



NORTHERN ROCKIES COORDINATING GROUP

May 25, 2007

To: Operations Committee IMT Working Group
Through: Operations Committee Chairman

NRCG wishes to thank all of you who are participating on the working group to develop recommendations on numbers and types of IMT overhead teams in the future, and a special “thanks” to Chuck Stanich for leading the charge.

NRCG agrees with the recommendation the task group preferred. This recommendation meets with most of the objectives we would like to incorporate in a long term strategy. These are:

1. Work toward all teams having the capability of managing both suppression and fire use events. The Appropriate Management Response!
2. Work toward all teams having the ability to manage even the most complex of incidents. No team typing. This is also being considered at the national level. This one will be difficult.
3. Team size and configuration to be commensurate with the management organization needed for the assignment. One size does not fit all, again this is the Appropriate Management Response.
4. Maintain the greatest number of fully qualified teams as possible.
5. Maintain flexibility in the path we choose so as to be able to adjust easily to changing abilities, requirements and needs.

NRCG would like the Task Group to now take the next step and begin developing an implementation strategy to accomplish the recommended alternative. Please include in this strategy what options we should look at to take better advantage of S-520 to increase our overall capability.

NRCG has drafted, and will send, a letter to local government agency administrators to encourage participation from all levels and all areas of their organizations. Hopefully, this will help increase interest and participation in our overhead teams.

/s/ Thomas A. Corbin

THOMAS A. CORBIN

Chair, Northern Rockies Coordinating Group

Montana DNRC
Montana Firewardens Association
Montana Division of Disaster
and Emergency Services
MT Sheriffs and Peace Officers' Association

Bureau of Indian Affairs
Bureau of Land Management
National Park Service
US Fish and Wildlife Service

USDA Forest Service
Idaho Department of Lands
North Dakota Forest Service
Fire Chief's Association