



## NATIONAL WILDFIRE COORDINATING GROUP

NWCG Briefing Paper

October 3, 2024

TO: NWCG Executive Board Members

FROM: NWCG Incident Operations Subcommittee (IOSC), Ryan Williams, Chair

SUBJECT: Summary of Change for *NWCG Incident Response Pocket Guide*, PMS 461

The *NWCG Incident Response Pocket Guide (IRPG)*, PMS 461 was updated with feedback received from NWCG Committees and their subgroups. Feedback was solicited with IOSC Memorandum 23-001 along with a request for change form on the NWCG website. The submissions were reviewed by IOSC, validated with stakeholders, and approved by the chair of IOSC and the NWCG Publications Manager.

Section	2022 <i>IRPG</i> Page Number(s)	Change
ALL	ALL	Updated language throughout to be more in line with current government guidance – e.g., changed “invalid” to “those with disabilities”. Updated formatting and language/grammar throughout the <i>IRPG</i> as needed.
How to Properly Refuse Risk	18 – 19	Formatting update to “Individuals may turn down an assignment as unsafe when...” from paragraph form to bulleted list.
Hazard Tree Safety	20	Changed text from “All firefighters should frequently survey their work area for potential hazard trees” to “All firefighters should frequently scan overhead to identify and trees that are leaning over their work area”.
Hazard Tree Safety	21	Updated text from “No Work Zones (flag, sign, and map)” to “No Work Zones (flag, sign, map, and communicate)”.
Fire Danger Ratings and Interpretations	39	Updated the link to the Fire Danger Pocket Cards webpage.
Reference Fuel Moisture	45	Added Nighttime Estimates for Reference Fuel Moistures.
In Your Fire Weather Forecast	51	Updated In Your Fire Weather Forecast section with new materials that use clear text to describe potential for lightning and impacts of mixing height.

Longline Mission	69	Updated language that a swivel is to be used for all longline missions and is not exclusive to backhaul.
Directing Retardant and Bucket Drops	74	Added strobe lights to “Utilize signal mirrors/strobe lights whenever possible”.
Minimum Drop Heights for Airtankers and Water Scoopers	76	Updated airtanker/water scooper information.
Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) in Wildland Fire Operations	New	Added two pages outlining key considerations for UAS operations, considerations prior to requesting UAS, and information on aerial ignitions using UAS.
Chainsaw Operations	84	Updated section name from Procedural Felling Operations. All text changed to include Indicators of Complexity and Chainsaw Operation Standards.