



NATIONAL WILDFIRE COORDINATING GROUP

NWCG Memorandum No. 14-015

Date: 6 October 2014

TO: Bob Harrington, Chair, NASF Fire Committee

FROM: Dan Smith, Chair, NWCG Executive Board

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Smith", is placed to the right of the "FROM:" line.

SUBJECT: Response to concerns regarding the NWCG Evolving Incident Management project

In October 2011, the NWCG-chartered Incident Management Organization Succession Planning Team (IMOSPT) provided recommendations for addressing sustainability issues with the current model of wildland fire succession planning and response. The NWCG subsequently chartered the Evolving Incident Management (EIM) project team to develop implementation plans for the IMOSPT recommendations. In 2014, the National Association of State Foresters and the International Association of Fire Chiefs provided written concerns to the NWCG regarding the direction of the EIM project. NWCG also received direction from the federal Fire Management Board to address specific concerns about EIM. Based on this direction, the NWCG tasked the EIM project team to address these concerns.

The EIM project team has addressed the specific concerns and developed an updated case for change, revised recommendations, and a proposed implementation schedule. Their report is attached, and has been delivered to the Fire Management Board. The NWCG Executive Board supports the recommendations. However, we recognize that this is an interim solution, as the recommendations do not fully address the issues identified by the IMOSPT. The most significant issues continue to be barriers to IMT participation and workforce succession, both of which are largely under the purview of the individual member agencies. This is identified in the EIM project team's report.

Should the Fire Management Board accept the EIM project team's recommendations, and should those recommendations address the issues you identified as well, the NWCG Executive Board will work with the EIM project team on the proposed implementation plans. We will also continue to seek solutions to the long term sustainability issues identified in the original IMOSPT report. We appreciate your input and look forward to continued collaboration on this work.

Attachments

- Response to NWCG Tasking Memo M-14-08 Fire Management Board direction for Evolving Incident Management via NWCG EIM Project
- EIM Alternative Comparison Matrix
- ICAP Agency Employee Snapshot
- ICAP National Data Charts
- IMT Use By Agency
- IAFC letter on EIM
- NASF Direction on EIM
- NWCG Tasking Memo M-14-08 Fire Management Board Direction for Evolving Incident Management via NWCG EIM Project

cc: NWCG Executive Board, NWCG Program Management Unit (PMU), EIM Project Team Lead