



National Wildfire Coordinating Group
Incident and Position Standards Committee

IPSC-2022-10

Date: 8 June 2022
To: Shame McDonald, Chair, NWCG Executive Board
From: Jim Shultz, Chair, Incident and Position Standards Committee
Subject: TM-021-005 Response

Purpose: This memorandum provides the Incident Position Standards Committee (IPSC) response to TM-021-005, Type 3 Command and General Staff Incident Position Training.

Response: IPSC could not come to consensus on requiring the O-305 course as required training for Type 3 Command and General Staff positions. Most of the voting entities support the requirement, several do not. Those who could not support the requirement all agreed that they could support placing O-305 under “Other Training Which Supports Development of Knowledge and Skills”.

The rationale given for those who could not support was that it would impede speed to competence. All agreed that the course, in general, was aligned with supporting position performance (see attachment for analysis matrix).

The rationale given by those who supported requiring the course was that the course imparted critical knowledge to an audience that needs an understanding of the standardized processes and team interactions which enable the support of incident Operations on Type 3 Incidents e.g. “Planning P”. In particular, on Type 3 incidents which have a Type 3 Incident Management Organization managing the incident. It was also noted that with the implementation of Complex Incident Management (CIM), the knowledge and skills gap which already exists, may become more noticeable as those opening CIM position taskbooks begin performing from day one, on incidents which have a high level of complexity.

It was noted that the S-420 course could be an alternative that may also be valuable if modifications to the course were made. Given the CIM tasking element of evaluating the S-420 and S-520 courses, there may be opportunities to utilize S-420 as required training for Type 3 CG positions. While this is true from a content and performance support position, it will likely not alleviate concerns from some members surrounding adding additional required training.

Background and Coordination: See original tasking memo for additional background. IPSC consulted with all subcommittees and position stewards for the positions and vetted through member entities. Questions may be directed to Jim Shultz, jim_shultz@nps.gov Chair, IPSC.

Distribution:

Michael Froelich, IPSC 310-1 Support Staff
Michelle Woods, IPSC Support Staff
Deb Fleming, NWCG Coordinator