



NATIONAL WILDFIRE COORDINATING GROUP

National Interagency Fire Center
3833 S. Development Avenue
Boise, Idaho 83705

MEMORANDUM

Reference: NWCG#027-2010

To: NWCG Organization (NWCG Committees and Program Management Unit)
Geographic Area Coordinating Group (GACG) Chairs
Geographic Area Coordination Center (GACC) Managers
National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC) Manager
Area Command/Incident Command Council (AC/IC) Chair

From: NWCG Chair *William Raage*
and
NMAC Chair *Karyn L. Wood*

Date: June 11, 2010

Subject: Clarification of Roles - NWCG and NMAC

This memorandum is meant to articulate roles pertaining to the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) and the National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group (NMAC), and address questions raised during the December 2009 NMAC – Geographic Coordinating Group (GMAC) Meeting.

Participants to the meeting expressed confusion regarding role differences between the two parent bodies. This confusion is seen by the field in direction emanating from either body, mostly often during periods of high tempo operations. In order to address the expressed concern, NWCG and NMAC members met on April 20, 2010 to elucidate and clarify roles and responsibilities between the two groups.

NWCG is a chartered group under the Fire Executive Council (FEC), emanating from a Memorandum of Understanding signed by the Federal agency directors and the Chairs of the National Association of State Foresters (NASF) and the Inter-Tribal Timber Council (ITC). NMAC is a group with delegated authority from the Federal agency directors and the same NASF and ITC representatives.

At a simplistic level, NWCG develops wildland fire policy, standards, and qualifications, as well as wildland fire business processes for its member agencies. NMAC sets priorities, allocates resources, and coordinates and resolves policy interpretation with GMAC's during wildland fire operations.

NMAC and NWCG Executive Boards have established a task team to further clarify roles of each parent body and to identify improvements in collaboration and communication between the groups that support the two parent bodies.

Your continued feedback to either NMAC or NWCG Executive Boards is important. It is through your feedback that we better understand the impacts of our decisions.

cc: NWCG Executive Board