Appendix M
Area Command (AC) Complexity Assessment
Guide for ACT Engagement

Incident: _____   **Date:** _____

Check all that apply. (Current date/time and expected over next 72-96 hours.)

FACTORS	YES	NO
Multiple incident management organizations (IMTs of varying types) are assigned on a single administrative unit or several adjoining units that can be combined into a single Area Command.		
Local resources and managers need incident management assistance for multi-jurisdictional incidents that may/will incur a unified command organization and/or cost share agreements; may be single incident with multiple IMTs.		
Response trends, and/or planning level, political, media, or public concerns are escalating from local to state/regional level and may rise to national levels (e.g., PLs, military activation, FEMA and/or FMAG involvement).		
Incident reporting or communication requirements are diverse, time-sensitive, and/or require consolidation and clarity.		
Incident personnel are having difficulty achieving objectives.		
Intricate local land and resource management objectives and constraints exist and require close oversight for compliance.		
Special circumstances that warrant additional management oversight and support (including, but not limited to, serious injuries, fatalities, equipment accidents, special non-fire events happening locally) are occurring/impacting agency oversight.		
Key unit leadership (AAs, LOs, Agency Reps, FMOs, etc.) is absent, operating beyond scope of training/experience, or multiple acting/detailed members are present/needed. Fatigue of these individuals is becoming a factor and will not improve for some time.		
Significant events (e.g., severe weather, large public events, substantial increase of initial attack) are predicted that will impact success.		
Complex, long-term or multiple incidents are exceeding acceptable agency administrator and fire program manager span of control.		

FACTORS	YES	NO
Multiple incidents and administrative units are competing for resources: Incident prioritization, allocation of scarce resources, coordinating the sharing of critical resources, and application and management of surge resources can reduce competition and facilitate more efficient operations.		
A *Theater of Operations* concept is present in the thinking, planning, and operational choices of decision makers: A greater commitment to long-term strategy/planning is warranted to better utilize resources and manage incidents.		
TOTAL		

0-2 YES	3-6 YES	6+ YES
0-2 YES **ACT _may not_ be required, but can be ordered if YES items are significant**	**3-6 YES** **_Consider_ ordering ACT: if not, monitor indicators closely and reconsider if additional YES indicators are noted**	**6+ YES** **ACT _recommended_**