) on Type 1 fires to the maximum extent practicable. Consider ordering ARAs to Type 2 fires (as per Public Law 116-9, the Dingell Act, 2019).”

- Under subheading “Wildfire Response Responsibilities and Oversight”:
  - Inserted text regarding, “Line officers will assign agency administrators to oversee incidents and approve WFDSS decisions based on certification level according to incident type.”
  - Inserted bullet regarding, “Air Resource Advisors (THSP) are utilized on Type 1 fires to the maximum extent practicable and consideration of ordering for Type 2 fires (as per Public Law 116-9, the Dingell Act, 2019).”

- Under heading “Agency Administrator Training and Certifications for Wildland Fire Management”:
  - Inserted the table under subheading “Definitions,” “Coach.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Incident or Project Type</th>
<th>Minimum Certification Level to Serve as AA Coach/Evaluator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wildfire – Type 1</td>
<td>Advanced</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wildfire – Type 2</td>
<td>Journey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wildfire – Type 3, 4, 5</td>
<td>Journey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prescribed Fire – High Complexity</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prescribed Fire – Moderate Complexity</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prescribed Fire – Low Complexity</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Under subheading “Agency Administrator Wildfire Certification Program”:
  - Working Level – Removed required training, “… or Agency Administrators Prescribed Fire Workshop at the Prescribed Fire Training Center (recommended for AAs seeking more hands-on prescribed fire experience), …”
  - Working Level – Inserted text under “Other Background, Experience, and Training That Supports” regarding, “Management oversight of a moderate-high complexity fire program as defined by Interagency Fire Program Management standards.”
  - Journey Level – Removed required training, “Risk Management 101; M-581, Fire Program Management, an Overview, or Agency Administrators Prescribed Fire Workshop at the Prescribed Fire Training Center (recommended for AAs seeking more hands-on prescribed fire experience) …”
  - Journey Level – Inserted text under “Other Background, Experience, and Training That Supports” regarding, “Management oversight of a moderate-high complexity fire program as defined by Interagency Fire Program Management standards.”
  - Advanced Level – Removed required training Risk Management 101 and Agency Administrators Prescribed Fire Workshop at the Prescribed Fire Training Center (recommended for AAs seeking more hands-on prescribed fire. Inserted text regarding, “… at least one additional continuing education course in fireline leadership/decision-making.”
  - Advanced Level – Inserted text under “Other Background, Experience, and Training That Supports” regarding, “Management oversight of a moderate-high complexity fire program as defined by Interagency Fire Program Management standards.”
  - Currency – Removed three-year interval and inserted five-year interval.
  - Currency – Inserted, “WFDSS refresher training is recommended annually, but at a minimum must be attended at least once within the 5-year currency period.”

- Removed subheading “Guidance on the Selection of Coaches” and associated text.

- Under subheading “Agency Administrator Prescribed Fire Certification”:
  - Clarified bullet regarding, “… the line officer with authority over their assigned unit will also retain authority to prohibit the ignition based on their judgement regardless of their certification level.”

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- Low Complexity Level – Inserted Risk Management 101 as required training. Emphasized required training is, “… M-581, Fire Program Management, an Overview, OR Agency Administrators Prescribed Fire Workshop at the Prescribed Fire Training Center …”
- Moderate Complexity Level – Clarified, “The agency administrator trainee needs to meet the required training for the Low Complexity Level and meet the following to become certified at the Moderate Complexity level: …”
- Moderate Complexity Level – Removed Risk Management 101 as required training and inserted, “At least one continuing education course in fireline leadership/decision-making.”
- Moderate Complexity level – Inserted text under “Demonstrated Ability” to, “Use AA Task Book to document.”
- High Complexity Level – Removed Risk Management 101 as required training and inserted/clarified required training is, “M-582, Fire Program Management, Leading Complex Fire Programs; OR Agency Administrators Prescribed Fire Workshop at the Prescribed Fire Training Center (recommended for AAs seeking more hands-on prescribed fire experience; AND at least one additional continuing education course in fireline leadership/decision-making. …”
- High Complexity Level – Inserted text under “Demonstrated Ability” to, “Use AA Task Book to document.”
- Currency – Removed three-year interval and inserted five-year interval.
- Removed subheading “Guidance on the Selection of Coaches” and associated text.

Chapter 6 – BIA

- Changed heading from “Agency Administrator’s Roles” to “Agency Administrator’s Responsibilities” and:
  o Removed text regarding, “The following positions are responsible for WFM activities of the bureau (including such activities when contracted for, in whole or in part, with other Agencies or Tribes) under the statutes cited in 620 DM 1.1.”
  o Inserted, “Bureau administrators have many responsibilities relating to Wildland Fire Management activities which are provided in Part 90 (Wildland Fire Management), Indian Affairs Manual (IAM), chapters 1-8, subchapter 1.5 (Responsibilities). These also include such activities when contracted for, in whole or in part, with other agencies or Tribes under the statutes cited in 620 DM 1, Appendix 1.”
  o Inserted, “These bureau administrators also share three additional common responsibilities not listed in the 90 IAM. These are:
  o Responsible for the implementation of an effective WFM program;
  o Responsible for implementation of policies and recommendations in the Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy; and
  o Integrates wildland fire management into natural resource management.”
  o Inserted, “Additionally, the following responsibilities are applicable and will ultimately reside in 90 IAM 7 (Wildfire Response) once this chapter is published.”
- Under subheading “Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs”:
  o Inserted text regarding, “Reference Part 90 (Wildland Fire Management), Indian Affairs Manual (IAM), Chapters 1-8, Subchapter 1.5 Authorities.”
  o Removed four bullets.
- Changed subheading from “Director, Office of Trust Services” to “Deputy Bureau Director, Office of Trust Services” and:
  o Inserted, “Reference Part 90 (Wildland Fire Management), Indian Affairs Manual (IAM), Chapters 1-8, Subchapter 1.5 Authorities.”
  o Removed five bullets.
- Changed subheading from “Division Chief, Forestry and Wildland Fire Management” to “Chief, Division of Forestry and Wildland Fire Management” and:
  o Removed existing text and inserted bullet regarding, “Reference Part 90 (Wildland Fire Management), Indian Affairs Manual (IAM), Chapters 1-8, Subchapter 1.5 Authorities.”
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- Changed subheading from “Branch Chief, Wildland Fire Management” to “Chief, Branch of Wildland Fire Management” and:
  o Removed numerous bullets and text and inserted bullet regarding, “Reference Part 90 (Wildland Fire Management), Indian Affairs Manual (IAM), Chapters 1-8, Subchapter 1.5 Authorities.”
- Under subheading “Regional Directors”:
  o Removed text regarding, “Responsible for ensuring activities and/or plans reflect a commitment to safety and a state of readiness commensurate with values at risk to minimize wildland fire loss.”
  o Inserted bullet regarding, “Reference Part 90 (Wildland Fire Management), Indian Affairs Manual (IAM), Chapters 1-8, Subchapter 1.5 Authorities.”
  o Removed numerous bullets.
- Removed all bullets under subheading “Agency Superintendent (unless excepted in regional directives),” and inserted, “Reference Part 90 (Wildland Fire Management), Indian Affairs Manual (IAM), Chapters 1-8, Subchapter 1.5 Authorities.”
- Under subheading “Bureau and Tribal NFDRS Weather Stations,” changed the acronym for BIA Central Office, Branch of Wildland Fire Management from BOWFM to BWFM.
- Inserted new subheading “BIA Office of Emergency Management (OEM)” and associated text.
- Inserted new subheading “Director, BIA OEM (DOEM)” and associated text.
- Inserted new subheading “Deputy Director, OEM (DDEOM)” and associated text.
- Inserted new subheading “Public Affairs Specialist, Office of EM” and associated text.
- Inserted new subheading “BIA Regional OEM Coordinators (ROEMC)” and associated text.
- Changed text under heading “National Program Preparedness/Readiness Review” from, “BIA-NIFC’s implementation intentions are to administer one preparedness review and one fiscal accountability review …” to, “BWFM implementation intentions are to administer one preparedness review and one fiscal accountability review …”
- Under heading “FireCode Business Rules”:
  o Removed text regarding, “BIA/Tribe host unit dispatcher will access the FireCode website and enter the incident information and generate a FireCode for every wildfire. This FireCode will be used for all financial obligations charged to an incident and by all resources assigned to an incident. The FireCode will be a required entry on the fire report.”
  o Inserted bullet, “BIA/Tribe host unit dispatcher will ensure that a unique FireCode is associated with every wildfire. The recommended workflow is to acquire the FireCode via the Computer Aided Dispatch application or InFORM (instead of creating a record directly in the FireCode application).”
  o Removed bullet regarding, “BIA/Tribal units will create a support action fire report in WFMI when responding to another unit’s wildfire.” Inserted, “BIA/Tribal units will document their action via a formal resource order and/or a fire report in InFORM that is categorized as an “out of area response” when responding to another unit’s wildfire.”
- Changed heading from “BIA National Fire Fleet Program Wildland Fire Model 52 Engine Program” to “BIA National Wildland Fire Fleet Engine Program” and:
  o Removed text regarding “Model 52” and inserted “BIA fleet engine.”
  o Removed bullet under subheading “Mission/Policy” regarding, “Provide repair services for Fire Management Planning Analysis (FMPA) approved number of engines.” Inserted, “Provide repair support services to agency/tribally-owned apparatus for approved number of engines.”
- Under heading “Vehicle Maintenance, Replacement and Repairs,” removed text regarding “Model 52” and inserted “BIA Fleet Engine.”
- Clarified text under subheading “Motor Vehicle Operation Policy” regarding, “BL-300 course and the annual RT-301 refresher is mandatory for all BIA wildland fire management and support personnel who operate vehicles. This includes all General Schedule (GS), Administratively Determined (AD), and Tribal personnel performing wildland fire and prescribed fire operations. Course material is accessible at https://www.nifc.gov/fire-vehicle-training.”

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Chapter 7 – Safety and Risk Management

Under heading “Job Hazard Analysis (JHA)/Risk Assessment (RA)):

- Removed bullet, “Jobs or work practices that have potential hazards.”
- Removed bullet, “New, non-routine, or hazardous tasks to be performed where potential hazards exist.”
- Inserted bullet, “High risk” work activities, projects or tasks where unintended outcomes could result in serious injuries, illnesses, fatalities or significant property damage.”

- Inserted text under subheading “Length of Assignment” regarding, “Contracted aircraft are not restricted by length of assignment. In order to limit disruption to operations, reduce strain on the ordering system and reduce unnecessary mobilization and demobilization of these high cost resources, exclusive use personnel are encouraged to utilize a personnel rotation schedule that meets staffing criteria required of the resource.”

- Under subheading “Days Off”:
  - Inserted FS-specific bullet regarding, “After completion of a 14-day assignment and return to the home unit, three mandatory days off will be provided (3 after 14).”
  - Replaced BLM and FWS-specific bullet with “DOI” and clarified that, “After completion of a 14-day assignment and return travel, the mandatory days off will be charged to Administrative Leave (Code 061, Weather and Safety) if they fall on a regularly-scheduled work day.”
  - Removed text regarding, “All length of assignment rules apply to aviation resources, including aircraft pilots, notwithstanding the FAA and agency day off regulations.”

- Under subheading “Assignment Extension”:
  - Inserted text regarding, “Extensions beyond 14-day assignments should be made sparingly.”
  - Inserted FS-specific text regarding, “For an assignment exceeding 21 days, two mandatory days off will be provided prior to the 22nd day of the assignment. Upon completion of the assignment and return to the home unit, three mandatory days off will be provided.”

- Inserted FS-specific text under subheading “Maximum Consecutive Days Worked – Home Unit” regarding, “During extended periods of activity in support of local fire management, personnel will have a minimum of 2 days off in any 14-day period.”

- Moved BLM, NPS, FWS and FS-specific text under subheading “General Driving Policy” up in the section.

- Inserted text under subheading “Smoke and Carbon Monoxide” regarding, “Ordering Air Resources Advisors to the maximum extent practicable as identified by the 2019 Dingell Act on all Type 1 fires and consider assigning ARAs on Type 2 fires.”

- Removed text under subheading “Helicopter Observation Flights,” bullet “Required PPE” regarding, “All leather or leather and aramid gloves” and inserted, “Approved flame-resistant gloves; aviation life support equipment (ALSE) standard.”

- Removed BLM-specific bullet under heading “Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM),” regarding, “Refer to FA IM-2020-003, Critical Incident Stress Management Program Policy…”

Chapter 8 – Interagency Coordination and Cooperation

- Removed web address under subheading “National Response Framework.”
- Removed web address under subheading “National Incident Management System (NIMS).”
- Removed web address under subheading “Emergency Support Function (ESF) Annexes.”
- Inserted text under subheading “All-Hazard Incident Management Teams (IMTs) and Other Non-Wildland Fire IMTs” regarding, “AHIMTs are often sponsored or administered by a state or local emergency management agency and may be Type 2 or Type 3 level (based on the FEMA National Qualification System or other recognized qualification system). All Hazard IMTs have been used to support wildland fire operations in different ways, including: 1) managing a fire incident with the support of key wildland fire positions supporting command and general staff; 2) independently supporting activities under direction of a wildland fire IMT.”
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Chapter 9 – Fire Management Planning

- Clarified text under subheading “U.S. – Australia/New Zealand Wildland Fire Arrangement” regarding, “Information about United States – Australia and United States – New Zealand support is located at https://www.nifc.gov/nicc/logistics/references.htm. This link provides a copy of the arrangements signed between the U.S. and the states of Australia, and between the U.S. and the country of New Zealand for support during severe fire seasons. It also contains the AOPs that provides more detail on the procedures, responsibilities, and requirements used during activation.”

Chapter 10 – Preparedness

- Removed NPS-specific text under subheading “State/Regional-Level Fire Severity Funding” regarding, “Parks have the authority to approve “Step-up” actions only, as defined in their fire management plan. Regional offices approve severity (long term – up to 30 days) for parks up to $100,000 per severity event.” Inserted, “Parks have the authority to approve “Step-up” actions only, as defined in their fire management plan. Regional offices approve severity.”

- Removed NPS-specific text under subheading “National-Level Fire Severity Funding” regarding, “National office approves all single or cumulative requests exceeding $100,000” and inserted, “Regional offices approve all severity requests.”

- Removed text under subheading “Requesting Fire Severity Funding” regarding, “Severity funding request information for all agencies can be found at https://www.nifc.gov/standards.”

- Inserted NPS-specific bullet under “Sequence of Action and Responsible Parties for Severity Funding Requests” table regarding, “All approved severity requests must be uploaded to the shared OneDrive folder per the Fiscal Year 2021 Wildland Fire Severity Program Oversight memo.”

Chapter 11 – Incident Management and Response

- Removed web address under heading “National Response Framework.”

- Under heading “National Incident Management System,” clarified, “The National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) follows the National Incident Management System (NIMS).”

- Changed text in table under subheading “Type 3 Incident Command” from, “Minimum Qualification Standards” to “Minimum Qualification Standards for Local Incidents.”

- Inserted text under subheading “Agency Administrator Representative Responsibilities” regarding, “The agency administrator representative (the on-scene representative for the agency administrator) is responsible for representing the political, social, and economic issues of the agency administrator to the incident commander.”

- Inserted new subheading “Incident Record Creation” and associated text.

- Removed existing text and FS-specific bullet under subheading “Incident Management and Environmental Sustainability” and inserted, “Every incident should seek opportunities to reduce unnecessary waste and limit impacts associated with management actions. This can be accomplished, for example, by implementing “greening fire” sustainability best management practices (e.g., energy and water conservation, alternative energy, sustainable acquisition, and...”

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waste prevention and recycling) as long as such efforts do not compromise operational or safety objectives. To the degree possible, prioritize the procurement of sustainable products and services whenever lifecycle cost-effective.”

Chapter 12 – Suppression Chemicals and Delivery Systems
- No substantial changes.

Chapter 13 – Firefighter Training and Qualifications
- Removed and clarified text under heading “Standards” regarding, “Federal agencies will accept each other’s incident qualifications/certifications.”
- Clarified and inserted text under heading “Incident Qualifications and Certification System (IQCS)” regarding, “The Incident Qualifications and Certification System (IQCS) is the only approved fire qualifications and certification record keeping system. Effective January 1, 2022, IROC will no longer be a record keeping system for qualifications.”
- Removed, added or clarified text under heading “RT-130, Wildland Fire Safety Training Annual Refresher (WFSTAR).”
- Added NPS to bullet regarding, “Employees have a 13-month currency requirement for RT-130, WFSTAR.”
- Removed BLM from bullet under subheading “Medical Exam Process for Light and Moderate Fitness Levels.”
- Inserted BLM-specific text under subheading “Work Capacity Test (WCT) Categories” regarding, “Law enforcement physical fitness standard is accepted as equivalent to a “light” WCT work category.”
- Added NPS to bullet under subheading “Work Capacity Test (WCT) Administration” regarding, “Currency for WCT is 13 months.”
- Changed text under heading “Interagency Hotshot Crews (IHC)” from “IHCs are comprised of 18-22 firefighters …” to “IHCs are comprised of 18-25 firefighters …”
- In table “Minimum Crew Standards for National Mobilization”:
  - Row “Fireline Capability,” column “Type 2 with IA Capability,” removed text referring to, “… firing to include burnout.”
  - Row “Fireline Capability,” column “Type 2,” removed text referring to, “… firing as directed.”
  - Inserted new column “Fire Suppression Module” and associated text.
  - Inserted text increasing upper limit crew size for Type 1 from 22 to 25.
  - Removed existing BLM-specific text in the footer and inserted BLM will not follow fire suppression module standards. See chapter 2 for BLM standards and certification requirements.
  - Inserted FS-specific text in the footer regarding, “USFS fire suppression modules are used primarily for wildfire suppression, fuels reduction and other fire management duties.”
  - Inserted footer regarding, “Fire suppression modules will be statused, mobilized and tracked in IROC using the resource identifier “Module, Suppression.”
- Removed existing text in the BLM-specific bullet below “Minimum WFM Standards for Interagency Mobilization” table and inserted, “BLM WFMs will meet standards identified in the NWCG Standards for Wildland Fire Module Operations (PMS 430). In addition, BLM WFMs will meet the following requirements:
  - Approval from the assistant director, fire and aviation is required prior to establishing and/or statusing new Type 1/2 WFMs.
  - Fire suppression modules and WFMs are separate and distinct resources. The BLM has established standards for fire suppression modules in chapter 2 of this publication. Fire managers and incident commanders should order the appropriate resource to accomplish incident objectives.”
- Inserted BLM-specific text under heading “Chainsaw Operators and Fallers” regarding, “Faller 1 evaluator standards and a list of certified Faller 1 evaluators are located at https://doiisspp.sharepoint.com/sites/blm-fa/fire-operations/SitePages/Policy-and-References.aspx.”
Chapter 14 – Firefighting Equipment
• No changes.

Chapter 15 – Communications
• Inserted bullet under subheading “Aviation Operations Frequency Management” regarding, “With the exception of an emergency, aircraft shall not transmit over NIICD command repeaters.”
• Inserted text under heading “Incident Radio Support” regarding, “To meet the high demand for NIRSC communications equipment during peak fire seasons, please follow the following NIRSC Basic Operating Procedure when shipping communications equipment back to NIFC:
   o PL 1-2: Return communications equipment by lowest cost
     • Return any unused or broken equipment to NIRSC
   o PL 3-4: Expedite communications equipment return by best means
     • Return any unused or broken equipment to NIRSC
     • Ground freight if possible
     • Should arrive at NIRSC within 4-5 days
   o PL 5: Return communications equipment by fastest means
     • Return any unused or broken equipment to NIRSC
     • Overnight NIRSC equipment if possible
     • Utilize local drivers for GACC’s within 8-hour drive time from NIRSC
   o Note: The ordering incident is responsible for returning and/or coordinating all NIRSC radio equipment directly back to Boise by; arranging shipping through the local buying team, arranging shipping through the local district office, or arranging shipping through the local supply caches.
   o Emphasized that, “NIRSC communications equipment shall NOT be moved from one incident to another without being first returned to NIRSC for refurbishment.”

Chapter 16 – Aviation Operations and Resources
• Under subheading “National Office – U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service”:
  o Inserted text regarding, “The branch chief, aviation operations reports to the AD, aviation, and is responsible for national aviation operational management and oversight. This operational management and oversight includes authority to provide direction to coordination centers regarding the mobilization and reassignment of USDA contracted national aviation resources. The branch chief may also delegate this authority to national aircraft coordinators or the FS aviation duty officer (ADO).”
  o Clarified that, “The branch chief, pilot standardization reports to the AD, aviation, and is responsible for pilot and aircrew standardization and approval of agency and contracted pilot personnel.”
  o Clarified text regarding, “The branch chief, aviation safety management systems reports to the AD aviation, and is responsible for oversight, coordination and direction of aviation safety management system functions.”
• Removed text under heading “Aviation Safety” regarding, “More information on SMS is available at the Wildland Fire Lessons Learned Center under the Lessons Learned link at https://www.wildfirelessons.net/home.”
• Clarified text under subheading “Aviation Safety and Technical Assistance Team (ASTAT)” regarding, “If requested by the home unit/region, formal written reports will be provided to appropriate manager(s) as outlined at the in-brief.”
• Clarified text under heading “SAFECOM” regarding, “The SAFECOM form, including attachments and pictures, should be entered directly on the internet at https://www.safecom.gov/, or contact the OAS or FS representative listed on the SAFECOM “About” page at https://www.safecom.gov/about.”
• Under subheading ”Mission Flights”:
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- Inserted text regarding, “A mission flight requires work to be performed in the air (retardant or water delivery, fire reconnaissance, smokejumper delivery), or through a combination of ground and aerial work (delivery of personnel and/or cargo from helibases to helispots or unimproved landing sites; rappelling or cargo let-down; short-haul; single-skid, toe-in, and hover exit/entry (STEP) procedures; hoist).”
- Removed reference to horse herding.
- Removed existing text for required attire for ATGS and fire reconnaissance, and inserted, “Reference ALSE Handbook for all PPE requirements for special use flights.”
- Removed existing text regarding, “The use of full PPE for helicopter flights (point-to-point and mission) and associated ground operations …” Inserted, “Reference ALSE Handbook for all PPE requirements for special use flights.”

- Under heading “Aviation Assets,” added short-haul to the list of typical agency aviation assets.
- Removed FS-specific text under heading “Helitack,” subheading “Organization – Crew Size” regarding, “Regions may establish minimum crew size and standards for their exclusive use helitack crews.” Inserted, “Exclusive use helitack crew sizes will satisfy the FSM 5700, chapter 30, Helicopter Minimum Staffing requirements. At such time national crew size standards are established, the applicable national standard must be satisfied. Any deviation from the standard and the reason for the deviation must be found acceptable to the branch chief of aviation operations.”
- Inserted new subheading “Helibase” and associated text.
- Removed the December 2019 release date for the Interagency Aviation Training Guide under subheading “Training and Experience Requirements.”
- Removed text under subheading “Helicopter Rappel and Cargo Let-Down” regarding, “Any rappel or cargo let-down programs must be approved by the appropriate agency national headquarters.” Inserted, “BLM/NPS/BIA rappel and cargo let-down operations will follow the Interagency Helicopter Rappel Guide (IHRG). FS rappel programs will follow the National Rappel Operations Guide (NROG). Any exemption to the identified guides must be requested by the program through the state/region for approval by the National Aviation Office (BLM/NPS/BIA), or Director of Fire and Aviation (FS).”
- Inserted new subheading “Short-Haul for Wildland Fire” and associated text.
- Removed subheading “Emergency Medical Short-Haul” and associated text.
- Inserted subheading “Short-Haul” and associated text.

- Under heading “Aerial Supervision Principles for ATGS, HLCO, ASM, and Leadplane”:
  - Inserted, “Exclusive use (agency-owned or contracted) air tactical group supervisor (ATGS) and helicopter coordinator (HLCO) resources are geographic area (GACC) shared resources. These resources are part of a national response framework and are located at bases that provide the best strategic advantage for incident response within their zone in direct support of the airtanker and helicopter fleets. The GACC’s coordinate with their agencies to ensure response capabilities are commensurate to environmental conditions and provide support to the National Interagency Coordination Center for national priorities. Agency program managers (national/regional) work with coordination centers to provide expertise and make recommendations that support fire preparedness and suppression objectives for their agency and when available, their cooperators.”
  - Clarified, “When aerial supervision resources are collocated with airtankers, they will be dispatched together (ATGS, ASM, Leadplane and HLCO) to maximize the safety, effectiveness, and efficiency of incident operations unless the required aerial supervision is currently on scene of the incident.”
  - Clarified, “Incidents with three or more aircraft flying missions at the same time must have aerial supervision in the form of ATGS, ASM/Leadplane or HLCO ordered by the unit maintaining operational control (operations may be continued while the aerial supervisor is en route to the incident or operations can be continued if the resource is not available and assigned resources are notified). During times of aerial supervision
absence, aircraft shall coordinate with each other to implement tasks and objectives as prioritized by the official in charge (i.e., incident commander or operations). A qualified smokejumper spotter (senior smokejumper in charge of smokejumper missions), rappel spotter, or short-haul spotter may coordinate their respected operations with on-scene aircraft over a fire until qualified aerial supervision arrives.

- Removed heading “Leadplane” and associated text.
- Removed heading “Aerial Supervision Module (ASM)” and associated text.
- Inserted new heading “Aerial Supervision Module and Leadplane” and:
  - Inserted, “The aerial supervision module (ASM) and leadplane (LP) are national shared resources. The ASM is crewed with both a leadplane pilot (LPI) and an air tactical supervisor (AITS). These individuals are specifically trained to operate together as a team. The resource is primarily designed for providing both functions (leadplane pilot and ATGS) simultaneously from the same aircraft, but can also provide single role service. The leadplane is staffed with a single pilot and provides coordination with fixed wing airtankers and water scooping aircraft.”
  - Removed existing text under subheading “Policy” and inserted, “Only those individuals authorized by the BLM–National Aviation Office/FS–branch chief pilot standardization/state aviation official and approved by the regional aviation officer/BLM state aviation manager/state aviation official will be certified to function as an air tactical supervisor (AITS).”
  - Removed existing text under subheading “Aerial Supervision Coordination” and inserted, “National coordination and management of ASM and LP resources are required to ensure national coverage and capability. The Forest Service aerial supervision program manager and Forest Service fixed-wing coordinator manage aerial supervision staffing, aircraft readiness and availability, capability, and response with pilots, aerial supervisors, regional aviation staff, Bureau of Land Management National Aviation Office staff, and the National Interagency Coordination Center.”
- Clarified text under heading “Reconnaissance or Patrol Flights” regarding, “The purpose of aerial reconnaissance or detection flights is to locate and relay fire information to management. In addition to detecting, mapping, and providing fire size up, this resource may be utilized to provide ground resources with intelligence on fire behavior, to the IC when appropriate, and describe access routes into and out of fire areas for responding units. Only qualified aerial supervisors (ATGS, AITS, HLCO and LPI) are authorized to coordinate incident airspace operations and give direction to aviation assets.”
- Under heading “Airtankers”:
  - Inserted text regarding, “Geographic areas administering these aircraft will make them available for initial attack and extended attack fires on a priority basis regardless of GACC boundaries.”
  - Rearranged bullets under subheading “Very Large Airtankers (VLATs).”
  - Under subheading “State of Alaska Airtankers”:
    - Removed existing text and inserted, “Airtankers under contract to the State of Alaska may be mobilized to the lower 48 as approved cooperator aircraft. Prior to mobilization to the lower 48, ordering agencies should confirm that current cooperator letters are in place for the requested aircraft and pilots permitting operations in the lower 48 states.”
    - Inserted FS-specific text regarding, “Convair 580 airtankers are not approved for use on Forest Service protected lands.”
  - Removed subheading “Canadian Airtankers and Water Scoopers” and associated text.
  - Inserted new subheading “International Airtankers and Water Scoopers” and associated text.
  - Clarified text under subheading “Airtanker Rotation” regarding, “All LATs, VLATs and SEATs (including federally-approved cooperator and Canadian and other international airtankers) operating from the same base shall be dispatched in rotation based on the type

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of air tanker requested on a first in/first out basis regardless of contract type (EU, CWN/On-Call or Forest Service owned) or the location of the incident.”

- Clarified text under subheading “Exceptions” regarding, “MAFFS, NICC-ordered state cooperators, and NICC-ordered international air tankers will begin rotation at that base after the contracted and FS owned air tanker(s) at the beginning of each day.”

- Removed existing text under subheading “Helicopter Types” and inserted, “The minimum specifications for the typing of helicopters are by useful load, passenger seats, water or retardant carrying capability and maximum gross weight…”

- Under heading “Cooperator Aircraft”:
  - Clarified text regarding, “Cooperator contracted aircraft also on an existing federal contract with federal aircraft and pilot cards may be utilized on federally-protected lands when cooperative agreements are in place and the aircraft have been approved by USDA Forest Service/Department of the Interior letter.”
  - Clarified text regarding, “Cooperator exclusive use contracted aircraft not on an existing federal contract may be considered for approval on a case-by-case basis when cooperative agreements are in place. Approval will be by USDA Forest Service/Department of the Interior letter.”
  - Inserted text regarding, “Cooperator-owned or -operated aircraft may be utilized on federally-managed fires when cooperative agreements are in place and the aircraft have been approved by USDA Forest Service/Department of the Interior letter. Cooperator-owned or -operated aircraft meeting requirements of the *NWCG Standards for Interagency Cooperator Type 2 and Type 3 Helicopters* or other applicable NWCG standards may be utilized on federally-managed fires when cooperative agreements are in place and the aircraft have been approved by USDA Forest Service/Department of the Interior letter.”
  - Clarified text regarding, “All cooperator aircraft used on federally-protected lands must be approved by USDA Forest Service/Department of the Interior letter.”

- Under subheading “Non-Federally Approved Cooperator Aircraft”:
  - Clarified text regarding, “Cooperator exclusive use contracted aircraft not on an existing federal contract may be considered for approval on a case-by-case basis when cooperative agreements are in place.”
  - Inserted bullet regarding, “No federal employees are allowed to ride on board the aircraft.”

**Chapter 17 – Fuels Management**

- Under heading “Policy”:
  - Inserted text in bullet regarding, “All projects/treatments will comply with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Clean Air Act and all other regulatory requirements.”
  - Inserted new bullet regarding, “Consider the use of Basic Smoke Management Practices (BSMPs) when planning and implementing prescribed fires.”
  - Clarified NPS-specific text under heading “Prescribed Fire During Preparedness Levels 4 and 5” regarding, “At Geographic Area Preparedness Level 4 or 5, written concurrence from NPS Regional Fire Management is required prior to implementing prescribed fires. At National Preparedness Level 4 or 5, NPS Regional Fire Management and NPS Chief, Branch of Wildland Fire written concurrence is required prior to implementing prescribed fires. A notification to the Regional Director is required in both Regional and National Preparedness Level scenarios, and is the responsibility of the NPS Regional Fire Management Staff. Email is an acceptable method to satisfy concurrence requirements.

**Chapter 18 – Reviews and Investigations**

- No changes.
Chapter 19 – Dispatch and Coordination System

- Under subheading “Management of National Aviation Resources”:
  - Inserted text regarding, “As directed or delegated by NMAC, NICC allocates national resource aviation assets, in conjunction with appropriate agency aviation leadership, to the geographic areas based upon national priorities.”
  - Changed bullet from “Single Engine Airtankers (SEATs)” to “Federal Single Engine Airtankers (SEATs).”
  - Inserted text to bullet regarding, “Type 1 and 2 FS Exclusive Use/Call-When-Needed helicopters and associated helitack and/or rappellers.”
  - Added bullet, “Rappellers.”
  - Inserted bullet regarding, “Priority should be given to EU aviation assets over CWN aviation assets whenever feasible.”
- Removed text under subheading “Positioning and Movement of Resources” regarding, “The affected GACC will coordinate ordering points with Regional Response Coordination Centers (RRCC) and Joint Field Offices (JFO).” Inserted, “The affected GACC will coordinate ordering points with the regional ESF #4 coordinator and the ESF #4 lead at the appropriate Regional Response Coordination Centers (RRCC) and Joint Field Offices (JFO).”
- Under subheading “Initial Attack Dispatching”:
  - Inserted text regarding, “Incident records will be created by the dispatch center with delegated authority for the benefiting agency and associated Protecting Unit (https://www.nwcg.gov/term/glossary/unit-protecting) based on the point of origin (POO) of the incident. Reference Jurisdictional Unit (https://www.nwcg.gov/term/glossary/unit-jurisdictional) for additional information. Unique Incident Identifiers are the concatenation of the Year from the Fire Discovery Date/Time, the POO Protecting Unit and the Local Incident Identifier. The year is not exposed to the user in most applications. Unique Incident Identifiers are referenced in User Interface in the following format: MT-FNF-000567. Incident data and all ordering for the incident is tracked under this unique designator for the life of the incident. Multiple Event/records will not be created when an incident burns onto or crosses jurisdictional boundaries. When duplicate records are inadvertently created, every effort will be made to rectify by aligning incident and resource data associated with two records to the correct record, the duplicate record will be updated to an invalid record.”
  - Inserted text regarding, “When an incident’s Point of Origin (POO) is on Unprotected Lands (https://www.nwcg.gov/term/glossary/unprotected-lands#:~:text=Areas%20for%20which%20no%20fire%20or%20rangeland%20association) or areas for which no fire organization has responsibility for management of a wildfire authorized by law, contract, or personal interest of the fire organization (e.g., a timber or rangeland association), there are two acceptable rationales for local dispatch incident record creation:
    ▪ The responding organization determines threat to protected lands
    ▪ The responding organization determines incident has already burned onto protected lands.

Fire management direction/duty officer will determine if either criterion is met and necessitates an incident record creation and subsequent response. In this instance, the responding organization’s Unit ID will be used for the Protecting Unit data element within the Unique Incident Identifier.”

Appendices

- Global Changes
  - Inserted version month and year in the footer of all appendices. There were no substantial changes to appendices content in 2022 except in appendix C. Version month and year for all appendices will be identified as January 2022 (i.e., Version 01.2022).

- Appendix C
  - Removed text “Emergency Worker Pay Plan” and inserted, “Administratively Determined (AD) Pay Plan for Emergency Workers (Casuals).”
2022 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF CHANGES

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