



NATIONAL WILDFIRE COORDINATING GROUP

NWCG Memorandum 22-002 – Amended

July 26, 2022

TO: NWCG Executive Board Members and NWCG Committee Chairs

FROM: Shane McDonald, Chair, NWCG Executive Board

SUBJECT: Transition Plan for Complex Incident Management Pilot Phase

Purpose: This memorandum outlines the implementation timeline and transition plan options for the 2022 pilot phase for Complex Incident Management (CIM). Please distribute this information through your agency channels.

Implementation Timeline:

The transition plan options identified below are effective immediately and may be implemented by responders participating in the pilot phase to transition into a Complex Command and General Staff (C&G) position (<https://www.nwcg.gov/positions>):

- Incident Commander Complex (ICCI)
- Safety Officer Complex (SOFC)
- Public Information Officer Complex (PIOC)
- Operations Section Chief Complex (OSCC)
- Planning Section Chief Complex (PSCC)
- Logistics Section Chief Complex (LSCC)
- Finance/Administration Section Chief Complex (FSCC)

The transition plan options identified in this memorandum are valid through December 31, 2022. In January 2023, a nationwide and systemwide transition plan will be issued for the full implementation phase of CIM culminating in April 2024. The January 2023 transition plan will include incident position descriptions (IPDs), position task books (PTBs), and position qualifications requirements for the Complex C&G positions.

The Complex C&G qualifications are anticipated to be available in IQS/IQCS by June 3, 2022.

During this pilot phase, Type 1 and Type 2 qualifications will remain active. Additional direction on the future of Type 1 and Type 2 qualifications will be given during the next phase of transition.

Transition Plan Options for 2022:

- Current responders certified in a Type 1 C&G position should be granted Complex position competency in the associated position by their Certifying Official.
- Current responders certified in a Type 2 C&G position (this includes Type 1 trainees) that successfully completed S-520, Advanced Incident Management or Complex Incident

NWCG standards are interagency by design; however, the decision to adopt and utilize them is made independently by the individual member agencies and communicated through their respective directives systems.

Management Course (CIMC) should be granted Complex position competency in the associated position by their Certifying Official.

- Current responders certified in a Type 2 C&G position (this includes Type 1 trainees) that have not successfully completed S-520 or CIMC must complete the NWCG 2022 CIM Field Evaluation Form (<https://www.nwcg.gov/positions/cim-field-eval>) or complete S-520/CIMC.
 - The field evaluator must be either qualified in a Complex C&G position in the functional area being evaluated or a qualified ICCI.
 - This requirement is inclusive of Type 1 qualified C&G and ICs, even if they have not yet been certified as Complex C&G or ICCI by their agency.
 - The NWCG 2022 CIM Field Evaluation Evaluator's Guide (<https://www.nwcg.gov/positions/cim-field-eval>) is available to assist evaluators and ensure consistency in the process.
 - The CIM Field Evaluation may be completed on Complex, Type 1, or Type 2 incidents.
 - One evaluation is sufficient unless the responder does not meet the competencies.
 - The length of an evaluation should be as short as practicable depending upon the proficiency of the responder.
 - Upon successful completion of the CIM Field Evaluation, the Certifying Official should grant S-520/CIMC competency in the qualifications system.
 - Responders should be granted Complex position competency in the associated position by their Certifying Official.
- Type 2 C&G Trainees will complete the current position qualifications requirements (including finishing the current PTB) and be certified in the Type 2 C&G position. Upon certification in a Type 2 C&G position the responder may pursue Complex qualifications based on the above options.

Responders should work through their respective agencies to coordinate transition to CIM. It is the responsibility of the agencies to grant competency and approve responders for certification. The Incident Command Qualification System (IQCS) and Incident Qualification System (IQS) have been updated to include the Complex positions. Other qualification systems in use may take longer to do so.

Contact your agency NWCG Executive Board member (<https://www.nwcg.gov/executive-board/roster>) for additional information or clarification.

Attachments:

2022 through 2024 Implementation of Complex Incident Management (TM-2022-04)

Distribution:

Erin Horsburgh, Fire Management Board, Chair

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NWCG Staff