



NATIONAL WILDFIRE COORDINATING GROUP

c/o Bureau of Indian Affairs
National Interagency Fire Center
3833 South Development Avenue
Boise, Idaho 83705

Memorandum

June 1, 2002

To: NWCG Members, Working Team Chairs, GACG Chairs, NMAC Chair

From: Chair

Subject: Crew Standards

During the May 2002 meeting, NWCG reviewed and discussed the recommendations from the Incident Operations Standards Working Team (IOSWT) for fire crew typing. This project has had considerable field input and comments that we have added into this final format. These standards include both short-term (2002) and longer-term implementation (2003 and beyond).

For fire season 2002, crew standards providing for Type I IHC, Type II, IA, Type II, and Type III proposed by the IOSWT at the May 2002 NWCG meeting are adopted, with the following changes:

1. The standard shall be titled *Minimum Crew Standards for Mobilization*.
2. Fireline capability of Type III crews will include fireline construction.
3. Leadership qualification for Type III crews will require one crew boss and two FFT1.
4. Communications requirements for Type III crews will require three programmable radios.

The only exceptions to the NWCG crew standard will be for crews where contract bids were secured prior to the issuance of this standard.

Beginning January 1, 2003, crew standards providing for the Type I IHC, Type I, Type II IA, Type II, and Type III crews are adopted with the following changes:

1. Fireline capability of Type III crews will include fireline construction.
2. The standard shall be titled *Minimum Crew Standards for Mobilization*.

I have attached the IOSWT tables that define all criteria used to identify each crew standard for the 2002 fire season and the January 1, 2003, standards listed above.

Attachments

MINIMUM CREW STANDARDS FOR MOBILIZATION
Effective 2002 Fire Season

Minimum Standards	Type I	Type 2 with IA Capability	Type 2	Type 3
Fireline Capability	Initial attack/can be broken up into squads, fireline construction, complex firing operations (backfire)	Initial attack/can be broken up into squads, fireline construction, firing to include burnout	Initial attack, fireline construction, firing to include burnout	Fireline construction, fireline improvement, mop-up and rehab
Crew Size	18-20	18-20	18-20	18-20
Leadership Qualifications	Permanent Supervision Superintendent: TFLD, ICT4 Ass't. Supt.: STCR, ICT4 3 Squad Bosses: CRWB(T), ICT5	CRWB and 3 ICT5	CRWB and 3 FFT1	CRWB and 2 FFT1
Experience	80% 1 season or more	60% 1 season or more	40% 1 season or more	20% 1 season or more
Full-Time Organized Crew	Yes	No	No	No
Communications	5 programmable radios	4 programmable radios	4 programmable radios	3 programmable radios
Sawyers	3 agency qualified	3 agency qualified	0	0
Training	80 hours annual training	Basic firefighter training and/or annual firefighter safety refresher	Basic firefighter training and/or annual firefighter safety refresher	Basic firefighter training and/or annual firefighter safety refresher
Fitness	Arduous	Arduous	Arduous	Arduous
Logistics	Self-sufficient	Not self-sufficient	Not self-sufficient	Not self-sufficient
Maximum Weight	5,100 lbs.	5,100 lbs.	5,100 lbs.	5,100 lbs.
Dispatch Availability	1 hour	Variable	Variable	Variable
Production Factor	1.0	0.8	0.8	N/A
Transportation	Own transportation	Transportation needed	Transportation needed	Transportation needed
Tools & Equipment	Fully equipped	Not equipped	Not equipped	Not equipped
Personal Gear	Arrives with: crew first aid kit, personal first aid kit, headlamp, 1 qt. canteen, web gear, sleeping bag	Arrives with: crew first aid kit, personal first aid kit, headlamp, 1 qt. canteen, web gear, sleeping bag	Arrives with: crew first aid kit, personal first aid kit, headlamp, 1 qt. canteen, web gear, sleeping bag	Arrives with: crew first aid kit, personal first aid kit, headlamp, 1 qt. canteen, web gear, sleeping bag
PPE	Arrives with: hard hat, fire resistant shirt/pants, 8@ leather boots, leather gloves, fire shelter, hearing/eye protection	Arrives with: hard hat, fire resistant shirt/pants, 8@ leather boots, leather gloves, fire shelter, hearing/eye protection	Arrives with: hard hat, fire resistant shirt/pants, 8@ leather boots, leather gloves, fire shelter, hearing/eye protection	Arrives with: hard hat, fire resistant shirt/pants, 8@ leather boots, leather gloves, fire shelter, hearing/eye protection

Notes:

Interagency Hotshot Crews (IHC) are Type I crews that exceed the Type I standards as required by the National IHC Operations Guide (2001) in the following categories:

- * Permanent supervision with 7 career appointments (Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, 3 Squad Bosses).
- * IHCs work and train as a unit 40 hours per week.
- * IHCs are a national resource.

MINIMUM CREW STANDARDS FOR MOBILIZATION
Effective January 1, 2003

Minimum Standards	Type I	Type 2 with IA Capability	Type 2	Type 3
Fireline Capability	Initial attack/can be broken up into squads, fireline construction, complex firing operations (backfire)	Initial attack/can be broken up into squads, fireline construction, firing to include burnout	Initial attack, fireline construction, firing to include burnout	Fireline construction, Fireline improvement, mop-up and rehab
Crew Size	18-20	18-20	18-20	18-20
Leadership Qualifications	Permanent Supervision Superintendent: TFLD, ICT4 Ass't. Supt.: STCR, ICT4 3 Squad Bosses: CRWB(T), ICT5	CRWB and 3 ICT5	CRWB and 3 FFT1	CRWB and 3 FFT1
Experience	80% 1 season or more	60% 1 season or more	40% 1 season or more	20% 1 season or more
Full-Time Organized Crew	Yes	No	No	No
Communications	5 programmable radios	4 programmable radios	4 programmable radios	4 programmable radios
Sawyers	3 agency qualified	3 agency qualified	0	0
Training	80 hours annual training	Basic firefighter training and/or annual firefighter safety refresher	Basic firefighter training and/or annual firefighter safety refresher	Basic firefighter training and/or annual firefighter safety refresher
Fitness	Arduous	Arduous	Arduous	Arduous
Logistics	Self-sufficient	Not self-sufficient	Not self-sufficient	Not self-sufficient
Maximum Weight	5,100 lbs.	5,100 lbs.	5,100 lbs.	5,100 lbs.
Dispatch Availability	1 hour	Variable	Variable	Variable
Production Factor	1.0	0.8	0.8	N/A
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*IHCs work and train as a unit 40 hours per week.

*IHCs are a national resource.