



Executive Board Primary Members (EB): Erik Litzenberg (IAFC) — Chair, Anne Jewell (DoW) — Vice Chair, Brian Achziger (BLM), Heath Cota (USFS), Jim Durglo (ITC), Aitor Bidaburu (USFA), Greg Smith (NASF), Casey Teske (NPS), Eric Fransted (FWS)

Associate Members: Annie Benoit (OWF), Heath Hockenberry (NWS), Steve Weidner (NASA—Acting), Mike Rubenstein (IMTA)

NWCG Staff: Katie Wood (NWCG Program Manager), Sarah Lee (Deputy Program Manager), David Schultz (Coordinator), Erica Lamb (Coordinator), Steven Gaskill (Coordinator), Toni Suminski (Training Program Manager), Chelsea McKinney (Publications Manager), Michael Rodriguez (Executive Secretary — Detailed), Joe Schindel (EB Facilitator)

Guests: Mark Hnat (EMC), Nate Hesse (ETC), Larae Guillory (IPSC), Michael Ellsworth (LC)

Topic & Notes	Decision/Action Item
<p>(D) Emergency Medical Committee (EMC) Response to TM-25-001: Rapid Extraction Module Support (REMS) Leader Position Qualification Requirement Alternatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The <i>NWCG Standards for Rapid Extraction Module Support</i>, PMS 552 requires REMS Leaders to hold a Single Resource Boss (SRB) qualification for Type I and II REMS teams. • Contracted resources face barriers preventing them from meeting this requirement. • EMC Memorandum 25-001 provides interim guidance requiring at least one member of each Type I or II REMS team to be qualified as Firefighter Type 1 (Squad Boss) (FFT1) to serve as REMS Leader. • REMS Leader roles differ significantly from SRB roles, creating challenges in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Obtaining necessary training ○ Completing Position Task Books (PTBs) ○ Gaining wildland fire experience • The NWCG Executive Board (EB) tasked EMC through NWCG Tasking Memorandum TM-25-001, to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Evaluate and develop alternatives to the current qualification requirement of SRB for Type I and Type II REMS Leaders. • EMC and the Incident Medical Unit Subcommittee (IMUS) evaluated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>NWCG Standards for Rapid Extraction Module Support</i>, PMS 552 ○ Interim guidance in EMC Memorandum 25-001 ○ Feedback from the field 	<p>DECISION: Closeout TM-25-001</p> <p>ACTION ITEM: NWCG will outline the impact on workloads and the systematic changes needed for each identified alternative.</p> <p>ACTION ITEM: EB will discuss the implications of agency-contracting for the new alternatives.</p>



Topic & Notes	Decision/Action Item
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Four alternative options were developed and vetted through EMC and IMUS membership. These include:<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To edit <i>NWCG Standards for Rapid Extraction Module Support</i>, PMS 552: Replace the SRB requirement with Firefighter Type 1 (Squad Boss) (FFT1) qualification as the requirement for REMS Leaders, formalizing the interim solution currently in effect.2. To create a REMS Leader position using existing courses: Develop a REMS Leader position supported by an Incident Position Description (IPD), Incident Position Standards (IPS), and PTB. Utilize the S-229, Single Resource Boss course (currently in development).3. To create a REMS Leader position with position specific training: Develop a REMS Leader position supported by an IPD, IPS, PTB, and REMS Leader-specific training, supplemented by S-229, Single Resource Boss.4. To create a REMS Leader position with comprehensive fireline medical and extraction training: Develop a REMS Leader position supported by an IPD, IPS, and PTB, supplemented by S-229, Single Resource Boss. Create a provider-level curriculum for all fireline medical personnel and REMS team members to address medical care and extraction competencies.• The EB discussed several considerations when reviewing alternatives:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Local governments already have similar positions, suggesting it may be feasible to develop comparable national standards.○ There is a strong nationwide supply of vendors capable of filling REMS team positions.○ The vendor community supports creating a formal REMS Leader position, as it would provide a pathway to deliver a consistent, standardized product.○ REMS Leader is not currently a <i>NWCG Standards for Wildland Fire Position Qualifications</i>, PMS 310-1 position. Incident Performance and Training Modernization (IPTM) is not currently working on positions that are not in the <i>NWCG Standards for Wildland Fire Position Qualifications</i>, PMS 310-1. The position would have to go through an Incident and Position Standards Committee (IPSC) Request for Change (RFC) to become a <i>NWCG Standards for Wildland Fire Position Qualifications</i>, PMS 310-1 position; the position steward would be responsible for developing performance support products for the position.○ USFS requested a month to vet the alternatives.	



Topic & Notes

Decision/Action Item

(D) NWCG Response to Fire Management Board (FMB) Memorandum 25-002: Pausing Tactical Utility Terrain Vehicle (UTV)/Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Modification Practices:

DECISION: Approve NWCG response to FMB.

- FMB Memorandum 25-002 details the pausing of tactical UTV/OHV modification practices.
- Reasons for the FMB tactical pause include:
 - Wildland fire contracting staff have seen an increase in Emergency Equipment Agreement (EERA) orders for “tactical” UTVs/OHVs equipped with water tanks, pumps, and Starlink units.
 - Many modified UTVs/OHVs exceed manufacturer specifications for weight and height, introducing unknown risks to equipment integrity and operator safety.
 - Although operationally valuable, these significant modifications require deeper evaluation of safety impacts.
- The EB previously discussed FMB’s concerns about modified “tactical” off-highway vehicles during its December 2025 meeting.
- The Equipment Technology Committee (ETC) published OHV standards in the *NWCG Standards for Wildland Fire Resource Typing*, PMS 200 in April 2024.
- These standards include:
 - Minimum payload capacity requirements for each OHV type.
 - A requirement that OHVs must comply with either the American National Standard Institute Outdoor Power Equipment Institute (ANSI/OPEI) or American National Standard Institute Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association (ANSI/ROHVA) standard in effect at the time of manufacture.
 - A prohibition on modifications that would cause non-compliance with these standards.
- ETC and the EB believe this meets the action noted in FMB’s memo, while staying within NWCG’s role as a standard setting body. Setting standards for modifications beyond manufacturer specifications for OHVs is not within the scope of ETC or NWCG.
- Possible next steps were discussed, including:
 - Creating educational materials and agency-specific operator training and agency-specific training and qualification requirements.
 - Requiring the manufacturer to verify that modifications are in specification.



Topic & Notes	Decision/Action Item
<p>(D) Incident Planning Subcommittee (IPS) Response to TM-21-004: Creation of NWCG Standard for Electronic Check-In:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The EB tasked IPSC via the Incident Planning Subcommittee (IPS) to develop recommendations for a standardized electronic check-in process and related forms.• TM 21-004 directed IPSC to appoint a task team and submit recommendations for electronic check-in.• Business needs for standardized electronic check-in and demobilization tools were submitted to the Wildland Fire Information Technology (WFIT) Program Board in August 2021.• IPS is requesting that NWCG TM 21-004 be closed for the following reasons:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ NWCG does not develop Information Technology (IT) tools directly.○ IT capability requirements and business needs are communicated from NWCG committees to the WFIT Program Board, which then provides leadership, funding recommendations, and support in turning these requirements into actual IT capabilities.○ IPS subject matter experts have provided recommendations as per the tasking memo.• Moving forward, IPS supports the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ A continued WFIT focus on a national standardized electronic check-in process that would:<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Create digital records.▪ Improve efficiency for check-in and the Status/Check-In Recorder (SCKN) role.▪ Reduce or eliminate manual data entry from electronic and paper forms.▪ Flow check-in data directly into resource tracking systems (e.g., e-ISuite).▪ Integrate tools supporting Planning and Finance sections.▪ Create a comprehensive online check-in tool for all mobilizing resources.	<p>DECISION: Closeout TM-21-004</p> <p>ACTION ITEM: The EB will continue to emphasize the importance of the e-Check-In application with the WFIT Board, including IT barriers and potential solutions.</p>
<p>(I) Incident Management Team Course Steering Committee (IMTSC) — Monthly Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• S-420, Intermediate Incident Management:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Revisions to alpha test course materials occurring with weekly meetings.○ Developing a skills assessment tool to give cadre and students real-time feedback by highlighting where student performance improvements can be made and tracking progress throughout the week.○ Potential gap between intended target audience and current student body found during the alpha test course of S-420, Intermediate Incident Management, as students had not taken S-320, Introduction to Incident Management Teams. S-320, Introduction to Incident Management Teams will be a required prerequisite training course for S-420,	



Topic & Notes	Decision/Action Item
<p>Intermediate Incident Management, beginning in January 2027. IMTCSC and IPSC’s recommendation is students take the S-320, Introduction to Incident Management Teams, online training (3—6 hours) until the course is required prerequisite training for S-420, Intermediate Incident Management.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The NWCG EB confirmed that those involved with the IMTCSC continue their efforts through the committee reorganization until S-420 is complete.	
<p>(I) Leadership Committee (LC) Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leadership Curriculum:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ L-280, Followership to Leadership<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The updated version was certified in September of 2025 and is available for delivery. The first course offering at the Texas Fire Academy was well received.▪ LC and IPSC approved adding L-280 to Required Training for all SRB positions beginning in January 2027.○ L-380, Fireline Leadership<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The working group is in the final stages of updating the design criteria.▪ LC is developing an agency course map to support local course development.○ L-381, Incident Leadership<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The working group plans to start course redesign in 2026.▪ An additional vendor has been identified.○ L-480, Organizational Leadership in the Wildland Fire Service<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The working group continues to explore learning options for the course curriculum.○ L-481, Advanced Leadership for Command and General Staff<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Course redesign planned to begin in 2026.○ L-580, Leadership in Action<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Ongoing collaboration with National Advanced Fire & Resource Institute (NAFRI) to deliver existing events and continue to look at future events that meet the course criteria.• Paul Gleason “Lead by Example” Award<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 2025 Recipients:<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Justin Baxter, USFS — Initiative & Innovation▪ Kelly Woods, Wildland Fire Lessons Learned Center — Mentoring & Teamwork▪ Doug Booster, ProHealth Net, Inc. — Motivation & Vision	



Topic & Notes	Decision/Action Item
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Pam McDonald, National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC) — Lifetime Achievement• Experiential Learning Working Group<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The working group plans to host a staff ride workshop in 2026.○ They continue to support units with local staff rides development.	
<p>(I) Training Program & IPTM Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• IPTM:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 40% complete: the foundational components are in place, and 39 positions have been completed with updated IPS and Next Gen PTBs.• New and Updated Training Courses:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ S-130, Firefighter Training (Blended): Certified and available on the WFLP.○ S-131, Firefighter Type 1: On track for certification February 2026.○ S-231, Engine Boss (Single Resource): On track for certification February 2026.○ S-203, Introduction to Incident Information: Beta test course scheduled for April 2026.○ S-204, Interpersonal and Critical Thinking Skills for Safety Officers: Certified and available on the WFLP.○ S-219, Firing Operations (Blended): Certified and available on the WFLP.○ S-229, Single Resource Boss: On track for completion March 2026.○ S-271, Helicopter Crewmember (Blended): Certified and available on the WFLP.○ M-280, Resource Advisor, Fireline: Certified and available on the WFLP.○ S-112, Introduction to Chainsaw Operations (Blended): Certified and available on the WFLP.○ S-212, Intermediate Faller: Test course completed, on track for certification in January 2026.○ S-312, Advanced Faller: Project scoping underway.○ S-359, Medical Unit Leader (Blended): Certified and live on the WFLP.• Upcoming IPTM 2026 Training Course Revisions (Estimated Completion):<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ S-200, Initial Attack Incident Commander (May 2027)○ S-236, Heavy Equipment Boss (May 2027)○ S-273, Single Engine Airtanker Manager (June 2027)○ S-372, Helicopter Manager (June 2027)	<p>ACTION ITEM: NWCG will send a list of upcoming IPTM positions that lack Subject Matter Expert (SME) signups and/or agency diversity to EB members.</p>



Topic & Notes	Decision/Action Item
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Non-IPTM Revised Training Courses:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ FI-110, Wildland Fire Observations and Origin Scene Protection for First Responders (Online):<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Certified and available on the WFLP.○ S-290, Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior (Blended): Certified and available on the WFLP.○ S-390, Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior Calculations: Certified and available on the WFLP.○ S-490, Advanced Fire Behavior Calculations: Test course was held in October at NAFRI and certification is on track for February 2026.○ L-280, Followership to Leadership (Instructor-Led): Updated and certified.○ X-900, Investigating Powerline Caused Wildland Fires: Certified and available on the WFLP.• Known Non-Incident Position Specific Required Courses Needing Revision:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ M-410, Facilitative Instructor○ RX-410, Smoke Management Techniques○ S-211, Portable Pumps and Water Use○ S-215, Fire Operations in the Wildland Urban Interface○ S-260, Interagency Incident Business Management○ S-270, Basic Air Operations○ RT-130, WFSTAR modules scheduled for full release mid-March 2026!• 2026 IPS and Next Gen PTB Development:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Incident Commander Type 4 (ICT4)○ Heavy Equipment Boss, Single Resource (HEQB)○ Single Engine Airtanker Manager (SEMG)○ Helicopter Manager, Single Resource (HMGB)○ Aircraft Timekeeper (ATIM)○ Deck Coordinator (DECK)○ Compensation/Claims Unit Leader (COMP)○ Cost Unit Leader (COST)○ Ordering Manager (ORDM)○ Receiving/Distribution Manager (RCDM)○ Crew Representative (CREP)	



Topic & Notes	Decision/Action Item
<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Staging Area Manager (STAM)○ Field Observer (FOBS)○ Fire Effects Monitor (FEMO)○ Geographic Information Systems Specialist (GISS)● New Job Aids:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Packing List for Wildland Fire Fireline Personnel, J-101○ Packing List for Wildland Fire Support Staff, J-102○ Checking In Resources Customer Service Job Aid, J-111○ Incident Status Summary (ICS 209) Resource Count Job Aid, J-112○ Felling Operations and Tree Analysis Job Aid, J-212○ Thinking Skills for Risk Management, J-301○ Expanded Dispatch Job Aid, J-601○ Initial Attack and Aircraft Dispatcher Job Aid, J-602● Looking Ahead:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The IPTM program is working to better capture Level 2 feedback from instructors.○ The USFS Wildland Firefighter Apprenticeship Program has a tenured, experienced cadre, so connecting their expertise with this curriculum could be valuable to attain feedback.○ USFS will reach out to geographic area coordinators to gather information through the web feedback form.○ States will also be field reviewing courses.	
<p>(I) New Management Committee Chair Selections & Rotations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● All management committees' chairs and vice chairs have been selected during an initial kickoff meeting.● Most subcommittee kickoff meetings have been scheduled.● A few committees have requested non-standard rotations to help with workload distribution.	