

Executive Summary of Changes

Global Changes

- Corrected BLM terminology regarding Fire and Aviation Directorate (FA).
- Corrected terminology from Department of Interior to Department of the Interior.
- Clarified type 1 through type 5 incident complexity levels.
- Removed reference to the *NWCG Wildland Fire Risk and Complexity Assessment* (RCA) in appendix [E](#) and [F](#). The hyperlink to the RCA is provided in the chapters.
- Removed text regarding safety officer, line (SOFR) and inserted safety officer type 3 (SOF3).
- Removed text referencing the National Incident Radio Support Cache (NIRSC) and inserted National Interagency Incident Communication Division (NIICD).
- Corrected spelling errors.
- Corrected broken hyperlinks.

Chapter 1 – Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy and Doctrine Overview

- No changes.

Chapter 2 – BLM Program Organization and Responsibilities

- Clarified text under heading “Harassment and Discrimination” regarding, “All fire personnel will be provided with a workplace free of harassment and unlawful discrimination. The Department is committed to providing a work environment free of discrimination and harassment based on race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy and gender identity), sexual orientation, national origin, age, disability, genetic information (including family medical history), status as a parent, marital status, or political affiliation, and free from illegal retaliation.”
- Under heading “Program Manager Responsibilities,” subheading “Fire Planning and Fuels Management Division Chief (FA-600)” inserted Fire Ecology/Monitoring responsibility and associated text.
- Inserted “Zone/ZFMO/ZAFMO” text throughout chapter for units that are zoned.
- Under heading “Management Performance Requirements for Fire Operations”:
 - Clarified text in table H-1203-1 Appendix, Authority 12, for state director/district manager regarding, “If SD or DM are not [AADM](#) qualified, they may not exercise this authority but may redelegate it. May only be re-delegated to a qualified BLM Agency Administrator ([AADM](#)) or the Alaska State SFMO.”
 - Item D – Clarified, “The Alaska SFMO is delegated these authorities due to the unique responsibilities and organizational structure of BLM Alaska. . . .”
 - Under “Assigned Program Responsibility” table:
 - Block 22 – For District Manager and BLM Agency Administrator, removed existing text and inserted, “Ensure monitoring of smoke and communication of potential impacts from smoke is considered for all wildfires (Wildland Fire and Air Quality Coordination Secretarial MOU between USDA, DOI, EPA and CDC (<https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/usda-epa-doi-cdc-mou.pdf>). Agency Administrators should consider ordering an Air Resource Advisor to work as part of IMTs when concerns regarding public health, transportation safety, or personnel safety issues from smoke are elevated as per Public Law 116-9, the Dingell Act, 2019, when appropriate to address smoke impacts” <https://www.congress.gov/116/plaws/publ9/PLAW-116publ9.pdf>.”
 - Clarified footnote that, “In Alaska, notifications will be made by the State FMO/Alaska Fire Service Manager and will include the District Manager if BLM lands were burned.”
- Under heading “Fire Staff Performance Requirements for Fire Operations,” table “Assigned Program Responsibility”:
 - Changed column heading from “District FMO” to “District/Zone FMO.”
 - Block 3 – For district/zone FMO, clarified text regarding, “Ensure individual fire reports are accurate and are certified/approved in the Interagency Fire Occurrence Reporting Modules ([InFORM](#)).”
- Clarified text under heading “State and National Duty Officers” regarding, “The National Duty Officer number is 208-387-5876.”
- Changed column heading in “Safety and Health Responsibilities for the Fire Program” table from “Unit FMO” to “District/Zone FMO.”
- Under subheading “BLM WCF 600-Class Command Vehicle Procurement Standards”:
 - Hotshot crew – Clarified approved asset types are: 652 superintendent or 658 utility truck (2 total), 644 crew carrier (2 each), and (optional) utility task vehicle and trailer (1 each).
 - Hand crew – Clarified approved asset types are: 644 crew carrier, 651/653/654/657/658 command truck, 652 superintendent truck.

- Helitack crew – Clarified approved asset types are: 651/653/654/657/658 command truck, 652 superintendent truck, 661 helitack support.
- Removed language regarding, “Standard vehicle configuration for wildland fire modules: 651/653/657/658 command truck, 652 superintendent truck.”
- Inserted approved asset types for Wildland Fire Module are: 651/653/654/657/658 command truck, 652 superintendent truck, 661 helitack support.
- Under subheading “Fire Equipment Standardization,” Table 1:
 - Line 5 – Changed Equipment Type Description from “Support/Utility/Chase/Prevention” to “Utility/Chase/Fuels/Prevention.”
 - Line 5 – Changed Alphabetical Designator from “UT/PT” to “UTL/FT/PT.”
 - Line 5 – Changed Equipment Identifier from “UT- X5XX” to “UTL- X5XX, PT-X5XX, and FT-X5XX.”
 - For Hotshot Crew/Veteran Crew/Wildland Fire Module, Equipment Type Description – Crew Utility Truck:
 - Changed LBS Identifier from “CREW NAME + UT” to “CREW NAME + UTL.”
 - Changed Alphabetical Designator from “UT” to “UTL.”
 - Changed Equipment Identifier from “UT” to “UTL.”
- Inserted text under subheading “Rural Fire Readiness Program” regarding, “The FAD will work with the NOC to ensure fire equipment is correctly transferred. This process includes ensuring the estimated salvage value and title transfer fees are paid to the BLM WCF prior to transferring equipment to cooperators. The BLM is authorized to undertake the following actions:
 - Transfer the title of BLM firefighting equipment which is no longer needed to carry out the functions of the wildland fire management program to one of the following organizations:
 - Rangeland Fire Protection Associations (RFPA).
 - Local volunteer fire departments.
 - Cooperators protecting remote communities under cooperative response agreements and who play a substantial role in the suppression of wildland fires on Department of the Interior (DOI) and other federal lands.
 - Bypass the GSAXcess process for firefighting equipment and perform direct transfers to RFPAs and similarly eligible local firefighting cooperators as specified in the RFR Equipment Transfer Program Guidelines. Please note the following exception: Working Capital Fund (WCF) equipment must be processed as a negotiated sale coordinated by the controlling WCF office.
 - Policy, information, and instructions about RFR can be found at: [https://doimspp.sharepoint.com/sites/blm-fa/fire-operations/SitePages/BLM-Rural-Fire-Readiness-\(RFR\).aspx](https://doimspp.sharepoint.com/sites/blm-fa/fire-operations/SitePages/BLM-Rural-Fire-Readiness-(RFR).aspx).”
- Inserted text under subheading “National Preposition Funding” regarding, “National preposition cost codes will be provided upon authorization from FA.”
- Under heading “BLM Firefighters General Non-Fire Training Requirements,” table “Agency Permanent, Career Seasonal, and Temporary Firefighters,” inserted Hearing Conservation as required training, with frequency upon initial employment and annually, and delivered by the unit safety manager or in DOI Talent (<https://doitalent.ibc.doi.gov/enrol/index.php?id=20192>).
- Under subheading “BLM Veteran Crews,” “BLM Veteran Crew Types and Locations” table, removed footnote regarding the Medford Crew is not funded with preparedness funding.
- Under heading “BLM Wildland Fire Modules,” inserted new subheading “BLM Wildland Fire Module Position Descriptions and Selective Placement Factors” and associated text.
- Under heading “BLM Exclusive Use Helitack Crews”:
 - Removed text regarding the “BLM type 1 helicopter’s primary mission is initial attack.”
 - Clarified, “The primary mission for lower 48 exclusive-use helicopter programs are initial attack. While most effective at providing rapid initial attack response, crews are well equipped to respond to extended-attack incidents and critical need missions on large fires.”
 - Removed text regarding, “Extended attack incidents that utilize the crew to fill critical positions should immediately order replacement personnel for those positions in case the aircraft and crew are reassigned. BLM states may request to preposition the helicopter and crew, either directly to the BLM state DO hosting the crew, or through the national duty officer (208-387-5876) followed by a resource order placed through the established dispatch channels.”
 - In the “BLM Exclusive-Use Helicopter Locations” table:
 - Removed the California Ravendale Type 3 helicopter.
 - Removed the Montana Lewistown Type 3 helicopter.
 - Removed Miles City and inserted Billings.
 - Removed the Nevada Ely Type 3 helicopter.
 - Increased number of Type 3 helicopters in Elko, Nevada from one to two.

- Inserted new subheading “BLM Use of Formalized Strategic Planning on Wildland Fires” and associated text.

Chapter 3 – NPS Program Organization and Responsibilities

- Under heading “Training,” subheading “NPS Firefighters General Training Requirements” table, inserted Do What’s Right as required training, with an annual frequency and completion tracking method is instructor-led or in DOI Talent.
- Under heading “NPS Firefighter Target Physical Fitness Standards” table, for adjustments to compensate for altitude differences, removed “deduct” time and inserted “add” time for altitudes 5000’ and above.

Chapter 4 – FWS Program Organization and Responsibilities

- Change subheading and references throughout the chapter from “Project Leader/Refuge Manager” to “Line Officer.”
- Under heading “Agency Administrator Roles”:
 - Subheading “Line Officer”:
 - Removed text in bullet regarding, “If an AADM is absent during an incident, the refuge supervisor and RFMC will assess of the acting AADM’s capabilities and provide appropriate additional support.” Inserted, “The line officer will ensure a qualified AADM is assigned.”
 - Inserted bullet regarding, “Hatchery programs with wildfire or prescribed fire potential will maintain AADM capability or ensure a delegation of authority to a neighboring AADM within their fire zone is in place.”
 - Inserted bullet regarding, “Coastal and Partners for Fish and Wildlife programs follow 645 FW1 policy when FWS Fire Management supports cooperative agreements for prescribed fire implementation.”
 - Subheading “Management Performance Requirements for Fire Operations” table:
 - Changed column name from “Project Leader/Refuge Manager” to “Line Officer.”
 - Block 3 – For Regional Chief/Refuge Supervisor and Line Officer, clarified text regarding, “Attends the [M-581](#), *Fire Program Management, an Overview* course (offered at the geographic level) or the Agency Administrator Training Workshop hosted by the National Interagency Prescribed Fire Training Center (NIPFTC) within two years of appointment. . . .”
 - Block 17 – Clarified text for the Line Officer regarding “Personally visit at least one wildfire or prescribed fire each year.”
- Inserted new heading “Preparedness Reviews” and associated text.
 - Inserted new subheading “USFWS Preparedness Review Schedules” and associated text.
- Under heading “Mobile Fire Equipment Policy”:
 - Inserted “All wildland fire management vehicles will:
 - Be uniquely identified in the Financial and Business Management System (FBMS).
 - Fire Equipment Maintenance Procedure and Record (FEMPR) will be maintained for all wildland fire vehicles and will be used to document routine and annual inspections and maintenance.
 - Routine inspections will be performed and documented daily or prior to vehicle use.
 - Annual inspections should be performed and logged at regularly scheduled intervals, but no less than on an annual basis, or as required by manufacturers’ schedules. Annual inspections will be performed by a qualified mechanic.
 - The FEMPR shall record the historic maintenance throughout the service life to help determine trends, repair frequency, and repair costs.
 - FEMPR review for all fire vehicles will be completed during local and regional reviews to ensure compliance with inspection requirements.”
- Under heading “Training”:
 - Inserted bullet under subheading “Agency Administrator Training” regarding, “Agency Administrators who have the authority and responsibility to oversee prescribed fire implementation are required to attend RT-300 on a biennial basis. The class must be a minimum of 4 hours. Refer to memo FWS/ANRS/NRCP-FM/079978.”
 - Clarified text under subheading “Zone Fire Management Officer Training” regarding, “All ZFMOs are required to attend the [M-581](#), *Fire Program Management, an Overview* course within one year of entry on duty.”

Chapter 5 – USFS Program Organization and Responsibilities

- Under heading “Specific Line Officer Responsibilities for Fire and Aviation at the Field Level”:
 - Subheading “Preparedness”:

- Clarified bullet regarding, “Ensure fire and aviation preparedness reviews are conducted each year and include the key components of the Nationwide Aerial Application of Fire Retardant on National Forest System Lands Record of Decision.”
- Removed bullet text regarding, “Meet annually with local U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) fisheries specialists to ensure the avoidance maps reflect changes during the year on additional species or changes made for designated critical habitat, and reporting and monitoring guidelines are still valid and being applied.” Inserted, “Coordinate annually with the Fish and Wildlife Service (at both the Field Office and Headquarters staff levels) to ensure that retardant avoidance areas on National Forest System Lands are mapped using the most up-to-date species information, such as any new detections and any other relevant data.”
- Subheading “Wildfire Response”:
 - Clarified text regarding, “Personally attend reviews on type 1 and type 2 complexity fires. Ensure agency representatives are assigned and delegated authority when appropriate.”
 - Clarified text regarding, “Ensure briefings include information regarding aerial application of fire retardant and avoidance areas as described in the current [Implementation Guide](#). Include the reporting requirements in the briefing if an intrusion of fire chemical occurs. . . .”
 - Clarified text regarding, “Ensure smoke impacts to the public and fire personnel are addressed by ensuring that Air Resource Advisors (ARA, technical specialist) are ordered to work as part of IMTs to the maximum extent practicable for wildfires classified as having type 1 complexity in the Organizational Assessment in WFDSS. Ensure assignment of ARAs as part of IMTs for type 2 complexity fires (as per Public Law 116-9, the Dingell Act, 2019, when appropriate to address smoke impacts (<https://www.congress.gov/116/plaws/pub19/PLAW-116pub19.pdf>)).”
- In table under subheading “Wildfire Response Responsibilities and Oversight,” changed column heading from “Incident Type” to “Incident Complexity.”
- Under heading “Agency Administrator Training and Qualifications for Wildland Fire Management”:
 - Subheading “Definitions”:
 - Changed table heading from “Incident or Project Type” to “Incident or Project Complexity.”
 - Removed “Coach/shadow team” and definition.
 - Removed “Shadow” and definition.
 - Subheading “Agency Administrator Wildfire Qualification Program”:
 - Clarified text regarding, “When the complexity level of a wildfire exceeds an AA’s qualification, a qualified coach will be assigned.”
 - Clarified text regarding, “. . . The coaching/training functions, to be administered by each region, is an integral part of this qualification program.”
 - Under “Guidelines,” clarified bullet text regarding, “For individuals that do not meet at least the working level, a coach will be assigned to support that agency administrator in managing type 3 or higher complexity wildfire incidents.”
 - Removed text for Prescribed Fire Agency Administrator Type 1 (RXA1) Evaluation Process regarding, “Individuals involved in a shadow assignment should receive creditable experience through documentation.”
- Under heading “Specific Fire Management Staff Responsibilities for Fire Operations at the Field Level”:
 - Subheading “Wildfire Response”:
 - Clarified text regarding, “Ensure all intrusions of wildland fire chemicals are reported and appropriate consultation conducted as needed (see [chapter 12](#)).”
 - Removed text regarding, “Ensure 5% assessment of fires less than 300 acres that had aerial fire retardant used and have avoidance areas as a result of the record of decision for the nationwide aerial application of fire retardant on NFS land is completed and documented for misapplication reporting.”

Chapter 6 – BIA Program Organization and Responsibilities

- Clarified text under heading “BIA Fire Operations Website” regarding, “BIA Division of Wildland Fire Management (DWFM) maintains a website that hosts operational, informational, and policy-related documents...The website also contains information about job recruitment, BIA training, Pathways Internship Program, fuels management, aviation, and wildland fire prevention.”
- Under heading “Agency Administrator Responsibilities”:
 - Removed, “Chief, Division of Forestry and Wildland Fire Management” and inserted, “Directorate, Environmental and Natural Resources.”
 - Under subheading “National Fire Leadership Team”:

- Inserted bullet regarding, “Make collaborative decisions that represent the BIA and Tribal programs for interagency wildland fire incident management standards, and incident position standards, which all NWCG agencies utilize.”
 - Removed bullet text for the NFLT consists of, “Fuels, Aviation, Operations, Budget, Administration, and Public Affairs Officer and other Central Office Managers,” and inserted, “DWFM Branch Chief’s and Central Office managers.”
 - Inserted bullet under subheading “Inherently Federal Activities” regarding, “Approval from the BIA Aviation Branch Office is required to utilize Tribal employees and casual hires to staff air attack platforms.”
- Under heading “Program Planning”:
 - Clarified text regarding, “Strategic planning for BIA field-level units relies primarily on FMPs (including spatial fire management plans) and fire danger rating trend analysis, per the interagency guidance in chapters 9 and 10, respectively. Fire management plans are critical strategic documents that guide the full range of fire management activities. The BIA recommends units supplement agency fire management plans with NWCG-compliant PocketCards or equivalent fire danger assessment tools. The Fire Danger Pocket Card and equivalent tools provide a format for interpreting and communicating key index values provided by the National Fire Danger Rating System (NFDRS) or the Canadian Forest Fire Danger Rating System (CFFDRS). The objective is to lead to greater awareness of environmental and vegetation burning conditions, and subsequently increased firefighter safety, by providing a description of seasonal changes in fire danger in a local area. It is useful to both local and out-of-area firefighters.”
 - Changed subheading from “Fire Weather/Remote Automatic Weather System (RAWS)” to “Fire Weather/Remote Automatic Weather Stations (RAWS).”
 - Under subheading “Fire Weather/Remote Automatic Weather Stations (RAWS)”:
 - Clarified text regarding, “The fire weather program is managed and coordinated by the DWFM Operations Section, which has been delegated to the BIA National RAWS Coordinator <https://raws.nifc.gov/raws-interagency-contacts>. This program provides funding and technical support for the maintenance and emergency repairs of station sensors to ensure the accuracy of station data for all BIA stations that are a critical component of the RAWS Network (See chapter 10) for fire weather and fire danger rating purposes. All stations will adhere to the *NWCG Standards for Fire Weather Stations (PMS 426-3)*. Stations are serviced through an interagency agreement with the Remote Sensing/Fire Weather Support Unit (RSFWSU) aka RAWS Depot located at NIFC. All permanent stations are on a Modified Return Service (annual RAWS technician visit) and portable/quick deploy stations are on the Portable Return Service; descriptions can be found on the RSFWSU Services tab on [NIFC RAWS Homepage](#).”
 - Inserted, “All technical questions about RAWS can be directed to the RAWS Help Desk: 208-387-5475, rawshelp@blm.gov.”
 - Deleted, “All field-level units will identify at least one permanent, National Fire Danger Rating System (NFDRS) fire weather station for fire planning purposes. A listing of these designated weather stations is maintained by the WFM Fuels Management staff and is updated annually.”
 - Deleted, “Each region must identify a regional point of contact (RPOC), and each agency/Tribe must identify a local point of contact (LPOC) for fire weather and weather stations. These contacts must be updated immediately upon reassignment to a new POC and provided to the BIA National RAWS Coordinator.”
 - Changed subheading from “BIA and Tribal NFDRS Weather Stations” to “BIA and Tribal Portable Fire Weather Stations.”
 - Under subheading “BIA and Tribal Portable Fire Weather Stations”:
 - Deleted, “The BIA Central Office, Division of Wildland Fire Management (DWFM) maintains a national contract with Forest Technology Systems, Ltd., (FTS) to provide annual maintenance, factory exchange service, and emergency repair to 81 permanent NFDRS weather stations. When noncompliant or malfunctioning RAWS are identified or suspected, fire managers should implement the following hazard mitigation actions to expedite RAWS repair and to reduce risk to fire personnel: Contact a technical support specialist at FTS and the BIA National RAWS Coordinator to resolve the noncompliance or emergency repair issue.”
 - Inserted, “All BIA and Tribal portable/quick deploy stations will meet the Fire RAWS Standards and Guidelines in the *NWCG Standards for Fire Weather Stations (PMS 426-3)*. To facilitate annual maintenance requirements, all stations have been put on a Portable Return Service with the RAWS Depot and must be sent there on a yearly basis in the following manner:

- Inserted bullet “Vehicle Requirements” and associated text.
- Inserted bullet “Annual Airbase Reviews” and associated text.
- Inserted bullet “Final Reports for Annual Airbase Reviews” and associated text.
- Inserted bullet “Readiness Evaluations” and associated text.
- Inserted bullet “Site Visits” and associated text.
- Inserted bullet “DOI 5-Year Aviation Evaluations” and associated text.
- Inserted bullet “Compliance and Accountability” and associated text.
- Under subheading “Aviation Program Goals”:
 - Removed text regarding, “The DWFPM, Aviation Branch Office, recommends BIA policy, procedures, and standards; and maintains functional oversight and interagency coordination for all aviation activities. The Aviation Branch is staffed with aviation personnel who can provide technical aviation expertise and guidance within all BIA regions. The primary goals of the Aviation Branch Offices are to promote aviation safety, efficiency, cost effectiveness.”
 - Inserted text regarding, “The Aviation Branch supports all BIA aviation activities and missions with various assets through strategic program guidance, managing aviation programs of national scope, in coordination with the Office of Aviation Services (OAS) and interagency partners.”
 - Inserted text regarding, “The Aviation Branch Office has the responsibility and authority, after consultation with regional FMOs, for funding and acquisition of all fire aircraft, prioritizing the allocation of BIA aircraft on a bureau wide basis, and approving regional office requests to acquire supplemental aircraft resources.”
- Under subheading “Regional Office Level”:
 - Removed existing text and inserted:
 - “Regional aviation managers or official delegate are responsible for providing oversight for aircraft hosted in their region and have the authority and responsibility to approve, with the Aviation Branch Office concurrence, acquisition of supplemental aircraft resources within their region.
 - Regional aviation managers or official delegate have the authority to prioritize the allocation, repositioning, and movement of all aircraft assigned to the BIA within their region.
 - Regional aviation managers must have a signed delegation letter providing authority to make aviation related decision within their regional jurisdiction. To include authority to implement aviation program objectives and directives to support the BIA mission and each region’s goals. Some regions may have additional support staff assigned to support aircraft operations and to provide technical expertise. A regional aviation management plan is required to outline goals of the region’s aviation program and to identify policy and procedures specific to that region.
 - Important Note: A region is not generally authorized to supplement this policy with more restrictive policy or procedures than the national policy, unless the policy or procedure is approved by the Aviation Branch Office.
 - The aviation branch meets Department of the Interior and interagency standards when hosting exclusive-use aviation programs in support of wildland fire operations and other non-fire mission activities. The standards align with the DOI Departmental Manual, Parts 112, 350, 351, 352, and 353, Indian Affairs Manual, Part 57, and aviation policies. These policies apply to all BIA Aviation programs including the personnel, equipment, and facilities necessary to support wildland fire and other bureau missions.”
- Removed existing text under subheading “Agency/Field Office Level” and inserted, “Agency, field managers, and staff manage their programs as necessary to conduct their aviation operations safely. Agency aviation managers (AAMs) serve as the focal point for the agency aviation program by providing technical expertise and management of aviation resources to support agency programs. Many agencies have aviation management as a collateral duty; therefore, during periods of intense aviation activity (e.g., wildland fire support), ensure aviation oversight is maintained. When other duties interfere or compete with effective aviation management, request assistance from the regional office. Agencies are responsible for hosting, supporting, providing daily management, and dispatching all aircraft assigned to their unit. Agencies have the authority to request additional resources, establish priorities, and make assignments for all aircraft assigned to the BIA within their agency. AAMs have the responsibility for aviation activities at the local level, including aviation mission planning, risk management and safety, supervision, and evaluation. AAMs assist line officers with risk assessment/management and cost analysis. All Tribal and agency offices utilizing aircraft should have a current and approved aviation management plan on file.”
- Removed text under subheading “Aviation Safety” and inserted, “The BIA and the interagency partners adhere to the standard Safety Management Systems (SMS) as the foundation to our aviation safety program. For further information, reference [chapter 16](#). All safety-related issues to include SAFECOMs

will be communicated to the Aviation Branch Office and routed to the appropriate aviation safety certified individual. All senior executives and federally appointed executive flights must be coordinated with the Aviation Branch Office at the beginning of the request to ensure proper and timely planning. Refer to OPM-7, OMB Circular A-126, and BIA National Aviation Plan.”

- Under heading “Safety and Risk Management”:
 - Inserted subheading “Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Program,” which includes Standard of Care and Certification, CISM Qualifications, and CISM Request Processes for fire and non-fire requests.
 - Inserted text under subheading “Motor Vehicle Operation Policy” regarding, “*Fire Vehicle Driver Orientation* course, [BL-300](#), and the *Wildland Fire Safety Training Annual Refresher*, [RT-301](#), are mandatory for all BIA wildland fire management and support personnel who operate vehicles. This includes all general schedule (GS), administratively determined (AD), and Tribal personnel performing wildland fire and prescribed fire operations. Training instruction for BL-300 and RT-301 can be found at [BIA Fire Vehicle Driving Training](#).”
- Under heading “Fire Communications and Education,” in the table column, “Wildland Fire Prevention,” changed bullet from “Juvenile fire setter prevention” to “Youth Fire Setter Intervention Program.”

Chapter 7 – Safety and Risk Management

- No significant changes.

Chapter 8 – Interagency Coordination and Cooperation

- No changes.

Chapter 9 – Fire Management Planning

- No significant changes.

Chapter 10 – Preparedness

- No significant changes.

Chapter 11 – Incident Management and Response

- Changed heading from “Wildfire Complexity” to “Wildfire Complexity Level.”
 - Under heading “Wildfire Complexity Level”:
 - Clarified, “Complexity Level is determined by completing Part E of the *NWCG Wildland Fire Risk and Complexity Assessment (RCA)*, PMS 236.”
 - Removed, “Incidents not meeting the recommended incident typing characteristics in this chapter should have a documented RCA ([appendix E](#)) verifying the command organization is appropriate.”
 - Under heading “Wildfire Risk and Complexity Assessment”:
 - Clarified, “The RCA assists personnel with evaluating the situation, objectives, risks, and management considerations of an incident and recommends the appropriate organization necessary to manage the incident, which is documented in Part C.”
 - Clarified, “The [RCA](#) also includes common indicators of incident complexity to assist firefighters and managers with determining incident management organizational needs. These common indicators are found in Part E of the [RCA](#).”
 - Clarified, “The [RCA](#) Part B can be used to populate the “Relative Risk Assessment” and Part C “Organization Assessment” portions of the Wildland Fire Decision Support System (WFDSS).”
- Under heading “Command Organizations”:
 - Subheading, “Incident Command”:
 - Clarified that, “All wildfires, regardless of complexity level, will have an incident commander (IC).”
 - Clarified that, “For type 3, 4, or 5 incident complexity levels, delegations/expectations may be written or oral.”
- Under heading “Incident Characteristics,” subheading “Type 1 and Type 2 Incident Complexity Indicators,” clarified text regarding, “Refer to Part E of the *NWCG Wildland Fire Risk and Complexity Assessment (RCA)*.”
- Under heading “Incident Management Teams,” subheading “Area Command,” clarified text regarding, “See [appendix J](#) for the Area Command (AC) Complexity Assessment template.”
- Under heading “Wildland Fire Decision Support System”:
 - Clarified text regarding, “For detailed information on the tools and capabilities in WFDSS, how managers may use the tools, and suggested WFDSS refresher training items, refer to [appendix K](#) and https://wfdss.usgs.gov/wfdss/WFDSS_Home.shtml.”
 - Clarified text under a published decision documents regarding, “The framework for the actions to be performed under the delegation of authority which authorizes an IC to operate on a specific unit(s). See

- “Agency Administrator Responsibilities” under “Managing the Incident” heading and [appendix E](#) for delegation of authority specifics.”
- Under heading “New Decision” for WFDSS:
 - Clarified that, “Additional information about WFDSS can be found in [appendix K](#).”
 - Removed BLM-specific text in footnote 3 under table “DOI WFDSS Approval Authorities” regarding, “Approvals may only be re-delegated to a qualified BLM Agency Administrator per agency policy. See [chapter 2](#) for fire cost notification requirements.” Inserted, “If the District Manager is not a qualified Agency Administrator (AADM), they may not exercise this authority but may re-delegate it. It may only be re-delegated to a qualified BLM AADM. See [chapter 2](#) for fire cost notification requirements.”
 - Changed FS-specific table column heading from “Incident Type” to “Incident Complexity.”
 - Under heading “Managing the Incident”:
 - Subheading “Agency Administrator Definition”:
 - Clarified FS-specific bullet regarding, “Complete an [RCA](#) for type 1, 2, and 3 complexity incidents within WFDSS.”
 - Clarified bullet text regarding, “Issue a written delegation of authority to the IC ([appendix E](#)) and to other appropriate officials, agency administrator representative, resource advisor, and incident business advisor.”
 - Removed text regarding the delegation of authority to the IC and other appropriate officials. . .should, ” Assign a READ(s) to the IMT.”
 - Subheading “Resource Advisor Responsibilities”:
 - Removed text regarding, “The READ is responsible for anticipating the impacts of fire operations on natural and cultural resources and for communicating protection requirements for those resources to the IC. The READ should ensure IMT compliance with the L/RMP and FMP. The READ should provide the IC with information, analysis, and advice on these areas. . . .”
 - Inserted, “Members of the resource advising group (Archaeologist (ARCH), Resource Advisor, Coordinator (REAC), Resource Advisor (READ), and Resource Advisor, Fireline (REAF)) are responsible for anticipating the impacts of fire operations on natural and cultural resources and for communicating protection requirements to those managing the incident. They should ensure IMT compliance with the law, regulation, and policy for the protection of these resources. The resource advising group should provide information, analysis, and advice on these areas:”
 - Removed bullet “Land Ownership.”
 - Removed bullet “Fuel breaks (locations and specifications).”
 - Removed text in bullet regarding, “Critical wildlife habitat,” and inserted, “Protected and sensitive wildlife areas.”
 - Inserted bullet regarding, “Potential impacts to local wildlife species.”
 - Clarified bullet regarding, “Poisonous plants, insects, and venomous snakes.”
 - Removed text in bullet regarding, “Archeological site, historic trails, paleontological sites.” Inserted, “Archaeological sites, historic trails, paleontological sites, and traditional cultural properties.”
 - Clarified bullet regarding, “Riparian areas including retardant buffers.”
 - Clarified bullet regarding, “Special management areas (wilderness areas, wilderness study areas, recommended wilderness, inventoried roadless areas, national monuments, national conservation areas, national historic landmarks and structures, areas of critical environmental concern, research natural areas, wild and scenic rivers, trails).”
 - Removed text regarding, “The READ and agency administrator representative positions are generally filled by local unit personnel. These positions may be combined and performed by one individual.” Inserted, “Depending on the complexity and duration of the incident, members of the resource advising group may be a mix of local and out of area personnel. Although present on the fireline, the members of the resource advising group report to the agency administrator. Duties are stated in the *Resource Advisor’s Guide for Wildland Fire*, [PMS 313](#).”
 - Under subheading, “Team Evaluation,” removed, “See [appendix I](#) for the IMT evaluation form.” Inserted, “See <https://www.nifc.gov/nicc/logistics/reference-documents> for the *Interagency Incident Management Team (IMT) Incident Evaluation* form.”
 - Under heading “Fire Management in Wilderness”:
 - Clarified, “Any delegation of authority to IMTs will convey appropriate emphasis on the preservation of wilderness character and resources and will ensure interaction with resource advisor(s) with expertise in wilderness stewardship.”
 - Clarified text in BLM-specific bullet regarding, “[BLM Manual 6340](#)—Management of BLM Wilderness (2012), Section 1.6.C.7 states that to the greatest extent possible, the Bureau will manage all wildfires in

wilderness: 1) using Minimum Impact Strategies Tactics (MIST) wherever possible; 2) if feasible, without equipment that would ordinarily be prohibited under Section 4(c) of the Wilderness Act; and 3) by assigning a resource advisor with expertise in wilderness stewardship. . . .”

- Under heading “Operational Guidelines for Aquatic Invasive Species”:
 - Clarified text regarding, “Local area or agency guidelines may also be available and useful and local biologists, resource advisors, and fire personnel should consult with each other during the pre-season regarding known aquatic invasive species locations to facilitate incident avoidance when possible.”
 - Clarified bullet text regarding, “Consult with local biologists, resource advisors, and fire personnel for known aquatic invasive species locations in the area and avoid them when possible.”
- Clarified text under heading “Operational Guidelines for Invasive Species” regarding, “Firefighter personnel should clean items such as personal equipment, boots, clothing of weed or other invasive species materials, including visible plant parts, soil, and other materials as identified by the resource advisor(s).”
- Under heading “Post-Wildfire Activities”:
 - Removed text regarding post-wildfire activities references can be found in, “Interagency Burned Area Emergency Response Guidebook – Interpretation of Department of the Interior 620 DM 7 and USDA Forest Service Manual 2523, For the Emergency Stabilization of Federal and Tribal Trust Lands (version 4.0, February 2006) and Interagency Burned Area Rehabilitation Guidebook – Interpretation of Department of the Interior 620 DM 7, For the Burned Area Rehabilitation of Federal and Tribal Trust Lands (version 1.3, October 2006).”
 - Inserted DOI-specific bullet regarding:
 - Interagency Burned Area Emergency Response Guidebook – Interpretation of Department of the Interior 620 DM 7
 - Interagency Burned Area Rehabilitation Guidebook – Interpretation of Department of the Interior 620 DM 7
 - Inserted FS-specific bullet regarding, “[USDA Forest Service Manual 2523](#), Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER).”
 - Clarified text under subheading “Suppression Repair” regarding, “Planned actions taken to repair the damages to resources, lands, and facilities resulting from wildfire suppression actions and documented in the Suppression Repair Plan. . . .”
 - Inserted FS-specific text under subheading “Emergency Stabilization” regarding, “No later than 1 year after the containment of the fire as documented in the Burned Area Response Funding Request and Authorization.”
 - Under subheading “Rehabilitation”:
 - Clarified text regarding, “Efforts taken to repair or improve wildfire-damaged lands unlikely to recover naturally to management-approved conditions or to repair/replace minor assets damaged by wildfire. Rehabilitation actions must be taken per agency policy.”
 - Inserted DOI-specific text regarding, “Within 5 years following 21 days after the ignition date of a wildfire as documented in a separate Burned Area Rehabilitation Plan (BAR) or in combination with Burned Area Emergency Response Plan (BAER).”
 - Deleted FS-specific text regarding, “A Burned Area Emergency Response Plan (BAER).” Inserted, “No later than 3 years after the containment of the fire as documented in the Burned Area Rehabilitation Funding Request and Authorization.”
 - Under subheading “Restoration”:
 - Clarified that, “Continuing the rehabilitation beyond agency rehabilitation timeframes or the repair or replacement of major assets damaged by the wildfire.”
 - In the “Post-Wildfire Activities” table:
 - Row “Urgency,” column “Rehabilitation” – Clarified 1-5 years DOI; 1-3 years FS.
 - Row “Urgency,” column “Restoration” – Clarified 5+ years DOI; 3+ years FS.
 - Row “Responsibility,” column “Emergency Stabilization” – Removed agency administrator and inserted local unit line officer.
 - Row “Responsibility,” column “Rehabilitation” - Removed agency administrator and inserted local unit line officer.
 - Row “Responsibility,” column “Restoration” - Removed agency administrator and inserted local unit line officer.
 - In the “Emergency Stabilization Approval Authorities” table:
 - Row “Regional/ State Approval Level,” column “FWS” – Clarified text regarding, “<\$500,000 Assistant Regional Director, Refuges with regional fire management coordinator concurrence.”
 - Row “Regional/ State Approval Level,” column “FS” – Clarified text regarding, “\$100,000 Eastern and Alaska Regional Foresters.”

- Row “National Approval Level,” column “FS” – Clarified text regarding, “>\$100,000 or \$500,000 Director, Field Services and Innovation Center.”
- Under heading “Burned Area Emergency Response Teams”:
 - Removed, “BAER teams are a standing or ad hoc group of technical specialists (e.g., hydrologists, biologists, soil scientists) that develop and may implement portions of the BAER plans.”
 - Inserted, “Incident BAER teams are a group of fireline-qualified technical specialists (e.g., hydrologists, biologists, soil scientists) that analyze post-fire conditions and develop the Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation (DOI) or Burned Area Emergency Response (FS) funding requests.”
 - Clarified text regarding, “The team’s size and skills should be commensurate with the size and complexity of the wildfire.”
 - Removed text regarding, “The agency administrator is responsible for designating an interdisciplinary BAER team. However, BAER teams must coordinate closely with IC and IMT to work safely and efficiently. The agency administrator is responsible for submitting the Emergency Stabilization BAER Plan to the regional office for review and approval within the timeframes established by each agency. Coordination should occur with the regional BAER coordinator. If needed, extensions can be negotiated with those having the appropriate level of approval authority.”
 - Inserted, “The local unit line officer is responsible for submitting the funding request to the regional or state office for review and approval within the timeframes established by each agency. Coordination should occur with the regional BAER coordinator during the assessment process. If needed, extensions can be negotiated with those having the appropriate level of approval authority.”
 - Removed DOI-specific text regarding, “The full national BAER team is dispatched to more difficult incidents involving extreme risks to human life and critical Federal assets. Potential floods, mud and debris flows, watershed/municipal water supplies, urban interface, and complex and multiple jurisdictions are the dispatch prioritization criteria issues factored into the mobilization decision. Less complex incidents will use local, regional, interagency, and contracted ad hoc BAER teams that may be supplemented with national BAER team personnel. Bureau coordinators maintain rosters of BAER personnel for less complex incidents.”
 - Removed FS-specific text regarding, “Each Forest Service unit identifies a core BAER team prior to fire season. Regional coordinators maintain rosters of experienced BAER personnel in the region. When needed, specific BAER personnel representing needed specialties from other units can either be contacted directly or through dispatch. See FSM 2523 and FSH 2509.13 for agency- specific policy and direction for BAER teams.”
 - Inserted FS-specific text regarding, “The local Forest or Grassland Supervisor designates a unit BAER Coordinator and qualified BAER personnel prior to fire season. National and regional BAER coordinators maintain a roster of experienced BAER personnel available for assignments. When needed, specific BAER personnel from other units can be requested through the national and regional BAER Coordinators. Once team members have been assigned, they should be ordered to the specific BAER incident by name request through dispatch. See FSM 2523 for agency-specific policy and direction for BAER teams.”
 - Clarified FWS-specific text under heading “Interagency Final Fire Reports and Datasets” regarding, “For wildfires that originate on FWS lands, or lands formally protected by FWS, final fire reports shall be submitted via [InFORM](#), as noted in [chapter 4](#).”
- Changed subheading from “Fire Loss Tolerance Reporting for Type 1 and 2 Incidents” to “Fire Loss Tolerance Reporting for Type 1 and 2 Complexity Incidents.”

Chapter 12 – Suppression Chemicals and Delivery Systems

- Clarified text under heading “Types of Fire Chemicals,” subheading “Long-Term Retardant” regarding, “Retardants may be applied aerially by very large, large, and single engine (SEAT) airtankers and helicopter bucket.”
- Under heading “Interagency Policy for Aerial and Ground Delivery of Wildland Fire Chemicals Near Waterways and Other Avoidance Areas”:
 - Clarified table footnote regarding, “Because there is the potential for TEPCS, their designated critical habitats, or other resources such as cultural or heritage areas to occur in waterway buffers or additional mapped avoidance areas, consult the proper resource advisor(s) prior to application to determine best action or the potential for environmental effects.”
 - Changed subheading from “Exceptions for Aerial Delivery of Long-Term Retardant on USDA Forest Service Lands (2011 Record of Decision)” to “Exceptions for Aerial Delivery of Long-Term Retardant on USDA Forest Service Lands (2024 Record of Decision).”
 - Clarified text under subheading “Exceptions for Aerial Delivery of Long-Term Retardant on USDA Forest Service Lands (2024 Record of Decision)” regarding, “Deviations from the policy are allowed in cases

where human life or public safety is threatened and retardant use within avoidance areas could be reasonably expected to alleviate that threat.”

- Under heading “Reporting Requirements of Aerially Delivered Wildland Fire Chemicals Into Waterways, Waterway Buffer Areas and Mapped Avoidance Areas”:
 - Clarified bullet text regarding, “The information will be forwarded to incident management and the agency administrator, usually through the resource advising group.”
 - Clarified text regarding, “. . . This requirement resulted from the Forest Service’s acceptance of Biological Opinions received from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), and the *2024 Record of Decision (ROD) for Nationwide Aerial Application of Fire Retardant on National Forest System Lands. . .*”

Chapter 13 – Firefighter Training and Qualifications

- Under heading “Incident Qualifications and Certification System”:
 - Removed BLM-specific text regarding, “Transition of hard copy records to electronic records must be completed by December 31, 2024. During the transition, IQCS certifying officials have the option to keep employee training and qualification records as a hard-copy file or an electronic file. Additional information can be found at <https://www.nifc.gov/about-us/our-partners/blm/training>.” Inserted, “Employee training and qualification records will only be stored electronically in IQCS.”
 - Removed BIA-specific text regarding, “Agency superintendents and line officers of Tribal fire programs who choose delegation of authority of the certifying official role must do so in writing, utilizing the delegation of authority form found on the IQCS website (<https://iqcsweb.nwcg.gov/>).”
 - Under subheading “Incident Qualification Card “:
 - Added BLM to the bullet regarding, “An electronic incident qualification card utilizing the IQCS portable document format (PDF) with electronic signature is authorized.”
 - Added BIA to the bullet regarding, “An electronic incident qualification card utilizing the IQCS portable document format (PDF) with electronic signature is authorized.”
 - Added NPS to the bullet regarding, “The “Do What’s Right” training is required annual training but is not a prerequisite for issuance of an incident qualification card.”
 - Added FWS to the bullet under subheading “Incident Qualification Card Expiration Dates” regarding, “WCT is valid for 13-months from the date passed. [RT-130](#) is valid for 13-months from the date completed.”
- Under heading “Medical Examinations”:
 - Clarified FS-specific text regarding, “As with DOI agencies, an employee may be required to take a medical examination whenever there is a reasonable concern, based on objective evidence, about the employee’s continued capacity to meet any of the physical or medical requirements of the position. Such an examination may be ordered for instances of job-related injuries/illnesses and for those that are not job-related. Supervisors should contact the Medical Qualifications Program medical officers for assistance and guidance regarding how to proceed. See the USFS Light and Moderate Medical Process or the Arduous Medical Process (AMP) Implementation Guide on the Wildland Firefighter Medical Qualifications found at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/fire/safety/emedical>.”
 - Under subheading “Arduous Fitness Level – Department of the Interior Wildland Firefighter Medical Standards Program (DOI MSP)”:
 - Inserted FS-specific bullet regarding, “All positions which require an arduous qualification must participate in a medical clearance process through the Medical Qualifications Program (MQP). This policy does not apply to cooperating agency wildland firefighters or contractors. Personnel must receive a version of the “Medically Qualified” determination from the MQP staff before participating in the arduous WCT or performing the duties of a firefighter. Refer to current agency direction at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/fire/safety/emedical>.”
 - Under subheading “Examination/Self-Certification Periodicity and Changes in Medical Status”:
 - Inserted FS-specific bullet regarding, “See Change in Medical Status in the AMP Implementation Guide for more specific information (<https://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/fire/safety/emedical>).”
 - Inserted BLM-specific bullet regarding, “If a law enforcement officer seeks an arduous wildland firefighter qualification, an additional medical clearance for wildland firefighting must be requested. If a determination of “not qualified” is made, the DOI MSP risk mitigation/waiver process will be used. Both actions will be initiated by the Law Enforcement Medical Standards Officer.”
 - Under subheading “Medical Examination Process for Light and Moderate Fitness Levels”:
 - Removed FS-specific text regarding, “Medical exams will be paid from a Washington Office fund code.” Inserted, “Refer to the Light and Moderate Medical Process Guide (<https://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/fire/safety/emedical>).”

- Inserted BLM-specific text regarding, “Law enforcement officers must be found medically qualified, or qualified with waiver, and pass the Law Enforcement Physical Efficiency Battery test to have the law enforcement physical fitness standards be equivalent to the “Moderate” and “Light” work category.”
- Removed FS-specific text regarding, “The completed OF-178 is submitted to the reviewing medical officer for the agency to review and medically clear.” Inserted, “Refer to the Light and Moderate Medical Process Guide (<https://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/fire/safety/emedical>).”
- Under heading “Work Capacity Tests”:
 - Subheading “Physical Fitness Levels”:
 - Inserted BLM-specific text under the “Arduous” bullet regarding, “Law enforcement officers must obtain and present a Wildland Firefighter Determination certificate before participating in the Arduous WCT.”
 - Inserted BLM-specific text under the “Moderate” bullet regarding, “Law enforcement physical fitness standards are acceptable as equivalent to a “Moderate” WCT work category.”
 - Under subheading “Work Capacity Test Administration”:
 - Added FWS to the bullet regarding, “Currency for WCT is 13 months.”
 - Clarified text regarding, “WCT results shall be documented and may capture information covered under the Privacy Act and should be maintained in accordance with agency Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) guidelines. See the NWCG Work Capacity Test Administrator’s Guide, [PMS 307](#), for a Sample Work Capacity Test (WCT) Data Sheet.”
 - Clarified FS-specific text regarding, “Failed or not completed WCT attempts are to be entered into the eMedical system by the HSQ coordinator.”
 - Clarified FS-specific text under subheading “Work Capacity Test – Retesting” regarding, “One opportunity for temporary employees required to pass a test (a second chance maybe provided at the discretion of fire management). Direction can be found in the *NWCG Work Capacity Test (WCT) Administrator’s Guide* (PMS 307, <http://www.nwcg.gov/publications/307>).”
- Removed BIA-specific text under heading “Interagency Hotshot Crews,” subheading “Interagency Hotshot Crew Policy” regarding, “IHC superintendents and assistant superintendents are required to have the additional qualification of interagency hotshot superintendent (IHCS) and/or assistant hotshot superintendent (IHCA) on their incident qualification card prior to mobilization. Additional information regarding this standard can be found in the *Federal Wildland Fire Qualifications Supplement* (<https://iqcsweb.nwcg.gov>).”
- Inserted BLM-specific text below the table under heading “Wildland Fire Modules” regarding, “Guidance for position descriptions and selective placement factors can be found at <https://doimspp.sharepoint.com/sites/blm-fa/SitePages/BLM-0456-Series-Toolbox.aspx>.”
- Under heading “Chainsaw Operators and Fallers”:
 - Moved the following text down in the section:
 - “The final certification of all wildfire faller positions will remain the responsibility of the [IQCS](#) certifying official.”
 - “All wildland fire saw operation qualifications are maintained through IQCS and displayed on the incident qualification card.”
 - Clarified BLM-specific text regarding, “The individual tasks required for completion of the FAL1 PTB must be evaluated by a qualified FAL1. The final evaluator’s verification for a FAL1 trainee must be completed by any agency Faller Evaluator (FALV) or equivalent. FALV position requirements can be found at <https://doimspp.sharepoint.com/sites/blm-fa/fire-operations/SitePages/Chainsaw-Operations.aspx>.”
 - Inserted FWS-specific text regarding, “The final certification of all wildfire faller positions will remain the responsibility of the [IQCS](#) certifying official.”
 - Inserted FWS-specific text regarding, “All wildland fire saw operation qualifications are maintained through IQCS and displayed on the incident qualification card.”
 - Changed BIA table column heading from “CPR” to “First Aid and CPR.”
 - Removed BIA table column heading “First Aid and Bloodborne Pathogens” and associated text.
 - Removed BIA-specific text regarding, “The possession of emergency response capabilities can be fulfilled through one of the following two options: 1) Crews will minimally possess one or more individuals who are currently certified to administer CPR and provide first aid. 2) If the crew does not possess this capability, other provisions must be made by the supervisor to provide these services while engaged in chainsaw operations.” Inserted, “All BIA/Tribal sawyers, including AD’s, will maintain first aid and CPR as outlined in the preceding chart.”

Chapter 14 – Firefighting Equipment

- Inserted FWS-specific text under heading “Firefighting Engines,” subheading “Fire Engine Staffing” regarding, “For type 4 engines, minimum staffing is three individuals one of which is engine boss qualified.”
- Under heading “All-Terrain Vehicles/Utility-Terrain Vehicles”:
 - Clarified BLM-specific text regarding, “. . . The State directors, assistant directors, and the Director, National Operations Center have the authority to approve exceptions to this policy on a case-by-case basis. . . .”
 - Inserted BIA-specific text regarding, “BIA and Tribal UTV operators must enroll in, and complete, a certified Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association (ROHVA) operators’ program and attain a completion certificate. Alternatively, employees can also take UTVO training from a qualified BIA/Tribal staff member who has competed and been certified as a ROHVA instructor. These certifications should be entered as supporting documentation in IQCS and may be subject to audit during preparedness reviews. . . .”
 - Under subheading “Required PPE, ” topic “UTV Head Protection for Wildland Fire Operations”:
 - Removed text regarding American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Z90.1.
 - Removed BIA-specific text regarding ANSI Z90.1.

Chapter 15 – Communications

- Inserted BLM-specific text under heading “Policy” regarding, “Bureau of Land Management Radio Communications Manual (MS-1292), BLM Radio Frequency Authorization Manual (MS-1291), Frequency Authorizations Handbook (H-1291-1), Communications Tower Climbing Program Handbook (H-1292-1), Radio Frequency Exposure Awareness Handbook (H-1292-2), Radio Site facilities Standards Handbook (H-1292-3). <https://doimsp.sharepoint.com/sites/blm-fa-nros/SitePages/Radio%20Manuals%20and%20Handbooks.aspx>.”
- Under heading “Cellular/Smartphone/Satellite Phone Communications”:
 - Removed text regarding, “Cellular/smartphone/satellite telephones will not be used to communicate tactical or operational traffic unless no other means are available. Cellular/smartphone/satellite telephones will not be used for flight following in lieu of normal flight following procedures. Telephone/smartphone/satellite communications may be used for logistical purposes.”
 - Inserted, “Cellular/smartphone/satellite telephones may be used to supplement tactical or operational traffic using agency approved applications. Cellular/smartphone/satellite telephones will not be used for flight following in lieu of normal flight following procedures. Telephone/smartphone/satellite communications/applications may be used for logistical purposes (TAK, PTTToC, etc.).”
- Under heading “Radio Contracts”:
 - Removed text regarding, “Radios used for fire and aviation activities must be approved by the National Interagency Incident Communication Division (NIICD). Information on contracts, software, hardware requirements, and approved radios is available on the NIICD website (<https://www.nifc.gov/resources/NIICD>) or contact your agency Telecommunications Department or the NIICD engineer at (208) 387-5720.” Inserted, “Radios used for fire and aviation activities must be identified on the Fire Approved Radio list. The Approved Radios List is available on the NIICD website (<https://www.nifc.gov/resources/NIICD>) or contact your agency Telecommunications Department or the NIICD engineer at (208) 387-5720.”
 - Removed BLM-specific bullet regarding, “For information on BLM contracts, software, and hardware requirements and approved radios, contact the National Radio Operations Section (FA-332) at (208) 387-5881.”
- Under heading “Radio Frequency Management”:
 - Removed text regarding, “Frequency-modulated (FM) and amplitude-modulated (AM) frequencies are approved and assigned by a designated Washington Office (WO) Frequency Manager and managed by State and local communications officers. Frequencies shall not be transmitted without written permission from formally appointed frequency management personnel at the local, state, regional, or national level.”
 - Inserted text regarding, “Prior to their use and transmission, all frequency-modulated (FM) and amplitude-modulated (AM) frequencies require permission from their formally appointed frequency management personnel at the local, state, regional, or national level.”
- Under heading “Incident Frequency Management”:
 - Clarified text regarding, “Frequencies for incidents are assigned by the NIFC CDO and are managed by a qualified communications unit leader (COML).”
 - Clarified text regarding, “Incidents that do not have an assigned COML, will coordinate and request all frequency and communication equipment needs through the COMC and/or the NIFC CDO.”
 - Inserted subheading “National Interagency Fire Tactical Frequencies” and associated text.

- Under heading “Smokejumper and Rappel/RADS Air-to-Ground Frequency (168.5500 MHz)”:
 - Inserted text regarding, “This frequency is not approved for ground tactical operations (line of sight) on incidents as a tactical or intra-crew channel.”
 - Subheading “Governmentwide Area Common User Frequencies (163.1000 MHz, 168.3500 MHz)”:
 - Inserted text regarding, “Permission to use these frequencies for incident use, requires submitting a request using the proper IROC ordering procedure from the NIFC CDO.”
 - Removed subheading “National Interagency Fire Tactical Frequencies” and associated text.
- Under heading “Incident Radio Support”:
 - Removed text referencing the National Incident Radio Support Cache (NIRSC) and inserted National Interagency Incident Communication Division (NIICD).
 - Clarified text regarding, “All National Interagency Incident Communication Division (NIICD) communications equipment will be returned to NIFC immediately after the incident is turned over to the local jurisdictional agency unless otherwise coordinated with the NIICD CDO/COMC.”

Chapter 16 – Aviation Operations and Resources

- Under heading “Organizational Responsibilities”:
 - Bureau of Indian Affairs:
 - Clarified text regarding, “The BIA Aviation Branch Office is responsible for supporting all BIA aviation operations within Indian Affairs through an active and professional aviation organization that: . . .”
 - Inserted bullet regarding, “For policy, guidance, and responsibilities refer to Indian Affairs Manual, Part 57, DOI Departmental Manual, Parts 112, 350, 351, 352, and 353, and the BIA National Aviation Plan.”
 - Inserted bullet regarding, “Works with the BIA Aviation Branch Office for planning and ordering of UAS modules. The BIA regional office is responsible reassigning and movement of assigned UAS modules within their regional jurisdiction in coordination with the BIA Aviation Branch Office, local dispatch centers, and interagency aviation managers.”
 - Under subheading “State/Regional Office”:
 - Clarified BLM-specific text regarding, “. . . SAMs are designated as the contracting officer’s representative (COR) for all exclusive-use aircraft hosted by their state. . . .”
 - Removed BIA-specific text referencing “NAO” and inserted “Aviation Branch Office.”
 - Under subheading “Local Office”:
 - Removed BIA-specific text regarding, “May serve as the COR for BIA exclusive-use aircraft on their agency/unit if aircraft manager is not current or qualified as such.”
 - Inserted BIA-specific bullet regarding, “May serve as the COR for BIA aviation exclusive use contracts within the respective region if the aircraft manager is not current or qualified as such. CORs of exclusive use contracts must have a signed appointment letter from the Contracting Officer.”
 - Inserted BIA-specific bullet regarding, “Will serve as the Project Manager (PM) for “on call and CWN” aviation contracts within the regional jurisdiction. All CORs will be approved by the BIA Aviation Branch Office and communications will be coordinated through the Aviation Branch Office.”
- Clarified BIA-specific text under heading “Aviation Information Resources” regarding, “BIA National Aviation Plan (NAP) and applicable aviation guides are references in the NAP, IAM part 57, and DM 112, 350-353.”
- Under heading “Interim Flight and Duty Limitations/Aviation Stand Downs”:
 - Subheading “Interim Flight and Duty Limitations Implementation”:
 - Removed existing text.
 - Inserted “What is the Intent?” and associated text.
 - Inserted “To Whom Do the Limitations Apply?” and associated text.
 - Inserted “Flight and Duty Limitations Evaluation Criteria and Information” and associated text.
 - Inserted “Phase 1 – Standard Flight and Duty Limitations (Reference Applicable Contract for Contractor Personnel Duty Limitations)” and associated text.
 - Inserted “Phase 2 – Interim Duty Limitations” and associated text.
 - Inserted “Phase 3 – Interim Duty Limitations” and associated text.
 - Inserted text regarding the process to implement interim flight and duty limitations at the geographic area and NMAC.
- Under heading “Aviation Assets”:
 - Clarified text regarding, “Typical agency aviation assets include helitack, rappel, short-haul, aerial supervision (ATGS), helicopter coordinator ([HLCO](#)), leadplane, aerial supervision module (ASM), large (multi-engine) airtankers (LAT), very large airtankers (VLAT), single engine airtankers (SEAT), scoopers, and smokejumpers.”

- Clarified BIA-specific text regarding, “The BIA Sensor Enhanced Air Attack aircraft personnel will work with GACCs and BIA Aviation Branch Office for coordination, movement, and ordering of such resources.”
- Under heading “Helitack”:
 - Subheading “Organization – Crew Size”:
 - Clarified BLM-specific text regarding, “The baseline staffing for a BLM exclusive-use type 3 helicopter is 11 personnel. The baseline staffing for a BLM exclusive-use type 2 helicopter is 13 personnel. . . Recommended staffing levels for BLM exclusive-use helitack crews is outlined in the BLM Fire 0456 Series User Guide, <https://doimspp.sharepoint.com/sites/blm-fa/SitePages/BLM-0456-Series-Toolbox.aspx>. . .”
 - Removed existing BIA-specific text and inserted, “For exclusive use helitack crew size standards, see the NAP, appendices, and Exclusive Use Helicopter Module Position Standards. On-call helitack and all helicopter personnel responsibilities are outlined in the NWCG Standards for Helicopter Operations (PMS 510, <https://www.nwcg.gov/publications/510>). All helitack training and currency requirements are contained in the PMS 310-1. Each region hosting exclusive-use/on-call helicopters is responsible for providing essential management, overhead, equipment, facilities, and the resources necessary to fully support the helitack crew. Host regions are encouraged to increase helitack crew size minimum requirements to enhance operational efficiency and effectiveness. All exclusive use helicopter programs are required to use the OPM approved GS-0456 series organizational chart. The Aviation Branch Office recommends the 11 crew size organizational chart for an exclusive use type 3 helicopter program. Minimum daily operational staffing levels will comply with PMS 510 standards.
 - Exclusive Use Minimum:
 - Type 3 helicopter -10 helitack personnel
 - Type 2 helicopter - 12 helitack personnel”
 - Subheading “Transportation”:
 - Removed BLM-specific text regarding, “Minimum vehicle configuration for a seven-person crew will consist of one class-661 helitack support vehicle and one class-156 or class-166 vehicle.”
 - Clarified BIA-specific text regarding, “Minimum vehicle configuration for an 11 person crew will consist of one class-661 helitack support vehicle and one class-156 or class-166 vehicle, A choice of additional vehicle(s) funded through the region can be obtained to ensure adequate space for helitack module.”
- Under heading “Aerial Supervision Principles for ATGS, HLCO, ASM, and Leadplane”:
 - Inserted text regarding, “Aerial supervision resources will be dispatched when available to initial-/extended-attack incidents in order to enhance safety, effectiveness, and efficiency of aerial/ground operations. The objective is to minimize the instances of airtankers and helicopters operating in the fire traffic area (FTA) without aerial supervision.”
 - Clarified text regarding, “In accordance with PMS 505, *NWCG Standards for Aerial Supervision*, when aerial supervision resources are co-located with fixed-wing aircraft, they will be dispatched together unless the required aerial supervision is currently on scene of the incident or is being dispatched from another location. Examples of appropriate aerial supervision can include ATGS, ASM, and/or leadplane.”
- Under heading “Airtankers”:
 - Clarified text regarding, “Host GACCs will check with NICC prior to releasing flight crews on LATs, VLATs and scoopers for the day when those resources are not being used within the host area and could be utilized elsewhere for emerging or ongoing fire activity.”
 - Clarified text regarding, “LATs primarily are initial attack capable without leadplane/ASM supervision. VLATs require leadplane/ASM supervision to be on scene prior to arriving on the fire.”
 - Subheading “Airtanker Types”:
 - Clarified,” Very large airtankers – 6,000 gallons or more.”
 - Clarified, “Type 1 – 3,000 to 5,999 gallons.”
 - Subheading “Very Large Airtankers”:
 - Removed existing text.
 - Inserted, “Very Large Airtankers (VLATs) have some unique operational considerations including low-level supervision, terrain, airtanker base ramp operations and operations in the fire traffic area (FTA).
 - Leadplane/ASM supervision will be on scene prior to arriving on the fire.
 - Aerial supervision (leadplane or ASM) is required by contract and interagency policy for VLATs while dropping retardant.
 - Aerial supervisors will have the technical expertise to determine if the VLAT is the right tool for the terrain and objectives.

- VLATs minimum drop height is 250 feet above the ground or canopy cover whichever is higher. Generally, drop heights should increase when using higher coverage levels.
- VLATs require considerably more space and clearance from other aircraft within the FTA and more time to set up for drops.”
- Airtanker bases approved for VLATs are listed in the [NWCG Airtanker Base Directory](#).”
- Clarified text under heading “Large and Very Large Airtanker Coordination” regarding, “National coordination and management of FS-contracted airtankers and scoopers is required to ensure there is airtanker and scooper coverage, response, and capability nationwide. The FS Airtanker Program Manager and FS Fixed-wing Coordinator coordinate and manage airtanker and scooper readiness and availability, capability, and response with vendors, national aviation staff, and NICC.”
- Under heading “Airtanker Base Operations”:
 - Clarified text regarding, “All permanent and temporary bases will have an airtanker base operations plan (ABOP), and a qualified [ATBM](#) prior to operations out of the airtanker base airport.”
 - Clarified text regarding, “All personnel conducting airtanker base operations shall review the SABO and have it available. [ATBMs](#) are authorized to manage SEATs.”
 - Under subheading “Airtanker Base Personnel”:
 - Clarified, “There is identified training for the positions at airtanker bases. The [PMS 310-1](#) lists required training for these positions.”
 - Inserted text regarding, “. . .The ATBM has ultimate authority and responsibility over all operations at the airtanker base. . . .”
- Clarified text under heading “Multi-Engine Water Scoopers” regarding, “FS-contracted multi-engine water scoopers are national resources. Geographic areas administering these aircraft will make them available for initial attack and extended attack fires on a priority basis. A water scooper manager will need to be ordered by the unit requesting water scoopers. The National Airtanker Program Manager, who has oversight responsibility for the multi-engine water scoopers, will have a list of available managers. The manager will be on site to coordinate water scooper operations, logistics, and water-body assessment.”

Chapter 17 – Fuels Management

- Under heading “Reporting Planned Fuels Treatments Burned in a Wildfire”:
 - For BLM:
 - Clarified bullet regarding, “BLM offices will report all acres burned in a naturally caused wildfire that meet resource objectives in IFPRS when the following criteria have been met:”
 - Clarified bullet regarding, “An agency administrator approves the determination and the office will notify the State fuels lead/specialist. Together they ensure appropriate reporting in IFPRS.”
 - Inserted, “Offices will create a polygon in IFPRS encompassing only the acres of the wildfire that meet resource objectives. The IFPRS Category will be set to "Unplanned Ignition" and the Type will be "Wildfire.”
 - Clarified text regarding, “See instructions in the *BLM Fuels Management and Community Assistance Handbook*, [H-9214-1](#) as well as the BLM IFPRS Business Rules.”
 - Removed FWS from bullets regarding, “Acres burned in a wildfire may only be reported in the NFPORS HFR module as “fire use” if all the following conditions are met.”
 - For FWS:
 - Inserted bullet regarding, “Acres burned in a wildfire may only be reported in IFPRS within these treatment categories: biological, chemical, mechanical, or planned ignition, and then with a “wildfire” treatment type only if all the following conditions are met:
 - The area burned is preidentified (with polygon) within the three-year program of work.
 - The preidentified objectives associated with the treatment were accomplished.
 - Relevant pre-treatment compliance is complete.”
- Under heading “Reporting of Wildfire Acres That Meet Resource Management Objectives”:
 - Clarified BLM-specific text regarding, “Reporting will take place in IFPRS.”
 - Clarified FWS-specific text regarding, “Reporting will take place in [InFORM](#).”

Chapter 18 – Reviews and Investigations

- Clarified text under subheading “Fire and Aviation Safety Team Review” regarding, “See [appendix I](#) for sample FAST delegation of authority.”
- Clarified text under subheading “Lessons Learned Review” regarding, “The LLR facilitator will convene the participants and obtain a delegation of authority from appropriate agency level. See [appendix G](#) for a sample LLR delegation of authority.”

- Under heading “Wildland Fire Accident Investigation Process,” inserted DOI bullet regarding, “All DOI aviation accident and incident investigations are conducted in accordance with [352 DM 3](#) and the [DOI Aircraft Mishap Notification, Investigation, and Reporting Handbook](#).”
- Under heading “Wildland Fire Serious Accident Investigation Process,” inserted DOI bullet regarding, “All DOI aviation accident and incident investigations are conducted in accordance with [352 DM 3](#) and the [DOI Aircraft Mishap Notification, Investigation, and Reporting Handbook](#).”
- Under heading “Related Policy Documents”:
 - Row “DOI,” column, “Safety” – Inserted text regarding, “[352 DM 3](#) and [DOI Aircraft Mishap Notification, Investigation, and Reporting Handbook](#).”

Chapter 19 – Dispatch and Coordination System

- Throughout the chapter, removed reference to dispatch reference materials in appendix P, and inserted [appendix L](#).
- Clarified text under subheading “Management of National Support Resources” regarding, “NICC mobilizes national support resources such as National Interagency Incident Communications Division (NIICD) radio systems and kits, incident remote automatic weather stations (RAWS), project remote automatic weather stations, national contract mobile food services, and national contract mobile shower facilities. Refer to the [National Interagency Standards for Resource Mobilization](#) for more information.”

Appendices

- Appendix E
 - Removed [Wildland Fire Risk and Complexity Assessment](#) text and incorporated information and hyperlinks into the chapters.
 - Renamed appendix *Sample Delegations of Authority Agency Administrator to IMT and Leader’s Intent*, which was previously appendix G.
- Appendix F
 - Removed text for [Indicators of Incident Complexity](#). Incorporated text and hyperlinks into the chapters.
 - Renamed appendix *Local Incident Commander Briefing to IMT*, which was previously appendix H.
- Appendix G
 - Renamed appendix *Sample Delegation – Lessons Learned Review (LLR)*, which was previously appendix J.
- Appendix H
 - Renamed appendix *Recommendations for Incident Emergency Medical Services*, which was previously appendix K.
- Appendix I
 - Removed existing text regarding [Incident Management Team Performance Evaluation](#), and inserted text and hyperlink into chapter 11, subheading “Team Evaluation.”
 - Renamed appendix *Sample Delegation of Authority – FAST*, which was previously appendix L.
- Appendix J
 - Renamed appendix *Area Command (AC) Complexity Assessment*, which was previously appendix M.
- Appendix K
 - Renamed appendix *Wildland Fire Decision Support System Information*, which was previously appendix N.
- Appendix L
 - Renamed appendix *Dispatch Reference*, which was previously appendix P.
 - Removed text under heading “Required Reference Materials” regarding, “*National Incident Radio Support Cache (NIRSC) User’s Guide*,” and inserted, “[National Interagency Incident Communications Division \(NIICD\) User’s Guide](#).”
- Appendix M
 - Removed.
- Appendix N
 - Removed.
- Appendix O
 - Removed.
 - Removed text regarding work capacity test record. In chapter 13 under “Work Capacity Test Administration” subheading, inserted, “See the *NWCG Work Capacity Test Administrator’s Guide*, [PMS 307](#), for a *Sample Work Capacity Test (WCT) Data Sheet*.”
- Appendix P
 - Removed.