



NATIONAL WILDFIRE COORDINATING GROUP

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M-14-09

MEMORANDUM – 21 July 2014

TO: Geographic Area Coordination Center Managers, Geographic Area Coordinating Group
Chairs

FROM: Dan Smith, Chair, NWCG Executive Board

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan Smith".

SUBJECT: Type 2 and Type 2IA Hand Crew Use Analysis Survey

In 2013 the National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group (NMAC) identified the need to optimize the balance of crew types and address the discrepancy in utilization between Type 1 and Type 2 IA/Type 2 crews. Anecdotal data indicate that Type 1 crews are fully committed throughout the fire season, even in low and moderate activity levels and that, relative to this, Type 2IA and Type 2 crews are significantly underutilized. This negatively affects local ability to support Type 2 crews, which in turn impacts local and national response capability. It also makes Type 1 crew fatigue management more challenging.

The NMAC asked the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) to address the issue, and the NWCG's Operations and Workforce Development Committee (OWDC) was subsequently assigned the task. The key tasking to the OWDC was to evaluate the standards, use, and effectiveness of Type 2IA and Type 2 crews, and to recommend options for improving crew utilization.

The attached survey link is part of that tasking. It is designed to increase our understanding of the issue from the perspective of a broad range of stakeholders. The OWDC will analyze survey results, develop an overall assessment of the issue, and provide recommendations for future action.

Please distribute this survey to stakeholders in your geographic area, including personnel from your agency administrator and fire management program staffs, geographic area coordination centers, local dispatch units, incident management teams, and crew organizations.

The survey will only accept one response per computer internet protocol (IP) address. All answers will remain confidential. The survey is open until August 29, 2014.

Thank you for your assistance.

The survey can be found at the following link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/QJSLWSQ>

For further information, contact Dalan Romero, Assistant Director BIA Fire Operations at (208) 387-5372 or dalan.romero@bia.gov

cc: NWCG Executive Board, NWCG Program Management Unit (PMU), National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group (NMAC)