

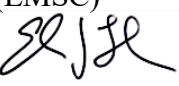


NATIONAL WILDFIRE COORDINATING GROUP

NWCG Tasking Memorandum TM-26-001

August 26, 2026

TO: Persephone Whelan, Chair, Safety/Risk Management Committee (SRC)
Mark Hnat, Chair, Emergency Medical Subcommittee (EMSC)

FROM: Erik Litzenberg, Chair, NWCG Executive Board (EB) 

SUBJECT: Rapid Extraction Module Support (REMS) Leader Training and Qualification Requirements Update

Tasking and Deliverable: This memorandum directs SRC to update the REMS Leader training and qualification requirements in the *NWCG Standards for Rapid Extraction Module Support*, PMS 552. Type I and Type II REMS Leaders must now be qualified as Firefighter Type 1 (Squad Boss) (FFT1) qualification and complete S-229, Single Resource Boss training.

Due Date: October 30, 2026

Resources/Funding Required: None

Background: In June 2024, *NWCG Standards for Rapid Extraction Module Support*, PMS 552 established national standards for REMS team composition, equipment, and qualifications. To address implementation challenges, the Emergency Medical Committee (EMC) issued interim guidance in May 2025 (EMC-M-25-001), requiring FFT1 qualification for Type I and Type II REMS Leaders.

In August 2025, EB directed EMC to propose alternative requirements. The EMC presented five options in April 2026. The EB decided to formalize the interim FFT1 qualification requirement and add the S-229 training.

Contact: Erik Litzenberg, NWCG EB Chair, elitzenberg@iafc.org or Steven Gaskill, NWCG Coordinator, sgaskill@blm.gov

Attachments: None

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