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Coordinating Group

# Interagency Fire Use Module Operations Guide



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*Sponsored for NWCG publication by the NWCG Fire Use Working Team. Questions regarding content of this publication may be directed to the NWCG Fire Use Working Team members and agency representatives. See listing at <http://www.nwcg.gov/teams/fuwt/index.htm> for contact information.*

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*This publication is available for download at [www.nwcg.gov](http://www.nwcg.gov)*

## PREFACE

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*“Interagency Fire Use Module Operations Guide”* provides standardized procedures and expectations for Fire Use Modules, specifically associated with the planning and implementation of wildland fire use, hazardous fuels treatments and wildfire suppression. In addition, the *Interagency Fire Use Module Operations Guide* tiers directly to policy as defined in agency manuals.

Prior to implementing activities and operations under the standards in the *Interagency Fire Use Module Operations Guide*, local units must have ensured compliance with agency policy. In addition, an approved local employee/module handbook must be in place which identifies how the module interacts with the local unit. All actions implemented under this guide must also be consistent with local agency policy.

This *Interagency Fire Use Module Operations Guide* meets requirements of Federal Fire Policy Guiding Principle #9: “Standardization of policies and procedures among federal agencies is an ongoing objective.” This principle promotes the Interagency Fire Directorate task for common language and unified direction or guidance for agency/bureau manuals, directive handbooks, and guidelines.



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# **INTERAGENCY FIRE USE MODULE OPERATIONS GUIDE**

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

The objective of the *Interagency Fire Use Module Operations Guide* is to provide standards for the operations of all Fire Use Modules (FUM). These standards will be used by staff, supervisors, specialists, and technicians for planning, administering and conducting FUM operations. These standards are to be used as a measure of FUM qualifications, capabilities, and expected performance.

The individual home units shall provide direction, support, and review processes that ensure FUM operations are safe, effective, and meet the FUM operations standards as outlined in this document. Only those FUMs meeting the standards in this guide and having completed the FUM certification process (see Appendix B) shall be made available for mobilization as a Fire Use Module.

The National Wildfire Coordinating Group's Fire Use Working Team (FUWT) will facilitate any proposed revisions to the standards in this Guide. NWCG will approve these standards (Refer to Appendix B).

## **2 MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of the Interagency Fire Use Module Program is to develop and provide self-sufficient, multi-skilled fire professionals with a primary commitment to wildland fire use.

## **3 PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Interagency Fire Use Module Program is to conduct operations involving fire use and wildland fire with expertise in the areas of fire monitoring, ignition, holding and suppression, prescribed fire preparation and implementation support, hazard fuels reduction, and fire effects monitoring.

## 4 PROFESSIONAL ETHICS

Fire Use Modules acknowledge responsibilities to respective host agencies and to the wildland fire community as a whole. Members subscribe to this Code of Ethics to guide modules in the practice of wildland fire professionals:

- Perform only services we are qualified, trained, equipped, and experienced to do and that can be accomplished safely.
- Continue to educate ourselves in order to improve our qualifications and performance.
- Give earnest effort and provide our best professional advice in the performance of duties.
- Build our professional reputations on the integrity, quality, and cost effectiveness of our programs.
- Be accountable to supervisors, incident management teams, other colleagues, and to any home unit as a safe, productive, and professional resource.
- Conduct ourselves and our programs in accordance with the *Interagency Fire Use Module Operations Guide*, relevant Federal, Agency, State and local policies and all operational and safety procedures.
- Ensure the civil rights of others by treating every person with respect.
- Professional behavior will be exhibited at all times. Hazing, harassment of any kind, verbal abuse, or physical abuse by any employee toward any other person will not be tolerated.
- Endeavor to enhance public knowledge and promote understanding of the functions and achievements of the wildland fire community.



## 5 SUPPORT

### 5.1 Fire Use Working Team (FUWT)

The NWCG Fire Use Working Team (FUWT) has the primary responsibility to provide strategic oversight to the Interagency Fire Use Module Program. Proposed changes to policy and standards for the Interagency Fire Use Module Program are received by the FUWT from the Interagency Fire Use Module Steering Committee. The FUWT reviews and recommends changes in the Interagency Fire Use Module Program, and submits their recommendations for approval by the NWCG.

- A. FUWT discussions regarding FUM business may occur during regular bi-annual meetings, or as needed with meetings of the FUM Steering Committee or by electronic conferencing.
- B. FUWT is a charter entity under the NWCG comprised of representatives from the USDA-Forest Service, DOI-Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, State Forestry and The Nature Conservancy.

### 5.2 Interagency Fire Use Module Steering Committee

This Committee has the primary responsibility to provide leadership and representation for the Interagency Fire Use Module Program. The committee develops and maintains standards established in this *Interagency Fire Use Module Operations Guide*, establishes consistent national program coordination and implementation procedures, provides a means for proactive problem and issue resolution, evaluates organizational and staffing needs, facilitates the exchange of information between groups, and proposes changes in the interagency fire use module program to the NWCG through the FUWT.

### 5.3 State/Region/Geographic Area

Agency representatives at this level coordinate FUM development, and facilitate interagency and intra-agency requests for the modules.

### 5.4 Home Unit

FUMs require management oversight, administrative support, and facilities to accomplish their mission.

FUMs are local or regional resources meeting national interagency standards, and assist the home unit with other wildland fire, fuels, and resource management objectives

when not assigned to incidents or conducting training. Home units benefit from the skills, knowledge, and abilities of module personnel.

FUMs are available, as determined by their local/regional coordinator, to assist interagency wildland fire agencies in accomplishing their fire management missions.

The local host unit supervisor and the agency administrator shall:

- A. Oversee and coordinate the initial FUM certification process.
- B. Ensure the FUM program is in compliance with the *Interagency Fire Use Module Operations Guide*. It is required that the FUM Preparedness Review (Refer to Appendix E) be used annually for this purpose.
- C. Verify that the FUM is ready for initial incident assignment prior to the FUM being placed in available status, using the FUM Mobilization Checklist (Refer to Appendix D).
- D. Assist in career development and training of FUM personnel.
- E. Ensure that FUM health, safety and welfare needs are addressed.
- F. Provide administrative support such as personnel management, time and attendance, travel, purchasing, and fleet management.
- G. Provide adequate facilities for the FUM including: office space, phones, fax machine access and electronic communication, access to physical training facilities, equipment storage and fire equipment cache.

## 5.5 Finance

Wildland fire emergency accounts or receiving unit project accounts will be charged for FUMs travel, per diem, premium pay (overtime), and other support costs when on assignment.

FUMs will adhere to *NWCG Interagency Incident Business Management Handbook, PMS 902-1* procedures.

Per Diem rates for modules will follow agency guidelines.

## 5.6 Time Management

FUM personnel will adhere to work/rest guidelines of the *NWCG Interagency Incident Business Management Handbook, PMS 902-1*, and Federal Travel Regulations.

FUM leaders have the responsibility to shorten travel times when necessary to maintain module health and safety.

## 6 DISPATCHING & ORDERING PROCEDURES

### 6.1 Off Unit Assignments

For **all** off home unit assignments, FUMs will be ordered and moved through the established dispatch ordering channels by the resource ordering process. All local home unit supervisors and FUM leaders will work closely with their local dispatching office before and during the field season to facilitate smooth resource movement. Local mutual aid agreements will also be recognized in FUM dispatching and assignment. For current information, reference the *National Interagency Mobilization Guide, NFES 2092*.

To request a FUM, requesting units must adhere to the following steps:

- A. Fill out a ROSS order for “module; fire use” following the standard procedure through the local dispatch office.
- B. FUMs are responsible for maintaining their status in ROSS in coordination with local dispatch centers.

Prescribed fires are not considered emergencies. Therefore, it is recommended fire use module personnel be ordered during normal weekday work hours.

REQUESTING UNIT SHOULD PLACE RESOURCE ORDERS AT LEAST **48 HOURS IN ADVANCE** FOR PRESCRIBED FIRES AND OTHER PROJECTS. IF THE WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY CHANGES, THE RESOURCE ORDERS CAN ALWAYS BE CANCELED.

FUMs will be referred to by the name associated with their district or local area (i.e., Summit, Black Hills, Unaweep, etc.)

### 6.2 Interagency Availability of Fire Use Modules

Fire Use Modules are available on an interagency basis for fire management assignments. Agencies can order FUM(s) to assist in burn preparation or hazard fuel reduction projects but should make assigned FUM(s) available to support fire use activities with fire on the ground unless the tasks being done are precursors to a priority project.

### 6.3 Interagency Mobilization Standards

The following minimum standards apply:

Standard	FUM
Qualified personnel available for dispatch	7-10 people (with a core of 4 regular module members who will work as a unit for 90 days).
Personnel experience	No more than 2 members with less than one season of wildland fire experience.
Supervisory staff	Permanently assigned CRWB or ENGB (or higher) to FUM (PFT or WAE) who will mobilize with the FUM.
Availability period	Minimum of 90 days annually. (Including required days off).
Mobilization time	Within 2 hours of receipt of resource order when on duty and 8 hours when off duty, during their availability period.
Dispatch restrictions	Determined by sponsoring agency.
Assigned equipment	Vehicles, hand tools, power saws and communications equipment configured for their needs (see equipment list section 6.8).
Leadership depth	Break down into at least two groups with minimum leadership being qualified single resource boss for each team.
Logistical self-sufficiency	Authorization to utilize credit card or agency purchasing authority.

### 6.4 Availability Periods

The dates when the FUM is fully staffed to the minimum of seven and personnel status will be shown in ROSS. All members shown in the roster will have 14 days of availability upon initial assignment.

### 6.5 Module Organization

All Fire Use Modules are comprised of seven to ten individuals in the following positions:

- One FUM Leader
- One Assistant FUM Leader
- Two Squad Bosses/Senior Firefighters
- Crewmembers, trainees, apprentices, fill-ins and/or detailers as scheduled

Fire Use Module Leaders are responsible for keeping home unit dispatch informed of changes in their status and location in order to maintain, track and ensure availability, and to coordinate any personnel changes with the receiving unit/incident management team.

## 6.6 Incident Guidelines

Fire Use Module personnel are dedicated to fire use, wildland fire suppression incidents and fuels management activities. FUMs can be assigned to other operations or emergency incidents, subject to the following limitations but meeting all the requirements of the *NWCG Interagency Incident Business Management Handbook, PMS 902-1*:

- FUM members may be committed as single resources or suppression crewmembers as appropriate to maintain fire qualifications, obtain trainee assignments, etc.
- FUMs committed to incidents will be unavailable for other assignments until officially released from an incident.
- FUMs must be mobilized and demobilized through the established interagency resource ordering process.

Receiving units should complete a performance rating, to provide feedback, identify training needs, and evaluate module performance, as the Fire Use Module is released from an assignment. FUM Leaders are responsible for supplying these evaluation forms to the requesting unit and sending completed copy to the home unit.

## 6.7 Incident Support

FUMs are self-contained and self-sufficient in most aspects. The ordering incident will be expected to supply the FUMs with needed supplies depending on method of transport and specific needs to that assignment. Dialogue between the FUM leader and ordering/receiving unit is essential in meeting expectations of the unit, assignment, and program. Replacement or repair of those items or supplies consumed, damaged or destroyed on an incident or project will be coordinated through the home unit for that incident or project. Whenever possible those replacements or repairs will be documented on a resource order prior to leaving that activity, and adhere to the guidelines in the *NWCG Interagency Business Management Handbook, PMS 902-1*.

## 6.8 Minimum Equipment Standards

### 6.8.1 Ordering Via Ground Transportation

FUMs will come equipped with the following, minimum tool compliment, when arriving via ground transportation:

<b>Equipment</b>
All appropriate PPE
Assigned module vehicles (minimum 2)
Cellular Telephones (minimum 2)
Travel credit card
Purchase card
Chain saws (minimum 4) with fuel and oil
Firing devices (fusees and minimum 4 driptorches)
Firefighting hand tools: Shovels, pulaskis, McCleods, and other tools appropriate to region of assignment
Programmable hand held radios (minimum 5)
Tents and sleeping gear, all weather
Extended (10-14 days) backcountry camp and cooking equipment
Water filtration system
Medical kits (minimum 1 10-person kit)
Drinking water and food for 48 hours
Laptop Computer capable of archiving data and photos (2)
Digital Cameras with software (2)
GPS units with logging capability (5)
Belt weather kits (7)
Fuel transect/plot sampling equipment
Binoculars (2)
Fire Use Module Field Guide w/forms

### 6.8.2 Ordering Via Air Transportation

FUMs will come equipped with the following, minimum tool compliment, when delivered via aircraft:

<b>Equipment</b>
All appropriate PPE
Cellular Telephones (2)
Travel credit card
Purchase Card
Programmable hand held radios (5)
Tents and sleeping gear, all weather
Extended (10-14 days) backcountry camp and cooking equipment (except stove and fuel)

Water filtration system
Medical kits (minimum one 10-person kit)
Laptop Computer capable of archiving data and photos (2)
Digital Cameras with software (2)
GPS units with logging capability (5)
Belt weather kits (7)
Binoculars (2)
Fire Use Module Field Guide w/forms

The **receiving unit** has the responsibility to communicate with the assigned FUM to establish expectations and the need to bring specific equipment. Some items are heavy and would require excess baggage authorization so being able to supply locally or knowing they will not be needed will save time and money.

The **receiving unit** will need to provide the following when FUMs are delivered by aircraft:

Equipment	Receiving Unit
Assigned FUM vehicles (minimum 2), one vehicle to transport saws, fuel and hand tools as assigned. (may be agency provided or authorized as rental vehicles)	Yes
Chain saw kits with fuel and oil (2)	Yes
Firing devices (as appropriate to the assignment)	Yes
Firefighting hand tools Shovels, pulaskis, and other tools appropriate to region of assignment	Yes
Drinking water and food or access to grocery store and food storage (coolers, dry boxes, and/or bear proof containers); or other means appropriate to the assignment (fire camp, restaurant, etc).	Yes
Camping stove and fuel	Yes
Fuel transect/plot sampling equipment (if needed)	Yes

## 7 STAFFING

FUMs shall be staffed to provide skilled personnel to accomplish the agency mission. Each FUM will contain a minimum of two leadership positions that are capable of and experienced in supervising when the FUM is split into two separate squads. A trainee or detailer in these supervisory/lead positions will be in addition to module core positions, until such time as that individual is qualified to function independently in these positions.

### 7.1 Minimum Qualifications

The following are minimum qualifications for dispatch (qualifications are not tied to a particular position within the FUM). All qualifications will adhere to the standards published in the *NWCG NIIMS Wildland Fire Qualification System Guide, PMS 310-1*. Additional incident qualifications will be pursued at the discretion of each FUM member and their supervisor.

Fire Use Module Minimum Qualifications:

- (1) CRWB or ENGB - Single Resource Boss
- (1) FIRB – Firing Boss (separate from CRWB/ENGB)
- (1) ICT4 – Incident Commander Type 4
- (1) ICT5 – Incident Commander Type 5 (separate from single resource positions)
- (2) FEMO – Fire Effects Monitor
- (2) FFT1 - Advanced Firefighter (separate from single resource positions)
- (2) FALB - Faller Class B
- (1) HECM – Helicopter Crewmember
- (2) Medical First Responder (or higher qualification)

Home units will be responsible for recruitment of all FUM positions and detailer/trainee assignments. Recruitment should be based on standard Fire Use Module position descriptions and staffing needs.

### 7.2 Evaluations

The home unit supervisor will be responsible for the FUM Leader's supervision, evaluation and Individual Development Plan (IDP).

FUM Leaders will be responsible for the evaluations and IDP of the Fire Use Module members.

### 7.3 Operational Staffing

A FUM must have a minimum of seven (7) qualified individuals for dispatch off unit.



One of the members must be the FUM Leader or Assistant, and no less than three others must be regular FUM members, for a minimum core of four personnel.

FUMs may have personnel available for single resource assignments (e.g., details to write burn plans, training, perform fire effects work, suppression assignments) provided that the assignment does not compromise the availability of the FUM during their established field season nor compromise crew performance during an assignment.

When FUMs are short-staffed, substitutes or fill-ins from other programs may augment the FUM. If FUMs are fully staffed, regular personnel should not be displaced, unless agreed upon by the home unit supervisor and FUM Leader.

Back filling individuals must be qualified, or designated as a trainee, as shown on their *Incident Qualification Card (NFES 1528 PMS 310-3)* at a level commensurate with the position being filled and meet the FUM's fitness standards.

The FUM must provide logistical support for outside personnel detailed to the Fire Use Module.

#### 7.4 Performance and Accountability

The host incident Fire Management Office or Incident Commander will make recommendations to the module's home unit in the event a Fire Use Module fails to meet the following minimum set of performance criteria:

- A. Failure to maintain availability at minimum standard for FUM.
- B. Failure to maintain 4 core personnel.
- C. Unsatisfactory documented performance as a FUM.

Potential recommendations enacted by the FUM's home unit could include, but are not limited to: 1) FUM unavailable for off-unit assignments until minimum standards are met; and/or 2) performance issues are resolved.

#### 7.5 Position Descriptions

Position descriptions for FUMs will follow appropriate agency guidelines. While specific position descriptions of supervisory personnel may vary between FUMs, each FUM will provide the personnel to perform the following functions.

#### FIRE USE MODULE LEADER

The FUM Leader is a permanent employee, qualified as either a Single Resource Crew Boss and/or Engine Boss, with administrative and supervisory skills to conduct training and sufficient fire experience to provide capable leadership to the FUM. The FUM

leader is responsible for all FUM program management activities including certification that the FUM is available for incident assignment.

### ASSISTANT FIRE USE MODULE LEADER

Assists the FUM leader in all aspects of module management. This should be a career position.

### SQUAD BOSS

A FUM member with specialized skills and ability to lead up to seven people. This may be either a career or temporary position.

### SENIOR FIREFIGHTER/CREWMEMBERS

Fire Use Module members may be either a career or temporary positions, for up to five FUM members.

## 7.6 Target Qualifications

Target qualifications for each FUM are listed below (qualifications are not tied to a particular position within the FUM). All qualifications will adhere to the standards published in the *NWCG NIIMS Wildland Fire Qualification System Guide, PMS 310-1*. Incident qualifications will be pursued at the discretion of each FUM member and their supervisor.

- Incident Commander Type 3 (ICT3)
- Prescribed Fire Burn Boss II (RXB2)
- Prescribed Fire Burn Boss III (RXB3)
- Fire Use Manager 2 (FUM2)
- Division Supervisor (DIVS)
- Task Force Leader (TFLD)
- Strike Team Leader (STCR)
- Helicopter Manager (HELM)
- Faller B/C with crosscut certification.
- GIS Specialist (GISS)
- Field Observer (FOBS)
- Resource Advisor (READ)

## **TRAINING**

The home unit is responsible for initiating Individual Development Plans for Fire Use Module personnel and arranging the necessary training to enable employees to meet target qualifications.

The primary objective of training is to meet Fire Use Module target qualifications. Additional training may be given as needed for employee development and agency needs.

The FUM Leader will maintain records of each individual's qualifications and training needs. These will be available to requesting units in supporting employee development.

All training shall be documented.

The FUM Leader will give their home unit supervisor a list of training needs for FUM members.

### **7.7 Annual Training**

All personnel on a FUM must receive at a minimum the annual fire refresher training and other required annual training as required by agency policy.

### **7.8 Training Definitions**

#### **7.8.1 Annual Fireline Safety Refresher Training**

Annual Fireline Safety Refresher training will follow agency specific guidelines. This training must be accomplished prior to the FUM being available for initial dispatch. Training will include, but is not limited to, firefighter safety, fire behavior, and FUM operating procedures. This training is not inclusive of OSHA or agency specific requirements. The final responsibility for FUM availability will depend on the certification that all requirements for the FUM are complete. (Refer to Appendix D).

#### **7.8.2 Other Training**

Other training to be accomplished should be based on FUM and individual needs identified by the FUM Leader. Specific training objectives can be met through classroom training, field exercises, or on-the-job training.

#### **7.8.3 Field Exercises**

In addition to the classroom portion of the training program, FUM members will be required to demonstrate their physical ability to perform arduous duties while in the field. Field exercises are essential for team building. It gives supervisors an opportunity to

observe, assess, instruct, and evaluate individual FUM members in the fieldwork environment. It also provides supervisors the opportunity to develop communication and stress the basics of tool use and field safety. It gives FUM members an opportunity to familiarize themselves with FUM operations, practice proper and safe tool use, and develop FUM cohesion.

#### 7.8.4 Physical Fitness Training

As part of the training program, all FUM personnel will be required to participate in a minimum of 1 hour of physical fitness training, 5 days a week, during periods of non-fire assignments. The physical fitness-training program will focus on stretching, aerobic fitness, and strength building. All FUM personnel shall be notified of the current Arduous Duty fitness standard prior to the FUM startup date in order to allow individuals sufficient time to accomplish pre-fire season physical conditioning as set in agency policy and guidance.

#### 7.8.5 Fitness Standard

All Fire Use Module personnel must pass the annual arduous duty work capacity test. Anyone having not completed the testing process within the previous 12 months will not be available for operational assignments.

#### 7.8.6 Fitness Goal

As a part of fire line performance required of FUMs, the physical ability to perform arduous labor is critical to module morale, personal health and safety standards. All FUM personnel will strive to meet the following goals:

- ✓ 1.5 mile run in a time of 11:00 or less
- ✓ 45 sit-ups in 60 seconds
- ✓ 25 pushups in 60 seconds
- ✓ 7 pull-ups

## 8 SAFETY STANDARDS

Fire Use Modules shall comply with interagency and agency specific safety standards. Safety shall always be the first priority in all activities. It is the responsibility of all personnel to communicate safety concerns to others either immediately or through briefings and direct communication with assigned personnel.

Specific safety guidance includes:

- Agency-specific health and safety guides
- Job Hazard Analysis Process
- *NWCG Fireline Handbook, PMS 410-1*
- *Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations* (“The Red Book”)
- *NWCG Initial Response Pocket Guide, PMS 461*
- *Interagency Helicopter Operations Guide*, and agency-specific aviation guides
- *Interagency Aerial Ignition Guide, NFES 1080*
- *SAFENET*
- Department of Transportation Regulations governing Transportation of Hazardous Materials (each State has different regulations)

### Safety Compliance

Responsibility for compliance with these standards and the safe operation of a Fire Use Module ultimately lies with the FUM Leader.

A FUM program will be reviewed in the event it is unable to meet any of the above minimum criteria. Program reviews will be conducted by the local home unit supervisors and the FUM Leader.

## APPENDIX A REFERENCES

*Interagency Aerial Ignition Guide*

(<http://www.nifc.gov/policies/guides.htm>)

*Interagency Fire Use Module Field Guide*

(Available from NPS Fire Use Specialist, dan\_buckley@nps.gov)

*Interagency Helicopter Operations Guide (IHOG, NFES 1885)*

(<http://www.nifc.gov/policies/ihog.htm>)

*Interagency Hotshot Crew Operations Guide*

([http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/people/hotshots/IHC\\_Ops\\_Guide\\_revised-04\\_2.pdf](http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/people/hotshots/IHC_Ops_Guide_revised-04_2.pdf))

*Interagency Prescribed Fire Planning and Implementation Procedures Guide*

([http://www.nifc.gov/fire\\_policy/rx/rxfireguide.pdf](http://www.nifc.gov/fire_policy/rx/rxfireguide.pdf))

*Interagency Standards for Fire & Aviation Operations (“Red Book”)*

([http://www.nifc.gov/policies/red\\_book.htm](http://www.nifc.gov/policies/red_book.htm))

*Interagency Strategy for the Implementation of Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy*

([http://www.nifc.gov/fire\\_policy/pdf/strategy.pdf](http://www.nifc.gov/fire_policy/pdf/strategy.pdf))

*Modification of Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy Guidance*

([http://www.nifc.gov/fire\\_policy/mission/2008\\_mod\\_impl\\_fed\\_fire\\_policy.pdf](http://www.nifc.gov/fire_policy/mission/2008_mod_impl_fed_fire_policy.pdf))

*NPS Fire Use Module Operations Guide 2005*

(Available from NPS Fire Use Specialist, dan\_buckley@nps.gov)

*National Interagency Mobilization Guide, NFES 2092*

(<http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/mobguide/index.html>)

*NWCG Fireline Handbook, PMS-410-1*

(<http://www.nwcg.gov/pms/pubs/large.html>)

*NWCG Glossary of Wildland Fire Terminology, PMS 205*

(<http://www.nwcg.gov/pms/pubs/glossary/pms205.pdf>)

*NWCG Initial Response Pocket Guide, PMS 461*

(<http://www.nwcg.gov/pms/pubs/nfes1077/nfes1077.pdf>)

*NWCG Interagency Incident Business Management Handbook, PMS-902-1*

(<http://www.nwcg.gov/pms/pubs/large.html>)

*NWCG NIIMS Wildland Qualification System Guide, PMS 310-1*

([http://www.nwcg.gov/pms/docs/pms-310-1\\_2008.pdf](http://www.nwcg.gov/pms/docs/pms-310-1_2008.pdf))

*Review and Update of the 1995 Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy, January 2001.*

([http://www.nifc.gov/fire\\_policy/history/index.htm](http://www.nifc.gov/fire_policy/history/index.htm))

*Wildland Fire Use Implementation Procedures Reference Guide.*

([http://www.nifc.gov/fire\\_policy/pdf/wildland\\_fire\\_use\\_guide.pdf](http://www.nifc.gov/fire_policy/pdf/wildland_fire_use_guide.pdf))

## APPENDIX B CERTIFICATION PROCESS

### INTERAGENCY FIRE USE MODULE

***Interagency Fire Use Module Programs seeking to be recognized as Fire Use Modules will complete the following certification process. Prior to initiating this certification process, the supervisor/leader of a prospective Fire Use Module program will focus on the following elements for program development:***

- Peer evaluation and mentoring from existing Fire Use Modules or the Interagency Fire Use Management Teams (FUMT).
- Utilize the *Interagency Fire Use Module Operations Guide* and *Wildland Fire Implementation Guide* as the framework for program development.
- Develop administrative and supervisory support with the local home unit.
- Receive performance appraisals while on fire assignments.
- Initiate periodic performance reviews.

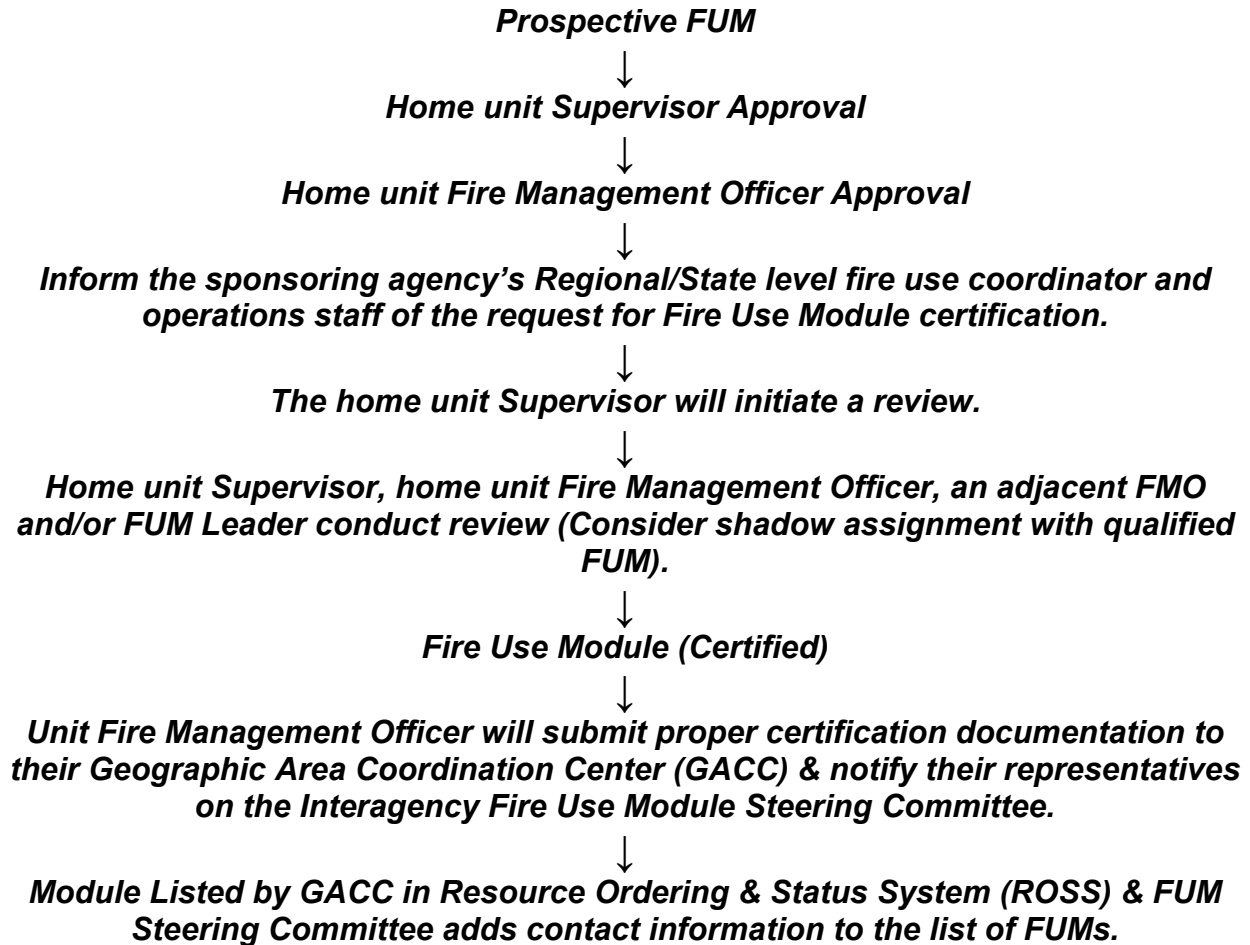
***The supervisor/leader of a prospective FUM program will initiate the certification process to become a fully qualified Fire Use Module through the following steps:***

1. Requests Fire Use Module certification with the home unit Supervisor and home unit Fire Management Officer\*.
2. The home unit Fire Management Officer will inform the sponsoring agency's Regional/State level fire use coordinator and operations staff of the request for Fire Use Module certification.
3. The home unit Supervisor will initiate a review. The review will include; the FUM (trainee) Leader, home unit Supervisor, home unit Fire Management Officer, an adjacent FMO and/or FUM Leader.
4. The home unit Fire Management Officer will be responsible for proper certification documentation and submission to their Geographic Area Coordination Center (GACC) and to the Interagency Fire Use Module Steering Committee.

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\* Home unit FMO is the Forest FMO for the Forest Service Modules.

**The following flow chart summarizes the certification process:**



**Documents used in the certification process:**

- Certification Review Process Checklist (Appendix C)
- Mobilization Checklist (Appendix D).
- Interagency Fire Use Module Preparedness Review (Appendix E).
- Foundational Skills of Interagency Fire Use Modules (Appendix F).



**APPENDIX C CERTIFICATION REVIEW PROCESS CHECKLIST**

**FIRE USE MODULE CERTIFICATION PROCESS**

**This form will be used to document the certification process needed to qualify as a Fire Use Module. Submit copies of the completed form along with all other completed checklists to the agency FUM Steering Committee representative, local dispatch and GACC.**

Home unit Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Fire Use Module Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Fire Use Module Leader: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Assistant FUM Leader: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
 FUM Address 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Location of Review: \_\_\_\_\_

<b><u>Review Completed by:</u></b>	<b>FUM Leader</b>	<b>Unit Supervisor</b>	<b>Unit FMO</b>	<b>FMO/ ML</b>
Does the module meet all the standards outlined in the IFUM Operations Guide	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Preparedness Review Completed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Foundational Skills Completed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mobilization Checklist Completed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Signatures of Completion:**

Fire Use Module Leader: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home unit Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home unit FMO: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Adjacent FMO/FUM Leader: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Copy to Steering Com:  Name of Member: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Copy to GACC:  Name of GACC: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Copy to Dispatch:  Name of Dispatch: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPENDIX D MOBILIZATION CHECKLIST**

**INTERAGENCY FIRE USE MODULES**

**This checklist is to be completed by the Fire Use Module Supervisor or their designee at the beginning of the fire season, prior to the FUM being made available for incident assignment as a resource. The signed documentation shall accompany the notification to the local Dispatch Center regarding the module’s initial availability.**

**STAFFING**

Are the following Fire Use Module supervisory positions filled with employees that meet or exceed the minimum qualifications as identified in the *Interagency Fire Use Module Operations Guide* ? (See Section 7.1)

<b>Position</b>	<b>Fully Qualified Career Employee</b>	<b>Fully Qualified Detailed Employee</b>	<b>Vacant</b>
FUM Leader	_____	_____	_____
Asst. FUM Leader	_____	_____	_____
Squad Leader	_____	_____	_____
Senior Firefighter	_____	_____	_____
Senior Firefighter	_____	_____	_____

**TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION**

Have all FUM members completed the Annual Fireline Safety Refresher Training? (See Section 7.8.1)

Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_ (explain)

Do all FUM members meet the agency’s current Arduous Duty fitness standard?

Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_ (explain)

**PREPAREDNESS**

Does the FUM meet the mobilization standards? (See Section 6.3)

Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_ (explain)

Does the FUM have adequate transportation and the required fire equipment? (See Section 6.8)

Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_ (explain)

Has the FUM undergone a Preparedness Review in the last 12 months? (Refer to Appendix E)

Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_ (explain)

**The \_\_\_\_\_ Fire Use Module is available for incident assignment.**

Fire Use Module Leader\_\_\_\_\_

Home Unit Supervisor or Designee\_\_\_\_\_ *Signature and title*

Date\_\_\_\_\_

**APPENDIX E      PREPAREDNESS REVIEW**

**INTERAGENCY FIRE USE MODULE**

<b>Crew Name:</b>		<b>Home unit/Address:</b>	
<b>Fire Use Module Personnel Roster:</b> <i>(Name/Working Title)</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1.</li><li>2.</li><li>3.</li><li>4.</li><li>5.</li><li>6.</li><li>7.</li><li>8.</li><li>9.</li><li>10.</li></ol> <p style="text-align: center; opacity: 0.5; font-size: 48px; transform: rotate(-15deg);">DRAFT</p>		

**Functional Area: A: Program Management**

Code	Criteria Description	Remarks
A1.	Does the FUM have the following program documentation and is it current: Safety Plan? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Training Plan? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Physical Fitness Training Plan? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Recruitment/Staffing Plan? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Current Fiscal Year Budget? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
A2.	Are the following references available to the entire FUM and are they current: Employee Handbook? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Job Hazard Analysis (JHA) forms? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Health and Safety Code Handbook? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No NWCG Fireline Handbook, PMS 410-1? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No MSDS Sheets? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Incident Response Pocket Guide? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
A3.	Have time and travel administration procedures been established for all FUM personnel? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
A4.	Does the FUM maintain a record of incident assignments, fire and non-fire work hours, travel logs, and injury reports? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
A5.	Does the FUM have current FUM status with the appropriate Geographic Area Coordination Center? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
A6.	Did the FUM Leader and home unit Agency Administrator (or their designee) co-sign documentation to verify the Module is ready for incident assignment as specified in Appendix D of the <i>Interagency Fire Use Module Operations Guide</i> ? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

**Functional Area: B: Organization**

Code	Criteria Description	Remarks
B1.	Does the FUM currently meet the minimum supervisory staffing requirements? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
B2.	Do the personnel on the FUM meet the minimum fire qualification requirements for their assigned positions? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
B3.	No more than two personnel on the FUM have less than one season of fire experience? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
B4.	Have all personnel on the FUM been issued a current Red Card? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

Code	Criteria Description	Remarks
B5.	Does the FUM have a complete manifest that includes all personnel and equipment weights and does this manifest show the FUM members to be within the maximum allowable weight for fixed-wing transport? (See <i>National Mobilization Guide, NFES 2092</i> , Chapter 13.8) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
B6.	Does the FUM have a 24 hour/7 day contact and call out procedure in place with the host unit dispatch center? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
B7.	Does the FUM work and train together for the duration of their availability period? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
B8.	Do personnel on the FUM maintain emergency medical qualifications that meet sponsor agency requirements (EMTs, Emergency First Responders, etc)? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
B9.	Do the assigned drivers on the FUM meet agency and state commercial vehicle operator certification requirements for the type of vehicles assigned? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
B10.	Do the assigned sawyers on the FUM meet agency chainsaw operator certification requirements? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
B11.	Are there at least two (2) supervisory individuals on the FUM with credit card purchase authority? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

**Functional Area: C. Safety and Training**

Code	Criteria Description	Remarks
C1.	Has the FUM completed the training requirement as specified in Appendix C of the Interagency Fire Use Module Program prior to availability? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
C2.	Have all personnel on the FUM been tested for and met the current Arduous Duty fitness standard? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
C3.	Have all personnel on the FUM completed sponsor agency mandatory training? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
C4.	Have all personnel on the FUM been provided with written Rules of Conduct? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
C5.	Has the FUM been provided an orientation by management from the local home unit? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
C6.	Does the FUM have access to a training library and materials that will enable them to complete all training requirements? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
C7.	Does the FUM maintain training and qualification records for all personnel? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

Code	Criteria Description	Remarks
C8.	Have all personnel on the FUM been issued the appropriate Position Task Book for their next target fireline qualification? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
C9.	Does the FUM participate in a daily physical training program for at least 1 hour? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
C10.	Does the FUM Physical Fitness Training Plan outline a safe and effective daily workout routine? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
C11.	Does the FUM Safety Plan include regularly scheduled safety meeting and are they documented? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
C12.	Does the FUM utilize an After Action Review or other critique process to review incident assignments? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
C13.	Is there an easily accessible employee bulletin board and does it have current/useful information posted? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

**Functional Area: D. Vehicles and Equipment**

Code	Criteria Description	Remarks
D1.	Are the vehicles assigned to the FUM appropriate for the highway and off-road transportation demands typically made on an Interagency Fire Use Module program? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
D2.	Are all FUM vehicles fire ready, with current maintenance needs complete, valid credit cards, log books that are up to date, and exterior unit identification designators? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
D3.	Are all FUM vehicles set up with two-way radios and is there a posted radio frequency list in the cab? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
D4.	Do all FUM vehicles have available fire extinguishers, first aid kits, chock blocks, flares/warning triangles, jumper cables, tow chain, jack and lug wrench? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
D5.	Do all FUM vehicles adhere to DOT regulations for transport of hazardous and flammable materials? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
D6.	Are the passenger areas within the FUM vehicles adequate to transport all FUM personnel? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
D7.	Do the equipment storage compartments on the FUM vehicles have posted inventory lists and are they stocked to that level? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
D8.	Do the FUM vehicles carry adequate food and water to enable the FUM to be completely self-sufficient on fire assignment for 24 hours? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

**Functional Area: D. Vehicles and Equipment**

Code	Criteria Description	Remarks
D9.	Does the FUM have the appropriate field gear including PPE, fireline packs, individual gear bags, sleeping bags and tents? Also equipment, Cargo packs in good condition to outfit all module personnel and support them during off-unit assignments? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
D10.	Does the FUM have at least four (4) chainsaws and adequate chainsaw support equipment, in good condition, onboard FUM vehicles, readily available for fireline operations? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
D11.	Does the FUM have adequate firing equipment, in good condition, onboard FUM vehicles, readily available for fireline operations? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
D12.	Does the FUM carry at least five (5) programmable/multi-channel handheld radios, in good condition, to meet operational needs? Does the FUM have immediate access to backup radios in case of damage? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
D13.	Does the FUM have an adequate number of hand tools, in good condition, onboard FUM vehicles, readily available for fireline operations? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
D14.	Does the FUM carry adequate medical first aid supplies to meet individual needs and FUM needs at all times (incident, project, and at the station)? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
D15.	Does the FUM carry at least two (2) belt weather kits, in good condition, at all times? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

**Functional Area: E. Facilities**

Code	Criteria Description	Remarks
E1.	Does the FUM have 24 hour/7 day access to storage/cache facilities for equipment and supplies (chainsaws, hand tools, vehicle maintenance, hazardous/flammable materials, and a general fire cache)? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
E2.	Does the FUM have daily access to a ready room that can serve as a training facility? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
E3.	Does the FUM have daily access to a physical fitness training area? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
E4.	Does the FUM have adequate assigned office space with access to a telephone system? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
E5.	Does the FUM have access to a computer and the agency email system? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
E6.	Are all of the FUM facilities regularly inspected for safety and maintenance needs? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

**Functional Area: F: Proficiency Checks**

*This is a listing of skills that an Interagency Fire Use Module should have as a minimum. How the Proficiency Checks are conducted is up to the local unit. The intent is for the FUM Leader and Reviewing Official to verify the FUM being reviewed is proficient in these skill areas. This is a FUM proficiency check, all items do not necessarily apply to all crew members.*

Code	Criteria Description	Remarks
F1.	<p>Specialized Operations:</p> <p>Maintaining LCES in an uncontrolled fire line environment <input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p> <p>Manage geographically separate incidents <input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p> <p>Burn-out and backline organization <input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p> <p>Independently evaluate and implement operational action plans <input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p> <p>Design, operation and maintenance of fire management hydraulic systems <input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p> <p>Hand line construction <input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p> <p>Skilled in completing written structure assessments <input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p> <p>Structure triage, structure wrapping and interface fuels reduction <input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p>	
F2.	<p>Backcountry Capability:</p> <p>Self sufficiency for multiple days in back country fire environment including food, water and anticipated equipment for 5 to 7 days <input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p> <p>Use of “light hand” techniques including cross cut saw skills, leave no trace camping and MIST <input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p> <p>Ability to transport personnel and equipment using remote travel techniques <input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p>	
F3.	<p>Intelligence:</p> <p>Monitoring and documenting fire behavior <input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p> <p>Monitoring smoke quantities, dispersal and impacts <input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p> <p>Identifying and documenting fuels, slope, and aspect affecting current and foreseeable fire behavior <input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p> <p>Collection, measurement and documentation of live and dead fuel moisture <input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p> <p>Collection and identification of fuel load data <input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p> <p>Utilize fire behavior modeling programs <input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p> <p>Evaluate and document post fire effects <input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p> <p>Evaluate potential effectiveness of natural and constructed fire barriers <input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p>	



F4.	<p>Air Operations:</p> <p>Ability to manifest, assemble and facilitate external cargo for rotor wing aircraft</p> <p>Helicopter passenger safety</p> <p>Helicopter transport of flammables</p> <p>Directing helicopter drops by radio</p> <p>Helispot specifications</p> <p>Long line/Hover hook operations</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p>	
F5.	<p>Fire Weather:</p> <p>Consistent fire line weather and fire behavior monitoring and documentation</p> <p>Submitting, interpreting and providing feedback to spot weather forecasts</p> <p>Ability to initiate and maintain portable weather stations</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p>	
F6.	<p>Mapping:</p> <p>Skilled with GPS systems with the capability to transfer information to mapping software</p> <p>Wildland fuels and fire progression mapping</p> <p>Ability to use GIS technology to analyze fire data</p> <p>Ability to produce hard copy maps</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p>	
F7.	<p>Documentation:</p> <p>Skilled in preparing fire behavior and fuels condition monitoring documentation during ongoing incidents</p> <p>Ability to transmit onsite observations from remote locations</p> <p>Ability to assemble and organize large amounts of data in digital or hardcopy format</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p>	
F8.	<p>Demonstrated ability to use two-way radios (Dispatch contact protocol, local call sign system, programmable radio procedures).</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p>	
F9 .	<p>Demonstrated knowledge of basic individual communication responsibilities (briefings, debriefings, acknowledge messages, identify hazards, asking questions for clarification).</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p>	
F10.	<p>Demonstrated knowledge of the key components of the Fire Orders (LCES) and established protocol for Crew disengagement.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p>	
F11.	<p>Demonstrated knowledge of the differences between A Safety Zone and a Deployment Zone</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p>	
F12.	<p>Demonstrated ability to deploy fire shelters in various situations (individual, group, two people in one shelter, drop gear and run, with wind).</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>No</p>	

**Functional Area: G. Summary**

**Comments:**

**General preparedness of the Fire Use Module:**

**Items which are deficient:**

**Corrective action to be taken:**

**I have reviewed the Interagency Fire Use Module Program and certify the Fire Use Module meets the standards of the Interagency Fire Use Module Operations Guide.**

**Fire Use Module Leader** \_\_\_\_\_

**Reviewing Official** \_\_\_\_\_

**Reviewing Official** \_\_\_\_\_

*Home Unit Fire Management Officer Signature and title:*

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

## APPENDIX F FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS

# Foundational Skills of Interagency Fire Use Modules

The list below describes foundational skills for Interagency Fire Use Modules. This skill set serves as a frame to identify the expertise that can be expected when employing a Fire Use Module (FUM). Although individual FUM strengths will vary, these foundational skill sets can be expected from any certified Fire Use Module.

### Operations

1. Proficient in wildland fire tactical operations
  - a. Skilled<sup>†</sup> at maintaining LCES in an uncontrolled fire line environment.
  - b. Skilled in line construction with production rates similar to a Type 1 hand crew at similar crew strength.
  - c. Skilled at conducting burn-out and black line operations.
  - d. Skilled in the design, operation and maintenance of fire management hydrologic systems. Including pumping, hose lays and structure protection sprinkler systems.
  - e. Ability<sup>‡</sup> to independently evaluate and implement operational action plans (i.e. Trigger Points – Management Action Points)
  - f. Ability to document and manage geographically separate incidents
  - g. Ability to manifest, assemble and facilitate external cargo for rotor-wing aircraft.
2. Point protection skills
  - a. Skilled at completing written structure assessments
  - b. Skilled in structure wrapping, interface fuels reduction during ongoing incidents.
  - c. Ability to perform structure triage.

### Prescribed fire

- a. Skilled at ignition of prescribed fire at the moderate complexity level
- b. Skilled in prescribed fire holding actions during moderate complexity prescribed fires
- c. Ability to plan and implement an interagency prescribed burn plan.

### Intelligence

1. Fire environment assessment skills
  - a. Skilled at safely monitoring and documenting fire behavior.
  - b. Skilled at monitoring smoke quantities, dispersal and impacts to sensitive receptors.
  - c. Skilled at identifying and documenting fuels, slope and aspect affecting current and foreseeable fire behavior.
  - d. Skilled at the collection, measurement and documentation of live and dead fuel moisture

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<sup>†</sup> Skilled - has previous accomplishing the skill element and can complete with limited support

<sup>‡</sup> Ability – has been trained in this skill element

- e. Skilled at collection and identification of fuel load data (e.g. Browns transects, photo series)
- f. Ability to utilize fire behavior modeling programs.
- g. Ability to evaluate and document post fire effects.
- h. Ability to evaluate the potential effectiveness natural and constructed fire barriers.

2. Fire Weather

- a. Skilled at consistent fire line weather monitoring and documentation
- b. Skilled at submitting, interpreting and providing feedback to Spot weather forecasts.
- c. Ability to initiate and maintain portable weather stations.

3. Mapping skills

- a. Skilled with GPS systems with the capability to transfer information to mapping software.
- b. Skilled at wildland fuels and fire progression mapping.
- c. Ability to use GIS technology to analyze fire data
- d. Ability to produce hard copy maps.

Backcountry Capability

- a. Skilled at operating self-sufficiently for multiple days in back-country fire environment including food, water, and anticipated equipment for 5-7 days.
- b. Skilled in the use of the minimum tool and “light hand” techniques including cross-cut saw skills, leave no trace camping, and MIST.
- c. Ability to transport personnel and equipment using remote travel techniques.

Documentation

- a. Skilled in preparing fire behavior and fuels condition monitoring documentation during ongoing incidents.
- b. Ability to transmit onsite observations from remote locations.
- c. Ability to assemble and organize large amounts of data in digital or hardcopy format.

Planning

- a. Ability to provide intelligence and feedback for the effectiveness of long-duration fire plans.