



File Code: 5100

Date: August 15, 2000

Route To: Training Coordinators and Regional Fuel Management Specialists

Subject: FSH 5109.17 Letter Clarification

To: Regional Foresters and Area Director

This letter serves to clarify the direction issued in the June 19, 2000, letter signed by Janice McDougle regarding wildland prescribed fire and fire use position requirements as outlined in FSH 5109.17. The FSM 5140 and FSH 5109.17 will be reviewed after one year in effect to address regional concerns. If you have input, please submit the information to your Geographical Area Training Representative for discussion at their November 2000 meeting.

The following guidance and revisions to FSH 5109.17 are effective immediately:

a

Type 4 Incident (Initial Attack) - Chapter 20, page 7, paragraph 2a:

Remove: "An experienced and qualified Advanced Firefighter (FFT1) may be designated as Incident Commander."

Fire Use Manager (FUMA) - Chapter 20, page 95:

Individuals who have the prerequisite experience of RXB1 and have either (1) successfully managed a wildland fire use incident within two years of the effective date of FSH 5109.17 or (2) managed a wildland fire use incident and successfully completed S-580 or equivalent course may be certified as qualified in the FUMA position at the discretion of their Fire Qualification Review Committee. Qualifying experience must include full demonstration and understanding of policy changes and use of the WFIP planning process.

Remove: Training - Level 1: S-580 Advanced Fire Use Applications

List: Training - Level 2: S-580 Advanced Fire Use Applications

Prescribed Fire Planner (RXPL) - Chapter 20, page 96:

Individuals who have successfully prepared a complex (Type I) burn plan, which has been reviewed and approved by a qualified RXB1, within two years of the effective date of FSH 5109.17 may be certified as a qualified RXPL at the discretion of their Fire Qualification Review Committee.

List: Training - Level 1: S-490 Advanced Fire Behavior Calculations

Remove: Physical Fitness: Moderate

List: Physical Fitness: None



Prescribed Fire Burn Boss Type 3 (RXB3) - Chapter 20, page 98:

Individuals who have the prerequisite experience of FFT2 with three or more wildland fire or prescribed fire assignments and local knowledge of fuel and fire behavior (reference FSM 5140) may be certified as a qualified in the RXB3 position at the discretion of their Fire Qualification Review Committee.

Remove: Prerequisite Experience: Advanced Firefighter/Squad Leader

List: Prerequisite Experience: Firefighter 2 (FFT2)

Prescribed Fire Crewmember (RXCM) - Chapter 20, page 102:

Successful completion of all required training is needed to qualify for this position.

Remove: Currency: Firefighter 1 – Advanced Firefighter/Squad Boss

List: Currency: Firefighter 2 (FFT2)

Weather Observer - Chapter 20, page. 169:

Remove: Training - Level 1: S-430 Operations Section Chief

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mike Dudley, acting Assistant Director for Fire Ecology and Training, at 202-205-0995.

/s/ José Cruz

JOSÉ CRUZ

Director

Fire and Aviation Management

Cc:
Regional Training Officers
Regional Fuel Management Specialists

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United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Washington Office

14th & Independence SW
P.O. Box 96090
Washington, DC 20090-6090

File Code: 5100
Route To:

Date: June 19, 2000

Subject: 5109.17 Fire and Aviation Management Qualifications Handbook

To: Regional Foresters

The Fire and Aviation Management Qualifications Handbook (FSH 5109.17) has been issued with an effective date of May 18, 2000. This handbook serves as the primary position qualification requirements guide for Forest Service employees. FSH 5109.17 supplements the Wildland and Prescribed Fire Qualification System Guide, PMS 310-1, that provides national minimum requirements for wildland firefighting personnel. It also describes more specific skill levels and lists additional training to meet agency specific requirements.

Many of the handbook updates are associated with the Forest Service determination that additional classroom training is more effective in preparing Forest Service employees for position assignments. These training standards meet or exceed all National Wildland Fire Coordinating Group agency standards. As with the other agencies, the successful completion of a position task book is the primary indicator of qualification.

FSH 5109.17 is designed to establish a single qualification standard for the Forest Service. Regional Foresters can supplement fire and aviation management qualifications requirements only to comply with State or local law. Examples of State and local compliance include requirements related to first responders or hazardous materials. Additional experience, fitness, or training requirements for position qualifications are inappropriate. Physical fitness requirements for prescribed fire qualifications may be increased through a job hazard analysis. Please review the document in its entirety and implement it on your units.

/s/ Janice H. McDougle

JANICE H. McDOUGLE
Deputy Chief
State and Private Forestry



Cc:
Regional Training Officers

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Washington, D.C.

**FSH 5109.17 - FIRE AND AVIATION MANAGEMENT
QUALIFICATIONS HANDBOOK**

Amendment No. 5109.17-2000-7

Effective May 18, 2000

POSTING NOTICE. Amendments are numbered consecutively by Handbook number and calendar year. Post by document name. Place the Table of Contents in front of the Handbook. Retain this transmittal as the first page of this document. The last amendment to this Handbook was Amendment 5109.17-2000-6 to FSH 5109.17,10.

<u>Document Name</u>	<u>Superseded</u>	<u>New</u>
	<u>(Number of Pages)</u>	
5109.17, Contents		9

Digest:

5109.17, Contents - Changes the Handbook title to "Fire and Aviation Management Qualifications Handbook" (formerly "Wildland Fire Qualifications Handbook") and creates the title table of contents as a separate document.

MIKE DOMBECK
Chief

FSH 5109.17 - FIRE AND AVIATION MANAGEMENT
QUALIFICATIONS HANDBOOK
WO AMENDMENT 5109.17-2000-8
EFFECTIVE 05/24/2000

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

FSH 5109.17
FIRE AND AVIATION MANAGEMENT
QUALIFICATIONS HANDBOOK

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Washington, D.C.

FSH 5109.17 - FIRE AND AVIATION MANAGEMENT
QUALIFICATIONS HANDBOOK

Amendment No. 5109.17-2000-6

Effective May 18, 2000

POSTING NOTICE. Amendments are numbered consecutively by Handbook number and calendar year. Post by document name. Remove entire document and replace with this amendment. Retain this transmittal as the first page of this document. The last amendment to this Handbook was Amendment 5109.17-2000-5 to FSH 5109.17,10 Contents.

<u>Document Name</u>	Superseded	New	<u>(Number of Pages)</u>
10 thru 12			9
5109.17,10			1

Digest:

This amendment changes the Handbook title to "Fire and Aviation Management Qualifications Handbook" (formerly, "Wildland Fire Qualifications Handbook"), makes minor editorial and formatting changes, and adds the term "fire use" throughout chapter 10.

11.1 - Renumbers and revises exhibits 01 to 09. Adds the Area Command Organizational Chart (ex. 01). Adds Incident Commander Type 3, 4, and 5 positions and Safety and Information Officer Type 3 positions in the Command and Staff Organizational Chart (ex. 02). Corrects the position titles to current terminology in the Operations Section Organizational Chart (ex. 03). Adds the Human Resource Specialist position to the Planning Section Organizational Chart (ex. 05). Corrects position titles to current terminology in the Logistics Section Organizational Chart (ex. 06). Adds Prescribed Fire Use and Expanded Dispatch Organizational Charts (ex. 08 and 09).

12.04 - Sets out the authority of Regional Foresters to supplement the requirements in this Handbook only to comply with State or local law.

MIKE DOMBECK
Chief

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