

NWCG Task Book for the Position of:

**EXPANDED DISPATCH COORDINATOR
(CORD)**



PMS 311-56

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 positions for which it was developed. Each position task book builds on tasks from previous prerequisite position task books. 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:**

EXPANDED DISPATCH COORDINATOR

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.

Expanded Dispatch Coordinator (CORD)

Competency: Assume position responsibilities.

Description: Successfully assume role of Expanded Dispatch Coordinator and initiate position activities at the appropriate time according to the following behaviors.

TASK	C O R D E	EVAL. RECORD #	EVALUATOR: Initial & date upon completion of task
Behavior: Gather, update, and apply situational information relevant to the assignment.			
1. Gather information necessary to assess situation, determine priorities, and take action as appropriate. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Schedule initial and/or transition meeting(s) upon arrival.</i> 	O		
Behavior: Establish effective relationships with relevant personnel.			
2. Conduct self in a professional manner. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Respectful and courteous.</i> • <i>Respectful of public and private property.</i> 	I		
3. Establish and maintain positive interpersonal and interagency working relationships.	I		
Behavior: Establish organization structure, reporting procedures, and chain of command of assigned resources.			
4. Manage impacts from forces external to expanded dispatch operations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Identify political/social/economic/sensitive issues early and deal with them in a professional and timely manner.</i> • <i>Maintain environment where dispatchers are able to work free of external forces.</i> • <i>Implement/execute technologies to benefit operations.</i> 	I		

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

Expanded Dispatch Coordinator (CORD)

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 R D E	EVAL. RECORD #	EVALUATOR: Initial & date upon completion of task
Behavior: Model leadership values and principles.			
5. Exhibit principles of duty. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Be proficient in your job, both technically and as a leader.</i> • <i>Make sound and timely decisions.</i> • <i>Ensure tasks are understood, supervised and accomplished.</i> • <i>Develop your subordinates for the future.</i> 	I		
6. Exhibit principles of respect. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Know your subordinates and look out for their well-being.</i> • <i>Keep your subordinates informed.</i> • <i>Build the team.</i> • <i>Employ your subordinates in accordance with their capabilities.</i> 	I		
7. Exhibit principles of integrity. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Know yourself and seek improvement.</i> • <i>Seek responsibility and accept responsibility for your actions.</i> • <i>Set the example.</i> 	I		
Behavior: Ensure the safety, welfare, and accountability of assigned personnel.			
8. Provide for the safety and welfare of assigned resources. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Recognize, mitigate and communicate potentially hazardous situations.</i> • <i>Monitor condition of assigned resources.</i> • <i>Account for assigned resources.</i> • <i>Provide for care of assigned personnel and notify supervisor in event of sickness, injury, or accident.</i> 	I		

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

Expanded Dispatch Coordinator (CORD)

TASK	C O R D E	EVAL. RECORD #	EVALUATOR: Initial & date upon completion of task
Behavior: Establish work assignments and performance expectations, monitor performance, and provide feedback.			
9. Complete daily review of staffing requirements and ensure adequate personnel to meet needs.	I		
10. Develop schedule/assignments based on Incident Action Plan (IAP) or relevant plan.	I		
11. Ensure subordinates understand assignment for operational period.	I		
12. Delegate appropriately.	I		
13. Continually evaluate performance. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Communicate deficiencies immediately and take corrective action.</i> • <i>Provide training opportunities where available.</i> • <i>Complete personnel performance evaluations according to agency guidelines.</i> 	I		
14. Monitor performance of incident support organization and dispatch/coordination systems. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Orders filled within reasonable time frames</i> • <i>Adherence to recognized dispatch principles</i> • <i>Cost-effective actions implemented</i> • <i>Adequate staffing for present and future needs</i> • <i>Incident support organization operating successfully</i> 	I		
Behavior: Emphasize teamwork.			
15. Establish cohesiveness among assigned resources. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Provide for open communication.</i> • <i>Seek commitment.</i> • <i>Set expectations for accountability.</i> • <i>Focus on the team result.</i> 	I		

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

Expanded Dispatch Coordinator (CORD)

TASK	C O R D E	EVAL. RECORD #	EVALUATOR: Initial & date upon completion of task
Behavior: Coordinate interdependent activities.			
16. Interact successfully with Agency Administrators, fire management personnel, Multi-Agency Coordinating (MAC) group, Incident Management Teams (IMTs), comptroller, contractors, and/or other entities/parties. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Describe/interpret contracts, agreements, Memorandums of Understanding (MOU), and plans.</i> • <i>Conduct operations within policy/legal constraints.</i> 	I		
17. Interface with public affairs.	I		

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

Expanded Dispatch Coordinator (CORD)

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 R D E	EVAL. RECORD #	EVALUATOR: Initial & date upon completion of task
Behavior: Ensure relevant information is exchanged during briefings and debriefings.			
18. Ensure timely/accurate reporting and briefings occur. • <i>Communicate in timely, clear manner.</i>	I		
19. Participate in briefings and After Action Reviews (AAR).	I		
20. Coordinate the safe, effective and orderly demobilization of incident resources and the incident support organization. • <i>Attend appropriate closeout and/or team transition meeting(s).</i>	I		
Behavior: Ensure documentation is complete and disposition is appropriate.			
21. Ensure documentation is completed as required. • <i>Meeting minutes</i> • <i>Reports</i> • <i>Press releases</i> • <i>Incident files</i>	I		
Behavior: Communicate and ensure understanding of work expectations within the chain of command and across functional areas.			
22. Ensure the development and display of information to assist decision makers in keeping abreast of the total situation. • <i>Agency Administrators</i> • <i>Fire management personnel</i> • <i>Comptrollers</i>	I		

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

Expanded Dispatch Coordinator (CORD)

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 R D E	EVAL. RECORD #	EVALUATOR: Initial & date upon completion of task
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Behavior: Gather, analyze, and validate information pertinent to the incident or event and make recommendations for setting priorities.

23. Advise Agency Administrators and/or MAC group and facilitate implementation of their decisions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Gather and analyze data, develop alternatives, and make recommendations.</i> • <i>Provide the data for priority setting and allocation of resources and other decisions.</i> • <i>Implement management direction through expanded dispatch and communicate to affected parties.</i> • <i>Recognize situations where an alternative method or course of action is warranted or appropriate.</i> 	I		
24. Gather and analyze pertinent information to set priorities and allocate resources as authorized. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Communicate direction to expanded dispatch and other affected entities.</i> 	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

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 Duration: _____
 Incident Kind: Wildfire, Prescribed Fire, Wildland Fire Use, All Hazard, Other (specify): _____
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- _____ **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): _____