

FMB Memorandum No. 16-001

Date: 30 March 2016

TO: Fire Executive Council

FROM: Larry Sutton, Chair, Fire Management Board

SUBJECT: Proposed Update to Supplemental Qualification Standard for GS-0401 Fire

Management Specialists

The Interagency Fire Program Management (IFPM) representatives (Fire and Human Resources) have expressed concerns regarding the interpretation and utilization of the Supplemental Qualification Standard for GS-0401 Fire Management Specialists as currently written. Concerns have also been voiced from staffing and fire representatives within their respective agencies. A review and update to clarify the Supplemental Standard was initiated in the winter of 2011.

Larry St.

<u>Current Status:</u> IFPM representatives have solicited input from their respective Bureaus. Comments have been reconciled with Department of Interior (DOI), Forest Service (FS), and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Human Resources and fire management. Consultation with the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) has also occurred. A summary of the proposed changes are as follows:

- Corrects names of reference materials
- Correction of the language for crediting education and experience for meeting the series basic qualification requirements
- clarified the examples of creditable experience at various grade levels
- Addition of creditable experience examples at the GS-5 level
- Modification of language at the GS-12 and above level to reflect the development of specialized experience requirements specific to the position bring advertised

The proposed changes have unilateral support from all Fire and HR participants in the process.

Recommendation: Proposed changes to the supplemental standard will aid staffing specialists in the process of recruiting GS-401 Fire Management Positions. The recommendation from the IFPM Group is to pursue review and approval of this document.

<u>Process Moving Forward:</u> A joint letter from DOI and USDA requesting review and approval for the Supplemental Qualification Standard for GS-0401 Fire Management Specialists from OPM has been developed and is ready for distribution. We have reached concurrence from The Fire Management Board and are looking for approval from the Fire Executive Council (FEC).

If you have any questions regarding this issue, please contact Larry Sutton at Isutton@fs.fed.us.

Attachment:

- A. GS 401 History
- B. USDA/DOI Joint Memorandum to OPM
- C. Revised Supplemental Qualification Standard for GS-0401 Fire Management Specialists

cc: FMB Members; IFPM Subcommittee Members; John Glenn (Chair, National Wildfire Coordinating Group)

03/23/16 Date

Larry Sutton **USDA-Forest Service** Director, Fire Operations Date

Howard Hedrick Bureau of Land Management Fire and Aviation

Deputy Assistant Director

Aaron Baldwin Date

03/28/16

Christopher Wilcox

03/28/16 Date

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Director, Branch of Fire Management

U.S. Fish and Wildfire Service Chief, Branch of Fire Management

03/28/16

Erik Torres-Jacquez

Date

National Park Service

Acting Division Chief, Fire and Aviation