

**2017 TRAINING OPPORTUNITY**  
**S-341 - GIS Specialist for Incident Management**  
*Utilizing advanced GIS skills to support incidents*

**Two Sessions:**  
**Missoula, MT - April 18-20, 2017**  
**Morgantown, WV - May 9-11, 2017**  
*Nominations due November 1, 2016*

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Specialist course is designed to meet the training needs of a Geographic Information Systems Specialist (GISS) to manage the geospatial information needs of all risk incidents managed with the Incident Command System (ICS) following GIS Standard Operating Procedures (GSTOP). The course combines lecture, discussion, and group exercises in on-line and classroom environments. The use of GIS is the most efficient method for documenting, analyzing, and managing information regarding the location of facilities, conditions, and environments affected by Wildfire, Storms, Floods, Earthquakes, and other incidents. Candidates from all agencies involved in all risk incident management are encouraged to apply.

<http://www.nationalfiretraining.net/catalog/index/S341>

**NOTE: This course is to teach people already well-versed in GIS how to support ICS Incident Management utilizing GIS. S-341 is a course for people who are GIS practitioners, skilled at editing geospatial data, spatial analysis, and map production.**

These S-341 courses will consist five required parts:

- 1) **Pre-test** Applicants with complete nominations will receive GIS test material by the end of the first week of January. The completed assignment materials must be returned by COB **January 19, 2017**. Applicants passing the pre-test will be placed on the course roster. (3-6 hours)
- 2) **Live Web Meeting** course introduction (1 hour)
- 3) **Prework** (to be completed prior to attending the Regional Session, 3-6 hours)
- 4) **On-Line Lessons** (10-12 hours)
- 5) **Regional Classroom Practicum** - Students that do not complete the prework with a satisfactory grade will not be invited to the Regional Session. (24 hours)

OBJECTIVE: Upon completing the course, students will have the knowledge and skills to respond to fire and all-risk incidents and perform the duties of a trainee GIS Specialist (GISS-T). This includes:

- Identify the basic supplies and data they will need on the incident.
- Create the standard maps required from the GISS on an incident within established timeframes.
- Establish and utilize the standardized file structure, naming convention, and documentation to manage, share, and archive incident data.

TARGET GROUP:

Specialists and technicians with **advanced** GIS skills working in a Land or Resource Management environment that are interested in utilizing those skills in all risk incident management.

During the course students will:

- Describe the pre-season and pre-incident duties of the GIS Specialist and identify the equipment and data needs required for incident support.
- Describe the dispatch and mobilization process and the procedures for incident check-in.
- Demonstrate how to set up the GIS Specialist work area and organization to meet the needs of the Incident Management Team.
- Describe the Incident planning cycle and the associated timeframes and product deadlines critical to GIS Specialist incident support.
- Collect geospatial data, identify and use maps, orthoimagery, graphics, and other information to produce the required incident maps.
- Discuss some examples of the more complex data analysis and manipulation commonly requested of a GIS Specialist.
- Utilize the standardized file structure and naming conventions to store, archive, and document all GIS Specialist incident activities.

#### COURSE PREREQUISITES:

- IS-100.b, Self-study ICS Orientation (ICS 100), available at: <http://emilms.fema.gov/IS100b/index.htm>
- Skilled level of knowledge of **ArcGIS 10.x**. *This is NOT a class on how to use ArcMap, students are expected to enter the class with a high degree of proficiency in the use of GIS, spatial data construction, editing, analysis and map production.*
- Adept at working within the directory structures in Windows and in the use of Windows Explorer file management and folder structures.
- Availability for dispatch to an incident as a GIS Specialist trainee within the following year. Availability includes supervisory approval and a personal commitment to support at least one incident.
- Successfully pass the S-341 Pre-Test.

**COURSE HARDWARE:** Students will supply a computer with a similar configuration to incident GIS rental computers running ArcGIS 10.3.1 for the course pre-work and the classrooms session.

**NOMINATION PROCESS:** Forest Service (FS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), and National Park Service (NPS), Geological Survey (USGS), and state or local government employees will submit their nomination forms through their Geographical Area Training Representative for forwarding to the coordinator.

Please refer to [http://www.nationalfiretraining.net/main/national\\_nom\\_process](http://www.nationalfiretraining.net/main/national_nom_process) for a complete description of the nomination process and to download the nomination form. All others please call the Geographic Area course coordinator for nomination submission process.

All nominations must be submitted on the NWCG training nomination form (or through IQCS).  
*Note: Once nominations are received, you will be notified regarding the course pre-test. Class size is limited.*

Tuition: \$400  
Nominations Due: November 1, 2016