



## NATIONAL WILDFIRE COORDINATING GROUP

NWCG Memorandum 22-003

23 June 2022

TO: NWCG Executive Board Members

FROM: Shane McDonald, Chair, NWCG Executive Board

SUBJECT: Rationale for Assignment of Complex Incident Management Teams (CIMT) During 2022 Pilot Phase

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Date: 2022.06.23  
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**Purpose:** This memorandum provides information on the use of the *NWCG Wildland Fire Risk and Complexity Assessment (RCA)*, PMS 236, <https://www.nwcg.gov/publications/236>, during the 2022 pilot phase of implementation of Complex Incident Management (CIM).

Please distribute this information through your agency channels.

**Issue/Action:** In 2022, as part of the implementation of Complex Incident Management (CIM), some Geographic Areas are working to transition Type 2 and Type 1 IMTs to Complex Incident Management Teams (CIMTs). During the pilot phase when there is a need for an organization above the Type 3 level for incident management, Agency Administrators and other decision-makers may use the following as rationale as appropriate:

Complex Incident Management (CIM) pilot efforts are occurring geographically and nationally to ensure the framework and criteria are met to support full implementation of CIM in 2024. During this transition, a CIMT may be ordered instead of either a Type 1 team or Type 2 team. A CIMT will expand or contract as needed based on the complexity of the incident. For this incident, our assessment indicates the need for a [Type 1 or Type 2] [based on ...]. Therefore, if a CIMT is available, they will be assigned to the incident.

NWCG will solicit feedback on the RCA for a revision that will provide an overall complexity rating to inform decision-making. A draft will be available for review and testing in January 2023. A final version will be available in 2024 to support full implementation of CIM.

**Background and Coordination:** NWCG, the Fire Management Board (FMB), and the National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group (NMAC) are prioritizing the implementation of CIM and collaborating on solutions to transition the current business model and systems effectively and efficiently into a future model. This transition requires commitment from stakeholders.

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**Distribution:**

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NWCG standards are interagency by design; however, the decision to adopt and utilize them is made independently by the individual member agencies and communicated through their respective directives systems.

Jim Shultz, Chair, NWCG Incident and Position Standards Committee  
NWCG Committee Chairs  
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