

**NWCG Task Book for the Position of:**

**STRUCTURE PROTECTION SPECIALIST  
(STPS)**



**(POSITION PERFORMANCE REQUIRED ON A WILDFIRE  
ASSIGNMENT)**

**PMS 311-68**

**MAY 2008**

**Task Book Assigned To:**

Trainee's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Unit/Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Unit Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Task Book Initiated By:**

Official's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Unit Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Unit/Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Unit Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Unit Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Initiated: \_\_\_\_\_

*The material contained in this book accurately defines the performance expected of the position for which it was developed. This task book is approved for use as a position qualification document in accordance with the instructions contained herein.*

**Verification/Certification of Completed Task Book  
for the Position of:**

**STRUCTURE PROTECTION SPECIALIST**

**Final Evaluator's Verification**

*To be completed **ONLY** when you are recommending the trainee for certification.*

I verify that (trainee name) \_\_\_\_\_ has successfully performed as a trainee by demonstrating all tasks for the position listed above and should be considered for certification in this position. All tasks are documented with appropriate initials.

Final Evaluator's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Final Evaluator's Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Unit Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Unit/Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Unit Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Agency Certification**

I certify that (trainee name) \_\_\_\_\_ has met all requirements for qualification in the above position and that such qualification has been issued.

Certifying Official's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Certifying Official's Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Unit/Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Unit Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional copies of this publication are available through:  
NWCG, Publications Management System at <http://www.nwcg.gov/pms/taskbook/taskbook.htm>

## **NATIONAL WILDFIRE COORDINATING GROUP (NWCG) POSITION TASK BOOK**

NWCG Position Task Books (PTBs) have been developed for designated National Interagency Incident Management System (NIIMS) positions. Each PTB lists the competencies, behaviors and tasks required for successful performance in specific positions. Trainees must be observed completing all tasks and show knowledge and competency in their performance during the completion of this PTB.

Trainees are evaluated during this process by qualified evaluators, and the trainee's performance is documented in the PTB for each task by the evaluator's initials and date of completion. An Evaluation Record will be completed by all evaluators documenting the trainee's progress after each evaluation opportunity.

Successful performance of all tasks, as observed and recorded by an evaluator, will result in a recommendation to the agency that the trainee be certified in that position. Evaluation and confirmation of the trainee's performance while completing all tasks may occur on one or more training assignments and may involve more than one evaluator during any opportunity.

### **INCIDENT/EVENT CODING**

Each task has a code associated with the type of training assignment where the task may be completed. The codes are: O = other, I = incident, WF = wildland fire, W = wildfire, RX = prescribed fire, WFU = wildland fire use, and R = rare event. The codes are defined as:

- O = Task can be completed in any situation (classroom, simulation, daily job, incident, prescribed fire, etc.).
- I = Task must be performed on an incident managed under the Incident Command System (ICS). Examples include wildland fire, structural fire, oil spill, search and rescue, hazardous material, and an emergency or non-emergency (planned or unplanned) event.
- WF = Task must be performed on a wildland fire incident (the term *wildland fire* includes wildfire/W, prescribed fire/RX, or wildland fire use/WFU).
- W = Task must be performed on a wildfire incident.
- RX = Task must be performed on a prescribed fire incident.
- WFU = Task must be performed on a wildland fire use incident.
- R = Rare events such as accidents, injuries, vehicle or aircraft crashes occur infrequently and opportunities to evaluate performance in a real setting are limited. The evaluator should determine, through interview, if the trainee would be able to perform the task in a real situation.

While tasks can be performed in any situation, they must be evaluated on the specific type of incident/event for which they are coded. For example, tasks coded W must be evaluated on a wildfire; tasks coded WFU must be evaluated on wildland fire use, and so on. Performance of any task on other than the designated assignment is not valid for qualification.

Tasks within the PTB are numbered sequentially; however, the numbering does NOT indicate the order in which the tasks need to be performed or evaluated.

The bullets under each numbered task are examples or indicators of items or actions related to the task. The purpose of the bullets is to assist the evaluator in evaluating the trainee; the bullets are not all-inclusive. Evaluate and initial ONLY the numbered tasks. DO NOT evaluate and initial each individual bullet.

A more detailed description of this process and definitions of terms are included in the *Wildland Fire Qualification System Guide*, PMS 310-1. This document can be found at <http://www.nwcg.gov/pms/docs/docs.htm>.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES**

The responsibilities of the Home Unit/Agency, Trainee, Coach, Training Specialist, Evaluator, Final Evaluator and Certifying Official are identified in the *Wildland Fire Qualification System Guide*, PMS 310-1. It is incumbent upon each of these individuals to ensure their responsibilities are met.

## **INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE POSITION TASK BOOK EVALUATION RECORD**

### **Evaluation Record #**

Each evaluator will need to complete an evaluation record. Each evaluation record should be numbered sequentially. Place this number at the top of the evaluation record page and also use it in the column labeled "Evaluation Record #" for each numbered task the trainee has satisfactorily performed.

### **Trainee Information**

Print the trainee's name, position on the incident/event, home unit/agency, and the home unit/agency address and phone number.

### **Evaluator Information**

Print the Evaluator's name, position on the incident/event, home unit/agency, and the home unit/agency address and phone number.

### **Incident/Event Information**

**Incident/Event Name:** Print the incident/event name.

**Reference:** Enter the incident code and/or fire code.

**Duration:** Enter inclusive dates during which the trainee was evaluated.

**Incident Kind:** Enter the kind of incident (wildfire, prescribed fire, wildland fire use, search and rescue, flood, hurricane, etc.).

**Location:** Enter the geographic area, agency, and state.

**Management Type or Prescribed Fire Complexity Level:** Circle the ICS organization level (Type 5, Type 4, Type 3, Type 2, Type 1, Area Command) or the prescribed fire complexity level (Low, Moderate, High).

**Fire Behavior Prediction System (FBPS) Fuel Model Group:** Circle the Fuel Model Group letter that corresponds to the predominant fuel type in which the incident/event occurred.

**G = Grass Group** (includes FBPS Fuel Models 1 – 3):

1 = short grass (1 foot); 2 = timber with grass understory; 3 = tall grass (1½ - 2 feet)

**B = Brush Group** (includes FBPS Fuel Models 4 – 6):

4 = Chaparral (6 feet); 5 = Brush (2 feet); 6 = dormant brush/hardwood slash;

7 = Southern rough

**T = Timber Group** (includes FBPS Fuel Models 8 – 10)

8 = closed timber litter; 9 = hardwood litter; 10 = timber (with litter understory)

**S = Slash Group** (includes FBPS Fuel Models 11 – 13)

11 = light logging slash; 12 = medium logging slash; 13 = heavy logging slash

**Evaluator’s Recommendation**

For 1 – 4, initial only one line as appropriate; this will allow for comparison with your initials in the Qualifications Record.

Record additional remarks/recommendations on an Individual Performance Evaluation, or by attaching an additional sheet to the evaluation record.

**Evaluator’s Signature**

Sign here to authenticate your recommendations.

**Date**

Document the date the Evaluation Record is being completed.

**Evaluator’s Relevant Qualification (or agency certification)**

List your qualification or certification relevant to the trainee position you supervised.

**Note:** Evaluators must be either qualified in the position being evaluated or supervise the trainee; Final Evaluators must be qualified in the trainee position they are evaluating.

## Structure Protection Specialist (STPS)

### Competency: Assume position responsibilities.

*Description: Successfully assume role of Structure Protection Specialist and initiate position activities at the appropriate time according to the following behaviors.*

TASK	C O D E	EVAL. RECORD #	EVALUATOR: Initial & date upon completion of task
<b>Behavior: Ensure readiness for assignment.</b>			
1. Obtain and assemble information and materials needed for assignment. Suggested items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Blank Structure Protection Plans</i></li> <li>• <i>Triage Checklist forms</i></li> <li>• <i>Emergency Response Guide - Hazardous Materials</i></li> <li>• <i>Ribbon/flagging - various colors</i></li> <li>• <i>Global Positioning System (GPS), camera</i></li> <li>• <i>Laptop computer</i></li> <li>• <i>Sign kit</i></li> </ul>	O		
<b>Behavior: Gather, update, and apply situational information relevant to the assignment.</b>			
2. Obtain maps and demographic information of local area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>County assessor</i></li> <li>• <i>Department of Transportation</i></li> <li>• <i>Local fire department</i></li> <li>• <i>Law enforcement</i></li> </ul>	I		
<b>Behavior: Establish effective relationships with relevant personnel.</b>			
3. Conduct self in a professional manner. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Working relationship with property owners.</i></li> <li>• <i>Respectful and courteous.</i></li> <li>• <i>Respectful of public and private property.</i></li> </ul>	I		
4. Establish and maintain positive interpersonal and interagency working relationships.	I		
<b>Behavior: Understand and comply with ICS concepts and principles.</b>			
5. Coordinate with functional areas within the ICS structure.	I		

*Evaluate the numbered tasks ONLY. DO NOT evaluate bullets; they are provided as examples/additional clarification.*

## Structure Protection Specialist (STPS)

### Competency: Lead assigned personnel.

*Description: Influence, guide, and direct assigned personnel to accomplish objectives and desired outcomes in a rapidly changing, high-risk environment.*

TASK	C O D E	EVAL. RECORD #	EVALUATOR: Initial & date upon completion of task
<b>Behavior: Model leadership values and principles.</b>			
6. Exhibit principles of duty. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Be proficient in your job, both technically and as a leader.</i></li> <li>• <i>Make sound and timely decisions.</i></li> <li>• <i>Ensure tasks are understood, supervised and accomplished.</i></li> <li>• <i>Develop your subordinates for the future.</i></li> </ul>	I		
7. Exhibit principles of respect. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Know your subordinates and look out for their well-being.</i></li> <li>• <i>Keep your subordinates informed.</i></li> <li>• <i>Build the team.</i></li> <li>• <i>Employ your subordinates in accordance with their capabilities.</i></li> </ul>	I		
8. Exhibit principles of integrity. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Know yourself and seek improvement.</i></li> <li>• <i>Seek responsibility and accept responsibility for your actions.</i></li> <li>• <i>Set the example.</i></li> </ul>	I		
<b>Behavior: Ensure the safety, welfare, and accountability of assigned personnel.</b>			
9. Provide for the safety and welfare of assigned resources. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Recognize potentially hazardous situations.</i></li> <li>• <i>Account for assigned resources.</i></li> <li>• <i>Ensure resources are briefed on potential hazards and informs resources of special precautions when extraordinary hazards exist.</i></li> </ul>	I		

**Evaluate the numbered tasks ONLY. DO NOT evaluate bullets; they are provided as examples/additional clarification.**

## Structure Protection Specialist (STPS)

TASK	C O D E	EVAL. RECORD #	EVALUATOR: Initial & date upon completion of task
<b>Behavior: Establish work assignments and performance expectations, monitor performance, and provide feedback.</b>			
10. Determine assigned resources ability to complete assignment within time frame.	W		
<b>Behavior: Emphasize teamwork.</b>			
11. Establish cohesiveness among assigned resources.	I		
<b>Behavior: Coordinate interdependent activities.</b>			
12. Coordinate with local fire departments, other agencies, district resources and law enforcement assigned to evacuation and structural protection. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Secure property</i></li> <li>• <i>Traffic control</i></li> <li>• <i>Evacuation</i></li> <li>• <i>Livestock and pets</i></li> </ul>	W		
13. Coordinate with Safety Officer in developing and presenting the Structural Protection Safety Message.	W		
14. Utilize multiple resource kinds and types in a coordinated effort by maintaining communications and providing for safe fire suppression operations in and around structures.	W		

*Evaluate the numbered tasks ONLY. DO NOT evaluate bullets; they are provided as examples/additional clarification.*



## Structure Protection Specialist (STPS)

### Competency: Communicate effectively.

*Description: Use suitable communication techniques to share relevant information with appropriate personnel on a timely basis to accomplish objectives in a rapidly changing, high-risk environment.*

TASK	C O D E	EVAL. RECORD #	EVALUATOR: Initial & date upon completion of task
<b>Behavior: Ensure relevant information is exchanged during briefings and debriefings.</b>			
15. Report to Planning/Operations Section for briefing on incident status.	I		
16. Debrief with Agency Administrator/incident supervisor and conduct debriefing with assigned resources.	I		
17. Participate in functional area briefings and After Action Reviews (AAR).	I		
<b>Behavior: Ensure documentation is complete and disposition is appropriate.</b>			
18. Report and document special occurrences or events (e.g., accidents, structure/improved property loss or damage, sickness) to immediate supervisor. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Receive reports of events from subordinates or personal observation of events (e.g., nature of event, location, magnitude, personnel involved, action taken).</i></li> <li>• <i>Request assistance as established in response protocol outlined in the Incident Action Plan (IAP) or relevant plan.</i></li> </ul>	I		
19. Submit documentation during demobilization as requested.	I		

*Evaluate the numbered tasks ONLY. DO NOT evaluate bullets; they are provided as examples/additional clarification.*

## Structure Protection Specialist (STPS)

TASK	C O D E	EVAL. RECORD #	EVALUATOR: Initial & date upon completion of task
<b>Behavior: Develop and implement plans and gain concurrence of affected agencies and/or the public.</b>			
20. Develop Structural Protection Plan as identified in the IRPG using available information and incident management objectives. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Equipment placement</i></li> <li>• <i>Water use guidelines</i></li> <li>• <i>Class A foam use guidelines</i></li> <li>• <i>Preparing structures</i></li> </ul>	W		
21. Establish trigger points for contingency plans. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Obtain buy-in from affected agencies.</i></li> </ul>	W		

*Evaluate the numbered tasks ONLY. DO NOT evaluate bullets; they are provided as examples/additional clarification.*

## Structure Protection Specialist (STPS)

### Competency: Ensure completion of assigned actions to meet identified objectives.

*Description: Identify, analyze, and apply relevant situational information and evaluate actions to complete assignments safely and meet identified objectives. Complete actions within established timeframe.*

TASK	C O D E	EVAL. RECORD #	EVALUATOR: Initial & date upon completion of task
------	------------------	----------------------	--

### Behavior: Gather, analyze, and validate information pertinent to the incident or event and make recommendations for setting priorities.

22. Evaluate threat to structures based on current and predicted fire behavior.	W		
23. Provide Lookouts, Communications, Escape Routes, Safety Zones (LCES) recommendations related to structural protection planning.	W		
24. Estimate number of resources required to provide structure protection. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Evaluate need for equipment, resources, and supplies and convey to Planning and/or Operations Section.</i></li> </ul>	W		

### Behavior: Prepare clear and concise assessments regarding hazards, hazard behavior, weather, and other relevant events.

25. Coordinate structural triage evaluations and decisions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Assign structures to triage categories.</i></li> <li>• <i>Complete Structure Assessment checklist.</i></li> </ul>	W		
---	---	--	--

*Evaluate the numbered tasks ONLY. DO NOT evaluate bullets; they are provided as examples/additional clarification.*

## Structure Protection Specialist (STPS)

TASK	C O D E	EVAL. RECORD #	EVALUATOR: Initial & date upon completion of task
<b>Behavior: Make appropriate decisions based on analysis of gathered information.</b>			
26. Determine need for assistance. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Identify need for additional assistance by monitoring work progress or based on reports from subordinates.</i></li> <li>• <i>Coordinate with Operations Section Chief or Branch Director and request assistance according to procedures discussed in briefing.</i></li> <li>• <i>Notify Operations Section Chief when resources are moved or shared between divisions/groups, or excess to operational needs.</i></li> </ul>	W		
27. Prioritize assignments based on existing resources.	I		
<b>Behavior: Take appropriate action based on assessed risks.</b>			
28. Apply the Risk Management Process found in the IRPG and Fireline Handbook. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Step 1: Situation Awareness</i></li> <li>• <i>Step 2: Hazard Assessment</i></li> <li>• <i>Step 3: Hazard Control</i></li> <li>• <i>Step 4: Decision Point</i></li> <li>• <i>Step 5: Evaluate</i></li> </ul>	I		
29. Manage an incident within an incident and take appropriate action based on established procedure. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Notify your supervisor of situation</i></li> <li>• <i>Document actions taken.</i></li> </ul>	R		
<b>Behavior: Plan for demobilization and ensure demobilization procedures are followed.</b>			
30. Anticipate demobilization of resources. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Identify excess resources.</i></li> <li>• <i>Prepare schedule for demobilization.</i></li> </ul>	I		
31. Ensure demobilization of resources. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Brief subordinate staff on demobilization procedures and responsibilities.</i></li> <li>• <i>Ensure incident and agency demobilization procedures are followed.</i></li> </ul>	I		

*Evaluate the numbered tasks ONLY. DO NOT evaluate bullets; they are provided as examples/additional clarification.*

**Trainee Information**

Printed Name:  
 Trainee Position on Incident/Event:  
 Home Unit/Agency:  
 Home Unit /Agency Address and Phone Number:

**Evaluator Information**

Printed Name:  
 Evaluator Position on Incident/Event:  
 Home Unit/Agency:  
 Home Unit /Agency Address and Phone Number:

**Incident/Event Information**

Incident/Event Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Reference (Incident Number/Fire Code): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Duration: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Incident Kind: Wildfire, Prescribed Fire, Wildland Fire Use, All Hazard, Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Location (include Geographic Area, Agency, and State): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Management Type (circle one): Type 5, Type 4, Type 3, Type 2, Type 1, Area Command  
OR Prescribed Fire Complexity Level (circle one): Low, Moderate, High  
 FBPS Fuel Model Letter: G = Grass, B = Brush, T = Timber, S = Slash

**Evaluator's Recommendation**  
 (Initial only one line as appropriate)

- \_\_\_\_\_ **1)** The tasks initialed and dated by me on the Qualification Record have been performed under my supervision in a satisfactory manner. The trainee has successfully performed all tasks in the PTB for the position. I have completed the Final Evaluator's Verification section and recommend the trainee be considered for agency certification.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **2)** The tasks initialed and dated by me on the Qualification Record have been performed under my supervision in a satisfactory manner. However, opportunities were not available for all tasks (or all uncompleted tasks) to be performed and evaluated on this assignment. An additional assignment is needed to complete the evaluation.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **3)** The trainee did not complete certain tasks in the PTB in a satisfactory manner and additional training, guidance, or experience is recommended.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **4)** The individual is severely deficient in the performance of tasks in the PTB for the position and additional training, guidance, or experience is recommended prior to another training assignment.

Record additional remarks/recommendations on an Individual Performance Evaluation, or by attaching an additional sheet to the evaluation record.

Evaluator's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Evaluator's Relevant Qualification (or agency certification): \_\_\_\_\_

**Trainee Information**

Printed Name:  
 Trainee Position on Incident/Event:  
 Home Unit/Agency:  
 Home Unit /Agency Address and Phone Number:

**Evaluator Information**

Printed Name:  
 Evaluator Position on Incident/Event:  
 Home Unit/Agency:  
 Home Unit /Agency Address and Phone Number:

**Incident/Event Information**

Incident/Event Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Reference (Incident Number/Fire Code): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Duration: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Incident Kind: Wildfire, Prescribed Fire, Wildland Fire Use, All Hazard, Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Location (include Geographic Area, Agency, and State): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Management Type (circle one): Type 5, Type 4, Type 3, Type 2, Type 1, Area Command  
OR Prescribed Fire Complexity Level (circle one): Low, Moderate, High  
 FBPS Fuel Model Letter: G = Grass, B = Brush, T = Timber, S = Slash

**Evaluator's Recommendation**  
 (Initial only one line as appropriate)

- \_\_\_\_\_ **1)** The tasks initialed and dated by me on the Qualification Record have been performed under my supervision in a satisfactory manner. The trainee has successfully performed all tasks in the PTB for the position. I have completed the Final Evaluator's Verification section and recommend the trainee be considered for agency certification.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **2)** The tasks initialed and dated by me on the Qualification Record have been performed under my supervision in a satisfactory manner. However, opportunities were not available for all tasks (or all uncompleted tasks) to be performed and evaluated on this assignment. An additional assignment is needed to complete the evaluation.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **3)** The trainee did not complete certain tasks in the PTB in a satisfactory manner and additional training, guidance, or experience is recommended.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **4)** The individual is severely deficient in the performance of tasks in the PTB for the position and additional training, guidance, or experience is recommended prior to another training assignment.

Record additional remarks/recommendations on an Individual Performance Evaluation, or by attaching an additional sheet to the evaluation record.

Evaluator's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Evaluator's Relevant Qualification (or agency certification): \_\_\_\_\_