



## NATIONAL WILDFIRE COORDINATING GROUP

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Emergency Medical Committee

EMC Memorandum 25-001

May 20, 2025

TO: Wildland Fire Community

FROM: Mark Hnat, Chair, NWCG Emergency Medical Committee (EMC)

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SUBJECT: **Interim Rapid Extraction Module Support (REMS) Training and Qualification Requirements**

**Purpose:** This memorandum provides interim guidance on the training and qualification requirements for the REMS Leader—Single Resource Boss Qualified position, in accordance with Type I and Type II REMS team standards specified in [PMS 552 NWCG Standards for Rapid Extraction Module Support](#).

Please distribute this information through your agency channels.

**Issue/Action:** PMS 552 identifies the REMS Leader—Single Resource Boss qualification as a required component of the Type I and Type II REMS teams. However, given some administrative barriers, the Single Resource Boss (SRB) requirement for Type 1 and Type 2 REMS is not feasible at this time.

Until these barriers are addressed, at least one member of the Type I or Type II REMS team shall be qualified as a Firefighter Type 1 Squad Boss (FFT1). One team member qualified as FFT1, or higher, will be designated as the team leader. Type I and Type II REMS staffed in this manner will be considered compliant with the June 2024 standard, provided all other training and qualification requirements are met. This memorandum does not include any other changes to PMS 552. This interim change takes effect immediately and will remain in place until further notice.

**Background and Coordination:** Standardized terminology, equipment, and deployment of REMS across the nation benefits the health and well-being of the wildland fire community. Currently, some leadership roles within the REMS teams are being filled by personnel qualified as a Single Resource Boss, such as Crew Boss or Engine Boss. However, obtaining the necessary training, completing position task books, and gaining wildland fire experience can be challenging for those in leadership positions on REMS teams. To address this gap, the Incident Medical Unit Subcommittee is working with the EMC to develop proposed solutions, which will be presented to the NWCG Executive Board within the next year.

**Contact:** Mark Hnat, EMC Chair, at [mark\\_hnat@nps.gov](mailto:mark_hnat@nps.gov), or Dave Schultz, NWCG Coordinator, at [dschultz@blm.gov](mailto:dschultz@blm.gov).