



NATIONAL WILDFIRE COORDINATING GROUP

NIAC Memorandum 25-10

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 Airtanker Base Manager (ATBM) Position

Issue/Action: To update the qualification requirements and progression pathway of the ATBM 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:

- Remove Required Training: A-115, Automated Flight Following, A-204, Crew Aircraft Capabilities and Limitations, ICS-100, Introduction to ICS, and IS-700, National Incident Management System: An Introduction.
- Add Required Training: A-200, Mishap Review (Triennial), A-205, Risk Management I, and S-273, Single Engine Airtanker Manager.
- Add Required Experience: Satisfactory performance as an Aircraft Timekeeper (ATIM).
 - Historical recognition for ATIM will be applied to all currently qualified ATBMs. Once the changes have been implemented, ATBM trainees will need to complete ATIM prior to certification.
- Add Other Training Which Supports Development Of Knowledge And Skills: A-305, Risk Management II, A-306, Aviation Contract Administration, A-307, Aviation Policy and Regulations II, and Modular Airborne Fire Fighting System (MAFFS) Training Exercise (Triennial).

Historical recognition will be applied to all currently qualified responders, with the exception of the triennial requirement for A-200 which all ATBM 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 ATBM.

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.