

Chapter 20 – Overhead and Teams

Mobilization and Demobilization

Units responding to AICC overhead requests are responsible for ensuring the resources dispatched meet the criteria specified in this guide and/or the *Wildland Fire Qualification System Guide (PMS 310-1)*. Supplemental fitness requirements beyond those listed in the 310-1 may be specified on the order.

Requests will be processed as “Fully Qualified” unless “Trainee Acceptable” or “Trainee Required” is selected in ROSS. The NWCG qualifications and fitness standards apply for all positions unless an agency specifies additional requirements. Units filling requests are responsible for ensuring that all performance criteria are met.

Resource orders shall clearly indicate incident assignment, incident location, expected incident arrival time, and any additional special needs or equipment authorizations, e.g. cellular phones, laptops, and rental vehicles. All resource orders should have clear “Deliver To” locations; no resource order will be sent to NICC without a jetport as a “Deliver To” location.

Resources can normally be subsisted while on assignment within Alaska. If a request for assignment in or out of Alaska requires an individual be “self-sufficient”, they must be able to procure food, lodging and local transportation.

The AFS Fire Operations Duty Office is the point of contact for mobilization and demobilization of all Overhead and Crews going through Ft Wainwright.

Travel

Travel information for resources will be transmitted using the ROSS Travel function. Each travel segment will identify mode of travel, carrier(s) name with flight number(s), departure and arrival locations with estimated departure time and estimated arrival time (ETD/ETA) using the local time and time zone.

Individual travelers must relay their travel arrangements to their dispatch center for entry into ROSS.

For guidance on specific federal travel and time related issues refer to the *National Interagency Mobilization Guide* and the *Interagency Incident Business Management Guide*. For guidance on specific State of Alaska travel and time related issues, refer to the *DOF Alaska Incident Business Management Handbook*.

BLM Alaska Fire Service (AFS) Requests

AFS Zones, if unable to fill resource needs internally, will place requests directly to AICC. If federal or state resources are not available (including EFF/ADs) within Alaska, AICC will place the request(s) with NICC.

State of Alaska Division of Forestry (DOF) Requests

The State Logistics Center (SLC) is the state coordination center for DOF. They provide the coordination of incident resource mobilization within the state system. State of Alaska Division of Forestry Area offices will place requests for resources with SLC. If SLC is unable to fill the request from within their dispatch jurisdiction, they will place the request with AICC. AICC will fill the request with federal resources from within Alaska or place it with NICC if none are available within the region.

SLC also provides expanded dispatch support to area dispatch offices when wildland firefighting capability and resource availability for the area has been exceeded.

U.S. Forest Service (USFS) Requests

If U.S. Forest Service is unable to fill the request from within their dispatch jurisdiction, they will place the request with AICC. AICC will process the request within Alaska through normal dispatch channels or place it with NICC if unable to fill within Alaska. Refer to Chapter 10, Ordering Procedures, Diagram 10B of this guide.

Demobilization

AICC will coordinate with the agency/host dispatch office and incidents to determine statewide release priorities based on safety and cost considerations, current activity, predicted fire potential, and agency objectives. The following release priorities generally apply:

- Local initial attack resources
- National and regional shared resources
 - Out of geographic area resources
- Out of area and cooperator resources
 - Agreement/call-when-needed resources
 - Contract resources

Name Requests

Name requests for suppression or all-hazard incidents should be rare and are appropriate only for highly specialized positions or to meet specific agency objectives (name requests between state agencies, requests using budgeted, non-suppression or severity funding, priority trainee requests, etc.). The ordering unit must confirm availability and qualifications for the individual being requested prior to placing the request and provide a justification in Special Needs.

If the name request is for a Geographic Area Priority Trainee, special needs must reflect that it has been approved by the Geographic Area Priority Training Coordinator.

Refer to the *National Interagency Mobilization Guide* for more information.

Priority Trainee (PT) Program

A person may apply for two (2) trainee positions at a time with an initiate Position Taskbook. The PT list will be maintained and used by the Geographic Area Training PT designee/contact for both in and out of GACC trainee assignments for orders routed through the GACC.

PT positions to be supported by AWFCG:

1. Incident Commander Type 1-3
2. All Command Staff positions
3. All Logistics Section positions
4. All Finance Section positions including Incident Business Advisors; Buying Team Positions
5. All Planning Section positions
6. Operations Section positions Strike Team Leader and above
7. Air Operations positions Helicopter Manager or Single Engine Air Tanker Manager and above
8. All Dispatch, Coordination and Intelligence positions.

For more information, see *2018 Alaska Priority Trainee Program and Operating Procedures* on the AFS website.

<https://afs.ak.blm.gov/forms/training/Priority/2017%20Alaska%20Priority%20Trainee%20SOP%20and%20Application%20Form.pdf>

Technical Specialist Requests

A detailed description of position parameters is required in the ‘special needs’ block in ROSS for “Technical Specialist (THSP)” requests to be processed.

Interagency Wildland Fire Modules

Refer to the *National Interagency Mobilization Guide*.

Smokejumpers

There are approximately 70 BLM Alaska Fire Service smokejumpers based at Ft. Wainwright (FBK). Their primary mission is to aggressively and safely provide statewide initial attack and cabin/structure protection on wildland fires. Secondary missions include services such as paracargo, parachute loft, Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), air attack and prescribed fire operations. Smokejumpers may be used for heli-spot construction, project fire overhead, line crews, mop-up, and project work, to the extent that the primary mission is not compromised. Smokejumpers may be requested from AICC for tactical and logistic missions statewide.

Smokejumper booster crews will be ordered on Overhead orders from AICC to NICC when authorized by the AICC Center Manager or a designated Coordinator. The booster crew composition (Spotters, Smokejumpers and gear) will be specified based on a determination of needs by the Smokejumper Branch Chief or designee.

Refer to Chapter 50, *Ordering Tactical Resources* and *Mobilizing Smokejumpers for Initial Attack* sections for ordering procedures.

Smokejumper Gear Weights and Volume

Refer to the *National Interagency Mobilization Guide*.

Pilots – Lead Plane, Aerial Supervision Module and Smokejumper

For a complete list of Lead Plane, Aerial Supervision Module and Smokejumper pilot qualifications, refer to the following web site:

http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/logistics/aviation/Lead_Planes.pdf

Helicopter Module

Refer to the *National Interagency Mobilization Guide* and the *Interagency Helicopter Operations Guide (IHOG)* for standard helicopter module configurations. Federal personnel conduct helicopter operations as specified in the IHOG. State of Alaska employees are not required to adhere to IHOG, unless they are operating on a federally managed fire, or if they are conducting helicopter operations with a federal employee.

Alaska has an IHOG exemption for contract and CWN helicopters requiring only a Helicopter Manager (HMGB) for normal staffing. Additional requests for helicopter crewmembers (HECM) will be through normal dispatch channels.

Rappeller and Helicopter Manager Gear, Weights and Volume

Refer to the *National Interagency Mobilization Guide*.

Communications Coordinator

A Communications Coordinator will be activated by AICC at Alaska Preparedness Level 4 or as deemed necessary for safety. This position will report to the AICC Center Manager and provide statewide personnel, frequency, equipment and supply management. The position will be placed on an AICC order and requested through normal dispatch channels.

Flight Manager

Refer to the *National Interagency Mobilization Guide*.

Alaska Fire Medic Program

The Alaska Fire Medic Program (FMP) provides on-incident medical support. The State of Alaska DOF and AFS cosponsor the Alaska Fire Medic Program. The program, consisting of medical kits and Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs), is coordinated by Jon Thomas, the FMP Coordinator, an AFS Safety and Occupational Health Specialist.

Fire Medics are ordered as single resource Overhead requests and filled by the State Logistics Center (AK-LCSC). As each incident has unique needs, prior to placing requests, the dispatch office should contact the FMP Coordinator at (907) 356-5789 to ensure appropriately qualified Fire Medics are ordered. Fire Medic Program supplies are requested by dispatch offices directly to FMP Coordinator to fill.

For more detail, see the Fire Medic section of the *2018 Alaska Interagency Catalog of Fire Supplies and Equipment*.

Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)

FMP resources are the primary pool for all EMT requests placed with AICC. AICC will inform the FMP Coordinator of all EMT requests. The FMP Coordinator will identify a qualified resource for mobilization if available. If unavailable, the FMP Coordinator will notify AICC, and AICC will process the request through normal dispatch channels.

Wildland Fire Investigator (INVF)

A Fire Investigator may be requested by a jurisdictional agency through the local area dispatch center. Fire Investigators will be ordered through established dispatch channels.

Incident Meteorologist

All requests for Incident Meteorologists (IMET) are submitted to AICC.

Standard NWS equipment mobilized with an IMET includes: laptop computer, printer, mobile satellite setup and setup tools, cellular telephone, agency or rental vehicle appropriate for off-pavement use and miscellaneous office supplies. Refer to the *National Interagency Mobilization Guide*.

Cache Support Positions

Personnel can be ordered to assist fire caches during periods of high activity or when shortages of locally trained personnel impact cache operations. Cache support positions should be position specific.

National Incident Management Teams

Teams will be ordered by type using an overhead Group request in ROSS.

Type 1 Incident Management Team (IMT)

Alaska has one designated Type 1 IMT that rotates on the national call-out schedule. AICC will be notified when the team is third, second, and first up on the rotation, and will notify relevant dispatch centers so that they may advise their respective IMT Command Staff members. AICC will also publish a copy of the current roster on the GACC website. It is incumbent upon each team member to ensure his/her dispatch center statuses them as available and that their qualifications are accurate.

It is the responsibility of AICC to notify NICC of the internal commitment of the Type 1 IMT. For additional details, refer to the *National Interagency Mobilization Guide*.

IMT Configuration

Refer to the *National Interagency Mobilization Guide* for standard configurations. Any variation from the standard configuration will be negotiated between the Incident Commander and the Agency Administrator of the receiving unit. The Incident Commander or other point of contact will notify AICC of the additional position approval so that the requests for additional team members can be coordinated through the dispatch system.

Type 1 IMT Rotation Process

Refer to the *National Interagency Mobilization Guide*.

National Incident Management Organization (NIMO) Teams

Alaska does not host a NIMO team. Requests for Alaska NIMO team members will be processed by AICC via normal dispatch channels.

Refer to the *National Interagency Mobilization Guide*.

National Area Command Team

Refer to the *National Interagency Mobilization Guide*.

Type 2 Incident Management Team

Alaska has two designated Type 2 Incident Management Teams. The IC or single point of contact will submit their current roster to AICC at least 24 hours prior to their on call period, and AICC will publish this roster to the AICC website.

All Team members (primary, alternate, trainees, and mentees) are responsible for referencing Alaska Type 2 IMT documents on the AICC web site for procedures, team configuration, and alternate/trainee lists. Refer to the *National Interagency Mobilization Guide* for standard configurations. Team members are responsible for advising their respective dispatch organizations and the Incident commander or their Section Chief of any changes to their availability, status or qualifications. Team members are also responsible for statusing themselves in ROSS.

A team fire evaluation will be submitted to the Operations Committee Chair or other Program Managers by the IC within seven days of the teams release from incident.

Type 3 Incident Management Team

When the Alaska Geographic Area reaches Preparedness Level 3 Alaska may identify one or more Type 3 IMT to be available for assignment within the Geographic Area on an interagency basis. The agency operational leads from DOF, USFS, and BLM AFS with AICC will identify team members beginning with the Incident Commander (IC). The IC(s) will work with AICC to identify and fully roster the team(s). The team(s) will be available for one week at a time. Team members, including ICs, may be provided from either protecting or jurisdictional agencies. Alaska will be considered a "local dispatch area" for determining qualification levels for team members.

During periods of large scale national mobilization, Alaska may also identify one or more Type 3 IMT to be available for out of area assignment. Those teams identified for out of area assignment will meet qualifications in the *National Interagency Mobilization Guide*.

Teams will be available at the top of the national rotation list for one week at a time.

Incident Support Teams

Teams will be ordered using an Overhead Group request in ROSS with the exception of Aviation Safety Assistance Teams.

Overhead requests for specialized team member of nonstandard teams, such as After Action review teams, will be placed as Technical Specialist (THSP).

National Interagency Buying Team (BUYT)

Refer to the *National Interagency Mobilization Guide*.

Administrative Payment Team (APT)

Refer to the *National Interagency Mobilization Guide*.

Burned Area Emergency Response Team (BAER)

Refer to the *National Interagency Mobilization Guide*.

National Fire Prevention and Education Team (NFPET)

Refer to the *National Interagency Mobilization Guide*.

Wildland Fire and Aviation Safety Team (FAST)

Refer to the *National Interagency Mobilization Guide*.

Aviation Safety and Assistance Team (ASAT)

Refer to the *National Interagency Mobilization Guide*.

Serious Accident Investigation Teams (SAIT)

Refer to the *National Interagency Mobilization Guide*.