



Fire Management Board

FIRE MANAGEMENT BOARD

FMB Memorandum No. 22-002

18 March 2022

To: National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group  
National Wildfire Coordinating Group

From: Fire Management Board (FMB)

Subject: Complex Incident Management (CIM) 2022

In January 2022, the Fire Executive Council (FEC) issued Memorandum *Support for the Complex Incident Management Action Plan* to the Fire Management Board (FMB), National Multi-Agency Coordination Group (NMAC), and National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG). The FEC memo tasks these three entities with implementation of the Incident Workforce Development Group (IWDG) CIMT: Action Plan for Implementation, <https://www.nwcg.gov/sites/default/files/docs/eb-iwdg-cimt-action-plan-2.0.pdf>.

The expectation is to immediately commit to all taskings required to meet the intent of the IWDG CIMT action plan and the Spring 2024 timeline. In addition, FMB supports pilot efforts for 2022, as outlined in this memo, to help bridge the gap, learn and adapt, as well as represent the policy and interests of the agencies, executive leadership, and agency administrators during this transition.

Complex Incident Management Teams (CIMT) will facilitate participation and increase capacity for the nation's wildland fire response. The desired end state of Complex Incident Management is to establish minimum qualification and training standards for Command & General Staff managing complex incidents. The intent is not to require all personnel to meet the current Type 1 qualification. To meet this intent, and as part of the phased approach, current Type 1 qualified Command and General staff will be accepted as meeting the minimum requirement of complex incidents. Individuals qualified at the Type 2 Command and General Staff level may be assessed for Complex Incident Management level competency in accordance with a transition plan that will be developed by NWCG's Incident and Position Standards Committee (IPSC) for the 2022 season, as well as long-term implementation. In addition, NMAC should initiate planning efforts to support implementation of a national CIMT rotation process as early as 2023. A draft national rotation process should be completed no later than September 30, 2022.

Members of the FMB fully support participation by any geographic area to implement the IPSC framework and criteria as a phased approach for the 2022 season. Robust involvement will provide critical feedback to inform governing entities in finalization of complex incident management standards. Agency Administrators with questions or concerns about the CIM should consult their unit, state/regional, or national fire management office.

There are many systems changes necessary to meet the ever-increasing demands for wildland fire management, including updating fire management position requirements, modernizing training requirements, content, and delivery, and redefining IMT structure and mobilization. Some administrative changes are necessary to complete the transition to CIM, but we are confident we can begin this transition now. To achieve full implementation by January 2024, all responsible subgroups under FMB, NMAC, and NWCG must prioritize taskings and collaborate on solutions to effectively and efficiently transition the existing business model to this new, desired end state.

#### FMB Representatives

U.S. Forest Service

Bureau of Land Management

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

National Park Service

Bureau of Indian Affairs

U.S. Fire Administration

(for) DOI Office of Wildland Fire

DOI Office of Aviation Services