



NATIONAL WILDFIRE COORDINATING GROUP

NIAC Memorandum 25-12

November 13, 2025

TO: Michael Froelich, Chair, Incident and Positions Standards Committee (IPSC)
FROM: Matt Woodwick, Chair, National Interagency Aviation Committee (NIAC)
SUBJECT: Update to Aircraft Base Radio Operator (ABRO) Position

Issue/Action: To update the qualification requirements and progression pathway of the ABRO 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: A-109, Aviation Radio Use and A-115, Automated Flight Following (AFF).
- Add Other Training Which Supports Development Of Knowledge And Skills: A-100, Basic Aviation Safety, A-204, Manned Aircraft Capabilities and Limitations, and A-205, Risk Management I.

Historical recognition will be applied to all currently qualified responders.

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 ABRO.

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.