



NATIONAL WILDFIRE COORDINATING GROUP

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

MEMORANDUM

Reference: NWCG#025-2010

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

From: NWCG Chair *William Raage*

Date: May 25, 2010

Subject: Dutch Creek Serious Accident Investigation Report Response:
Three (3) New Incident Management Team (IMT) Daily Operation
Protocols/Procedures

The Dutch Creek Serious Accident Task Team (Task Team), assembled by the NWCG Executive Board in February 2010, was tasked to provide recommendations to resolve the findings from the Dutch Creek Serious Accident Investigation Report and Accident Review Board. Based on the work and recommendations of the Task Team, NWCG is providing direction in three main areas:

1. Standardized Medical Emergency Procedures for Incident Management Teams (IMT) to include in their Incident Emergency Plans
2. Standardized Communication Center Protocols
3. An expanded ICS 206 Medical Plan to include emergency medical procedures that will be reviewed each Operational Period at the Planning Meeting.

Incorporating these procedures and protocols into daily operations and practicing the critical elements should result in faster and more effective medical emergency medical response.

Specifically all IMTs need to incorporate the following protocols into daily operations:

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1. Each IMT will include the standard Medical Emergency Procedures (Attachment A) in their Incident Emergency Plan. These procedures will help ensure safe and efficient responses to any medical emergency that may occur on an incident.
2. Each IMT will follow the Incident Communication Center Protocol – Standard Elements (Attachment B). The Communication Unit Leader will ensure that everyone in the Center is familiar with the protocol.
3. Each IMT will complete a 206 Block 8 Attachment (Attachment C) when completing their ICS 206 Medical Plan to provide detailed information regarding communication procedures, and roles and responsibilities during a medical emergency. The 206 Block 8 Attachment will document mitigations to hazards (similar to the ICS 215, *Operational Planning Worksheet* and 215A, *Incident Action Plan Safety Analysis*) and be approved at the Planning Meeting for each operational period.
4. Each IMT should train to understand and practice the medical emergency procedures outlined in their Incident Emergency Plan. Incident simulations or sand table exercises at IMT workshops will help achieve a clear understanding of how the IMT will respond to a medical emergency.

To achieve successful medical response within incident management, it is imperative that agency home units recognize their role and take the necessary steps associated with Bullet Nos. 1 through 3 prior to incident team arrival. Identification of medical evacuations options, clarification of local/county/state/federal resource capabilities, ordering procedures, role of dispatch centers, and key contacts or liaisons should be provided the team during in-briefs.

The NWCG Executive Board recognizes that all IMTs place safety as their No. 1 priority and are committed to caring for everyone assigned to incidents. For background information on the Dutch Creek Accident, please click on the Internet link below:

http://www.nps.gov/fire/fire/fir_wil_fatality_investigation_dc.cfm.

This memorandum will be distributed to the NWCG organization, Geographic Area Coordinating Group Chairs (GACG), Geographic Area Coordination Center (GACC) Managers, and National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group's Area Command/Incident Command Council (AC/IC) Chair. NWCG requests that Fire Directors ensure distribution of this memorandum through their respective directorates in order to reach unit Agency Administrators.

Attachments:

A – Medical Emergency Procedures

B – Incident Communication Center Protocol – Standard Elements

C – Expanded ICS 206 Medical Plan

cc: NWCG Executive Board

Fire Executive Council (FEC)

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