

**Guide to Completing the Incident Complexity Analysis
(Type 1, 2)**

- If positive responses exceed, or are equal to, negative responses within any primary factor (A through G), the primary factor should be considered as a positive response.
- If any three of the primary factors (A through G) are positive responses, this indicates the fire situation is or is predicted to be of Type 1 complexity.
- Factor H should be considered after numbers 1–3 are completed. If more than two of the items in factor H are answered yes, and three or more of the other primary factors are positive responses, a Type 1 team should be considered. If the composites of H are negative, and there are fewer than three positive responses in the primary factors (A-G), a Type 2 team should be considered. If the answers to all questions in H are negative, it may be advisable to allow the existing overhead to continue action on the fire.

| Incident Complexity Analysis Type 1 & 2 | | YES | NO |
|--|--|------------|-----------|
| A. Fire Behavior (Observed or Predicted) | | | |
| 1. Burning index (from on-site measurement of weather conditions) predicted to be above the 90% level using the major fuel model in which the fire is burning. | | | |
| 2. Potential exists for extreme fire behavior (fuel moisture, winds, etc.). | | | |
| 3. Crowning, profuse or long-range spotting. | | | |
| 4. Weather forecast indicating no significant relief or worsening conditions. | | | |
| Total | | | |
| B. Resources Committed | | | |
| 1. 200 or more personnel assigned. | | | |
| 2. Three or more divisions. | | | |
| 3. Wide variety of special support personnel. | | | |
| 4. Substantial air operation which is not properly staffed. | | | |
| 5. Majority of initial attack resources committed. | | | |
| Total | | | |

| C. Resources Threatened | | |
|---|--|--|
| 1. Urban interface. | | |
| 2. Developments and facilities. | | |
| 3. Restricted, threatened, or endangered species habitat. | | |
| 4. Cultural sites. | | |
| 5. Unique natural resources, special-designation areas, wilderness. | | |
| 6. Other special resources. | | |
| Total | | |
| D. Safety | | |
| 1. Unusually hazardous fireline construction. | | |
| 2. Serious accidents or fatalities. | | |
| 3. Threat to safety of visitors from fire and related operations. | | |
| 4. Restrictions and/or closures in effect or being considered. | | |
| 5. No night operations in place for safety reasons. | | |
| Total | | |
| E. Ownership | | |
| 1. Fire burning or threatening more than one jurisdiction. | | |
| 2. Potential for claims (damages). | | |
| 3. Different or conflicting management objectives. | | |
| 4. Disputes over suppression responsibility. | | |
| 5. Potential for unified command. | | |
| Total | | |
| F. External Influences | | |
| 1. Controversial fire policy. | | |
| 2. Pre-existing controversies/relationships. | | |
| 3. Sensitive media relationships. | | |
| 4. Smoke management problems. | | |
| 5. Sensitive political interests. | | |
| 6. Other external influences. | | |
| Total | | |

| G. Change in Strategy | | |
|---|--|--|
| 1. Change in strategy to control from confine or contain | | |
| 2. Large amounts of unburned fuel within planned perimeter. | | |
| 3. Wildfire Decision Support System invalid or requires updating. | | |
| Total | | |
| H. Existing Overhead | | |
| 1. Worked two operational periods without achieving initial objectives. | | |
| 2. Existing management organization ineffective. | | |
| 3. Overhead overextended mentally and/or physically. | | |
| 4. Incident action plans, briefings, etc. missing or poorly prepared. | | |
| Total | | |

Signature

Date

Title

Time

NOTE:

The National Wildfire Coordinating Group has adopted the Organizational Needs Assessment to assist managers and firefighters with determining the type of organization necessary to manage an incident. Personnel should utilize the Organizational Needs Assessment in addition to this complexity analysis.

The Organizational Needs Assessment can be found at:
<http://www.wfmrda.org/policy.php>