



NATIONAL WILDFIRE COORDINATING GROUP

NIAC Memorandum 25-08

November 5, 2025

TO: Michael Froelich, Chair, Incident and Positions Standards Committee (IPSC)

FROM: Matt Woodwick, Chair, National Interagency Aviation Committee (NIAC)

SUBJECT: Update to Unmanned Aircraft System, Module Leader (UASL) Position

Issue/Action: To update the qualification requirements and progression pathway of the UASL position in the *NWCG Standards for Wildland Fire Position Qualifications*, PMS 310-1, based on analysis conducted during the Incident Performance and Training Modernization (IPTM) effort

Specifically, this action would update the following position qualification standards:

- Add Required Training: ICS-300, Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents, RT-130, Wildland Fire Safety Training Annual Refresher (WFSTAR), S-215, Fire Operations in the Wildland Urban Interface.
- Add Required Experience: Satisfactory performance as an Unmanned Aircraft System, Manager (UASM).
- Add UASL Maintains Currency For These Positions: Unmanned Aircraft System, Manager (UASM).
- Add Other Training Which Supports Development Of Knowledge And Skills: L-380, Fireline Leadership, S-219, Firing Operations, S-260, Interagency Incident Business Management, S-270, Basic Air Operations.

Additionally, this action would require the following:

- Individuals qualified as a UASL will be granted the UASM qualification.
- Historical recognition will be applied to all currently qualified responders, with the exception of the annual requirement for RT-130 which all UASL responders will be required to complete to maintain qualification.

These updates would be made in the *NWCG Standards for the Wildland Fire Positions Qualifications*, PMS 310-1 and the *NWCG Wildland Fire Position Qualification Flowchart*, PMS 308.

Background: Through the IPTM analysis process, the NWCG National Interagency Aviation Committee has approved the change in the qualification pathways for UASL.

Contact: For additional information please contact Matt Woodwick, NIAC Chair, matthew.woodwick@state.mn.us.

Distribution:

NWCG IPSC Chair
NWCG IPSC 310-1 Steward

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.