



**National Wildfire Coordinating Group**  
**Incident and Position Standards Committee**

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IPSC-2022-06

**Date:** 24 May 2022  
**To:** Jarrod Simontacchi, Chair, National Coordination System Committee  
**From:** Jim Shultz, Chair, Incident and Position Standards Committee  
**Subject:** Approval of Incident and Position Standards Committee Request for Change 2021-08, GISS Position Change

**Purpose:** This memorandum approves the content of Incident and Position Standards Committee (IPSC) Request for Change (RFC) 2021-08 received from the Geospatial Subcommittee.

**Action:** GISS Transition Plan is as follows:

**Qualified GISS:** To minimize the impact to the field, the process of historical recognition for GISS has been used for all current qualified responders upon release of the January 2022 PMS 310-1 Position Catalog. Additionally, all qualified GISS responders will be granted the RT-341 competency for 2022. GISS responders will be required to annually attain the RT-341 beginning in 2023.

**Current Trainee GISS:** All current GISS trainees will be required to meet the new qualification requirements as outlined in the PMS 310-1 Position Catalog. The 'GISS Intro' class in the Wildland Fire Learning Portal taken in 2020 or 2021 is considered equivalent to S-341. Additionally, all GISS trainee responders will be granted the RT-341 competency for 2022. GISS trainee responders will be required to annually attain the RT-341 beginning in 2023.

**Background and Coordination:** Based on feedback from qualified and trainee GISS through surveys and one-on-one correspondence, and due to changing technology and changes to the GISS Workflow, the GSC and the Geospatial Curriculum Management Unit (GCMU), developed a [GISS Issue Brief](#) after the conclusion of the 2021 fire season. The issue brief focused on changes to the GISS position to improve the training and readiness of GISS responding to incidents. The GSC recommended additional qualifications be added to 310-1 for the GISS position including required training and a yearly, GISS specific refresher. This increase in training and refresher requirements will help ensure GISS meet incident response needs. The GSC roster can be found at this [LINK](#).

**Attachments:**

Geographic Information System Specialist (GISS) Qualification Requirements, PMS 310-1

**Distribution:**

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## **Geographic Information System Specialist (GISS) Qualification Requirements, PMS 310-1**

### Required Training

- [ICS-100, Introduction to ICS](#)
- [IS-700, NIMS: An Introduction](#)
- [S-341. Geographic Information System \(GIS\) Specialist for Incident Management](#)
- [RT-341 Geographic Information System \(GIS\) Specialist for Incident Management Annual Refresher](#)

### Required Experience

- Completion and Certification of NWCG Geographic Information System Specialist (GISS) Position Task Book ([PMS 311-77](#))

Physical Fitness Level: None Required

Position does not require a physical fitness level.

These Positions Maintain Currency For GISS

- None

GISS Maintains Currency for These Positions

- None

Other Training Which Supports Development Of Knowledge And Skills

- [S-110, Basic Wildland Fire Orientation](#)
- [S-245, Display Processor](#)