

National Multi Agency Coordinating Group

National Incident Commander/Area Commander

Council Charter

1. Background

The National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group (NMAC) provides an essential management mechanism for national level strategic coordination to ensure that firefighting resources are efficiently and appropriately managed in a cost effective manner. The NMAC is responsible for: establishing National and Geographic Area MAC business practices; ensuring timely national level incident information and firefighting resource status; setting national priorities among Geographic Areas; directing, allocating and reallocating firefighting resources among Geographic Areas to meet NMAC priorities; anticipating and identifying future firefighting resource requirements; and coordinating and resolving firefighting resource policy issues.

The NMAC group hereby charters an advisory council to ensure that the interests of the wildland fire coordinating groups are appropriately represented.

2. Name

By this charter, the National Multi Agency Coordinating Group (NMAC) establishes and authorizes the National Type 1 Incident Commander/Area Commander Council, hereinafter referred to as the NICACC, or Council.

3. Authority

The NICACC is established pursuant to the charter authority granted to the parent NMAC Group through the Delegation of Authority establishing the NMAC. The NICACC is delegated the authority to:

- Convene meetings, schedule agenda items, make contacts, negotiate work assignments, create task groups
- Create subcommittees, units, and task teams. This authority is delegable to subgroups.

4. Purpose

The NICACC exists to improve communication and cooperation between the incident management teams, geographic area coordinating groups (GACG's), NMAC, National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG), and the Coordinating Group Advisory Council (CGAC). Formalizing this relationship in no

way impedes the management of the Type 1 teams by GACG's. NICACC will identify and elevate collective issues to NMAC. To accomplish this goal, the Council will provide input, analysis, and advice on issues brought to NICACC from NMAC. The Council will also define and elevate interagency issues that impact the geographic areas, and bring forth recommendations to NMAC with suggested alternatives and actions. It is expected that incident commanders and area commanders will identify and elevate specific geographic issues directly with their respective GACG. NMAC will forward issues appropriate for NWCG action to the NWCG.

The scope of the Council's work is described as incorporating federal, state, and local wildland fire agencies, as well as DHS/FEMA organizational entities and work groups related to the National Response Framework (NRF), National Incident Management System (NIMS), and related policies and procedures.

5. Membership

The NICACC will be comprised of the current National Incident Commanders, Area Commanders, and National Incident Management Organization, Incident Commanders as listed annually by the National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC) and one Type 2 Incident Commander from each Geographic Area.

The Council may be further subdivided if needed for a special project. Subcommittees' will be staffed by members of the Council as is deemed appropriate, and approved by the Chairperson.

The NICACC will coordinate with the CGAC for solicitation of the Type 2 incident commanders from the respective GACG'.

The NICACC Chair and Vice Chair will be elected by the NICACC membership at the NICACC annual spring meeting and will serve a minimum of a one year term. The Chair will normally be succeeded by the Vice Chair but may be reelected to additional terms not to exceed three consecutive one year terms. Co-chairs may be utilized. All members will have voting privileges. NMAC will elect a permanently assigned liaison to the Council serving as a non-voting member and advisor.

6. Organization

The NICACC is under the direction of the NMAC. The Council may create subcommittees or task groups to accomplish its business.

7. Cooperation and Coordination

The NICACC will work with stakeholders and partners to ensure appropriate coordination, collaboration, and information sharing. The stakeholders and partners include but are not limited to:

- National Incident Coordination Center
- Geographic Area Coordination Groups
- Geographic Multi-Agency Coordinating Groups (GMACs)
- Incident Management Teams
- Geographic Area Coordination Center Managers
- Coordination Group Advisory Council (CGAC)

8. Responsibility

The NICACC is primarily responsible for providing improved communication and coordination between NMAC and incident commanders/area commanders respective to interagency issues that impact the incident management and area command teams and those they serve.

This may be accomplished through:

- Providing a forum for incident commanders and area commanders to elevate interagency related issues, innovations, and concerns that impact the national incident management teams within the GACGs.
- Communicating to NMAC issues and concerns that are common amongst geographic areas related to national multi agency coordination.
- Providing members for strategic working teams to support specific projects or tasks related to incident management teams and their interagency coordination.
- Providing recommendations to NMAC, GACGs, NICC, and NWCG on interagency issues that impact the geographic areas.
- Making specific work assignments to NICACC members and/or appoint subgroups to work on specific projects.
- NICACC may assist NMAC in moving issues to NWCG as appropriate, and supporting those entities in issue resolution.

Chair Responsibilities:

- Schedule agenda items, convene meetings and conference calls, and advise membership of meeting time and location.
- Maintain the official Council membership and address list for communications.

- Establish, maintain, and distribute meeting agendas and minutes.
- Serve as the primary contact between NICACC and any subordinate group.
- Keep the NMAC liaison advised as to meeting dates and locations.
- Ensure that communications between NICACC and other groups is documented, stored and made available to all NICACC members.

Vice Chair Responsibilities:

- Assume the duties of the Chair in the absence of the Chair.

9. Meetings and Reports

The NICACC will meet at least once annually. Conference calls will be conducted as needed. Each agency is responsible for funding their representative's travel to meetings.

The NICACC will operate by consensus. Consensus is defined as everyone being willing to support a recommendation after having hearing all opinions. If consensus is not achieved, the Council will forward the majority recommendation and the minority opinion to NMAC for consideration. Consensus decisions will be forwarded to the NMAC in written format that will include a discussion on the analysis of the issue with all recommendations. If consensus is unreachable, the Chair will present an issue paper to NMAC displaying the scope of the issue and alternative solutions that represent all viewpoints of the membership.

10. Charter Approval

This charter is effective as of the date of approval by the Chair of the NMAC and shall remain in effect until revised or revoked.



NMAC Chair



Date