



## NATIONAL WILDFIRE COORDINATING GROUP

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NWCG Tasking Memorandum TM-24-001

January 10, 2024

TO: Tyler McCowan, Chair, Emergency Medical Committee

FROM: Aitor Bidaburu, Chair, NWCG Executive Board

SUBJECT: Tasking – Big Swamp Serious Accident Corrective Actions

**Tasking and Deliverable:** This memorandum tasks the Emergency Medical Committee (EMC) to validate and review by July 31, 2024:

- Review and validate/update the standards for patient care oversight and coordination.
- Review and validate After Action Review (AAR) standards for emergency medical service (EMS) providers to ensure information is collected, shared, reviewed, and documented by all EMS providers including incident medical responders, non-incident transportation, and advanced care providers.

**Background:** On August 10, 2022, a crewmember from a Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Interagency Hotshot crew was fatally injured during firefighting operations on the Big Swamp Fire. He was struck by a falling tree and transported via helicopter to a local hospital, where he was pronounced deceased.

An interagency Serious Accident Investigation Team (SAIT) reviewed the events leading up to and through the incident, focusing on human, material, and environmental factors. The main objective was to identify any lessons that can be used to prevent future occurrences of these events.

The SAIT produced a factual report (attached), and an interagency Accident Review Board (ARB) convened to develop a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) to identify and implement preventative measures. Several items in the CAP were assigned to the BLM representative for coordination and implementation of the corrective actions with NWCG.

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**Attachments:** Big Swamp Serious Accident Investigation