



NATIONAL WILDFIRE COORDINATING GROUP

Fuels Management Committee

FMC Memorandum 23-01

April 14, 2023

TO: Larry Mastic, Wildland Fire Leadership Council and National Coalition of Prescribed Fire Councils

FROM: Mark Jackson, Fuels Management Committee (FMC) Chair

SUBJECT: FMC Receipt of Request for Change for Prescribed Fire Practitioner Qualifications Alternative Pathway

Purpose: This memo documents the receipt of the Request for Change (RFC) 2023-01 for Prescribed Fire Practitioner (PFP) Qualifications Alternative Pathway by the FMC.

Issue/Action: FMC acknowledges receipt of the RFC for PFP Qualifications Alternative Pathway from the Wildland Fire Leadership Council and National Coalition of Prescribed Fire Councils on April 5, 2023, and has assigned it RFC 2023-01. The proposal requests a voluntary NWCG non-wildfire suppression pathway to obtain PFP qualifications, the creation of four new incident positions, a revision of the *Prescribed Fire Complexity Rating System Guide*, PMS 424, and development of NWCG standards to assist agencies in implementing the new positions.

FMC has assigned an interagency task group to review the RFC proposal and provide recommendations that could be acceptable to all NWCG member agencies/organizations. Once the task group has completed its review of the RFC and provided recommendations, FMC Members will present the recommended proposal within their agency's leadership and stakeholders. If accepted by FMC, the RFC will then be submitted to the Incident & Position Standards Committee (IPSC) to go through their RFC process and agency vetting.

Background: NWCG operates under the consensus model, which requires all twelve member agencies/organizations to concur with requests for change. The NWCG RFC process consists of Committee-level approval, submission of the RFC to IPSC, and finally NWCG Executive Board approval for additional qualifications and pathways.

Contact: Mark Jackson, FMC Chair, at james.jackson@bia.gov or Sarah Lee, NWCG Coordinator, at sjlee@blm.gov for additional information.

Distribution:

FMC Members

RSC/NCPFC Taskgroup Members

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.