



Alaska Wildland Fire Coordinating Group

February 8, 2023

To: AWFCG Operations Committee

From: AWFCG

Subject: Transition to Complex Incident Management Team (CIMT)

U.S. Department of the Interior

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

State of Alaska

Department of Fish and Game
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Forestry and Fire Protection

Department of Environmental Conservation

U.S. Department of Agriculture

US Forest Service

Native Organizations

Association of Village Council Presidents

Chugachmiut

Tanana Chiefs Conference

Structural Fire Departments & other Organizations

Central Mat-Su Fire Department

With respect to the NWCG directive to assimilate Incident Management Teams (IMTs) into the new CIMT structure, AWFCG must develop the pathways for Alaska's IMTs and their members to transition by April 2024. While the interagency fire community has been working toward this goal, we are now on the final glidepath to implement this change.

Using the guidance from NWCG Memos 23-002, 23-002a, and 23-002b, AWFCG requests the Operations Committee to develop a transition plan for Alaska IMTs and their respective members to draft three deliverables:

1. Develop a CIMT transition plan for Alaska IMTs and their respective members that includes:
 - Develop a qualification process and training plan for AK CIMT members to serve in this new capacity,
 - Maintain successional planning for future CIMT members to advance their qualifications and assume CIMT positions in the coming years,
 - Addresses new training, task book, and experience requirements,
 - Defining alternative options for those IMT members who cannot fulfill the required training within the coming year.
2. Provide alternatives on how the current structure of IMTs in Alaska could continue to provide response during the Alaska fire season and support the national mobilization rotation.
3. Identify potential problems or issues with the transition that need additional AWFCG support for resolution, including those at the NMAC level.

It will be important to engage with the IMT Incident Commanders and C&G to evaluate the steps necessary to make this transition manageable within the timeframe designated. Where additional leadership support is needed, AWFCG will also engage in meetings as requested to discuss topics under this tasking.

Considering the scope of this request, AWFCG requests that an initial draft or outline of this plan be submitted for discussion during our joint meeting the week of March 20, 2023. A final plan should be prepared for discussion at the May 3, 2023 teleconference.

Thank you for your continued work and diligence toward safe and effective fire management. Your efforts are noticed and AWFCG appreciates the commitment of the Operations Committee members.

Sincerely,


Susanne Rodman, Chair