



## NATIONAL WILDFIRE COORDINATING GROUP

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NWCG Tasking Memorandum TM-25-001

August 4, 2025

TO: Mark Hnat, Chair, Emergency Medical Committee (EMC)  
FROM: Aitor Bidaburu, Chair, NWCG Executive Board  
SUBJECT: Rapid Extraction Module Support (REMS) Leader Position Qualification  
Requirement Alternatives

**Tasking and Deliverable:** This memorandum tasks the EMC to evaluate and develop alternatives to meet the target qualification requirement of Single Resource Boss (SRB) for Type I and Type II REMS Leader, considering all REMS resource sources.

**Due Date:** 12/01/2025

**Resources/Funding Required:** Currently, no additional funding or resources are needed.

**Background:** The *NWCG Standards for Rapid Extraction Module Support*, PMS 552 identifies the REMS Leader — SRB qualification is required for Type I and Type II REMS teams. However, certain barriers prevent some contracted resources from meeting this requirement. Until these issues are resolved, at least one member of the Type I or Type II REMS team must be qualified as a Firefighter Type 1 Squad Boss (FFT1) to serve as the REMS Leader.

Standardizing terminology, equipment, and deployment of REMS across the nation improves the safety and well-being of the wildland fire community. However, the current standards do not provide a clear pathway for achieving the necessary qualifications. The REMS Leader position has a specific function and mission that is different from the SRB positions, which focus on suppression. As a result, leaders on REMS teams often struggle to obtain the required training, complete position task books, and gain essential wildland fire experience. Addressing these gaps is vital to ensure that leaders are well-prepared to effectively manage and support their teams.

**Contact:** For questions, please contact Aitor Bidaburu, NWCG Chair, [jose.bidaburu@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:jose.bidaburu@fema.dhs.gov), or David Schultz, NWCG Coordinator, [dschultz@blm.gov](mailto:dschultz@blm.gov).

**Distribution:**

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