United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
California State Office
2800 Cottage Way, Suite W.1834
Sacramento, CA 95825
www.ca.blm.gov

February 16, 2001

In Reply Refer to:
9210 **(P)**
CA-940

EMS TRANSMISSION: 02/16/01
Instruction Memorandum **No. CA-2001-025**
Expires: 9/30/02

To: CDD District Manager, All Field Office Managers
           (Attention: District/Regional & FO Fire Mgmt. Officers)

From: State Director

Subject: Training Standards and Qualifications for California BLM Fire Personnel

As you are aware, there has been a significant amount of review and analysis directed at fire qualifications and training standards of federal wildland firefighting personnel. It is essential that all BLM Line Managers are aware of current fire qualifications and training standards that apply to their respective employees. **The attached training standards were developed by the California BLM Fire Training and Qualifications Committee. They reflect the target level of fire training and currency qualifications for operational fire suppression and prescribed fire positions within California's Fire Management Program.**

All positions not identified in this IM will meet NWCG 310-1 requirements.

Please personally review these standards, and ensure that your fire management staff officers provide the required level of fire training and experience opportunities to Bureau firefighting personnel to ensure individual fire qualifications compliance.

It is imperative that you actively move towards full attainment of these training standards as rapidly as possible. The California State Office, Branch of Fire and Aviation, will facilitate and coordinate 2001 statewide fire training opportunities that are being offered in order to meet these standards.

The Bureau's Incident Qualification System (IQS) is one of the key components to provide the necessary management oversight to ensure compliance to BLM and interagency qualification standards in wildland and prescribed fire. It is designed to provide Field Office, District/Regional, State and National Managers with an interactive, computerized mechanism for accessing detailed qualification, certification and training information necessary to certify employees in wildland and prescribed fire or other technically skilled incident management positions.

The other key component to providing management interaction will be the continuation of the BLM California Fire Qualifications Committee. This committee, consisting of District/Regional, Field Office and State Office fire management personnel, will continue its role in providing necessary technical and operational training and qualifications system oversight, as well as reviewing all District/Regional IQS fire qualification printouts.

It is important for line managers to recognize that Bureau employees can only be sent to Interagency and/or "Off -District" assignments in those positions which are in accordance with the IQS System. District/Regional and Field Office fire qualification lists will also include Firefighter 1, Firefighter 2, and seasonal firefighting positions.

The District and Field Office Managers are to ensure that all Interagency Fire Qualification cards, (NFES-1518) for Bureau employees are printed in accordance with the IQS System. District or Regional Fire Management Officers have the authority to approve and sign Fire Qualifications Cards for their respective employees, for all incident management positions except Type 1 and Type 2 Incident Management positions and Type 1 and 2 Prescribed Fire positions. Type 1 and 2 Incident Management personnel (command and general staff positions) and Type 1 and 2 Prescribed Fire personnel, will be approved and signed off by the California State Fire and Aviation Management Officer. Field Office Fire Management Officers have the authority to approve and sign fire qualification cards for Firefighter 1& 2 level positions.

All District/Regions and Field Offices are reminded that the individual's physical fitness level must be tested and verified prior to the qualification card being issued to the respective Bureau employee.

All District/Regions and Field Offices should be aware that IQS Systems oversight for their location is performed by their respective Interior Operation Coordinator. Central California Region, California Desert District Office and Field Offices, should contact the South Operations Interior Coordinator at (909) 320-6145 for IQS Systems assistance. NORCAL Operations and NORCAL Field Offices (thru SIFC) should contact the North Operations Interior Coordinator at (530) 226-2801 for IQS Systems assistance.

For additional information, contact Doug Waggoner in the California State Office, Branch of Fire and Aviation Management at (916) 978-4437.

Signed: Authenticated:
Mike Pool   Liza Raymundo
State Director   Records Management

1 Attachment:
California Fire Training and Qualifications Standards (9 pp)

Distribution:
FA-100, National Office, Director of Fire and Aviation
FA-103/MIB Room 5627, HQ Liaison, Jay Thietten

CALIFORNIA FIRE TRAINING AND QUALIFICATIONS STANDARDS

1. **FIRE RECURRENCY TRAINING** *(All Fireline Positions)*

Annual Training:

BLM Required:
- < Review of Fire Behavior Principles
- < Review of Standards for Survival/LCES/Fire Shelter Deployment
- < Basic Wildland Fire Suppression Tactics and Strategy
  (*Fire Annual Currency Training (FACT II) can be utilized to meet above 3 requirements.*)

CA-BLM Required:
- < Ethics and Conduct Training - for Fire Management Program Personnel only.
  (*Fire Leadership and Management Excellence (FLAME) course meets this requirement*.)
- < **Certification required for successful completion of all annual recurrent training**.

Non-Annual Training:
- < First Aid & CPR & Blood borne Pathogen Training - All supervisory personnel required to maintain currency training.
- < All drivers whose job duties require the use of a motor vehicle will receive initial defensive driver training within 3 months of entering on duty and refresher driver training every 3 years thereafter.

Physical Fitness Level:
- < Must meet *required position fitness level* <u>prior</u> to issuance of individual fire qualifications card.

2 **FIREFIGHTER 2 (FFT 2)**

Training:

310-1 Required:
- < Firefighter Training S-130, (ICS-100 included)
- < Introduction to Fire- Behavior S-190

BLM Required:
- < Standards for Survival
- < Hazardous Materials Awareness Program for Firefighters
- < First Aid/CPR & Blood borne Pathogen Training
- < **Certification required for successful completion of the training requirements.**

Experience: None

Physical Fitness Level: Arduous

3. ADVANCED FIREFIGHTER 1 / SQUAD BOSS (FFT1)

Training:

310-1 Required:
- < Advanced Firefighter Training S-131

BLM Required:

<   First Aid/CPR & Blood borne Pathogen Training

CA-BLM Required:
<   Supervisory Concepts & Techniques S-281
<   Portable Pump and Water Use S-211
<   Wildfire Power Saws S-212
<   **Certification required for successful completion of the training requirements.**

Experience and Qualifications:
<   Satisfactory performance as a FFT2.
<   Satisfactory performance as a FFT1/Squad Boss on a wildfire, and completion and certification
     of Position Task Book

Physical Fitness Level: Arduous

4.   **FIRE ENGINE OPERATOR(Type 3 and 4 Engines)**

Training:
     310-1 Required: **Position not defined in 310-1**

     BLM Required:
<   First Aid/CPR & Blood borne Pathogen Training

     CA-BLM Required:
<   Basic ICS I-200
<   California BLM Engine Academy
     Includes:
              - Portable Pump and Water Use S-211
              - Driving for the Fire Service S-216
<   S-290 Intermediate Fire Behavior
<   **Certification required for successful completion of the training requirements.**

Mandatory Licensing Requirement:
<   Valid California DMV Class B (commercial) Drivers License and appropriate endorsements (*for
     operators of type 3 engines/vehicles over 26,000 GVW*).

Experience and Qualifications:
<   Satisfactory performance as an Advanced Firefighter FFT1/Squad Boss
      and as an Assistant Fire Engine Operator
<   Completion and certification of Position Task Book

Physical Fitness: Arduous

5.   **FIRE ENGINE MODULE LEADER-CREW SUPERVISOR**

Training:
     310-1 Required:
<   Crew Boss S-230
<   Fire Behavior S-290
     BLM Required:
<   First Aid/CPR & Blood borne Pathogen Training

CA-BLM Required:
- < California BLM Engine Academy
- < Basic ICS I-200
- < Initial Attack Incident Commander S-200
- < Engine Boss S-231
- < Fire Business Management S-260
- < Basic Air Operations S-270
- < Ignition Operations S-234
- < Fire Operations in the Urban Interface S-215
- < Campbell Wildfire Predictive System (CPS) - *Recommended*
- < **Certification required for successful completion of the training requirements.**

Mandatory Licensing Requirement:
- < Valid California DMV Class B Drivers License for Type 3 fire engines and vehicles over 26,000 GVW.

Experience and Qualifications:
- < Successful completion of Single Resource Boss (Engine) Position - Task Book

Physical Fitness Level: Arduous

6. HAND CREW MODULE LEADER - HOTSHOT CREW SUPERINTENDENT & ASST.

Training:

310-1 Required:
- < Crew Boss S-230
- < Fire Behavior S-290

BLM Required:
- < First Aid/CPR & Blood borne Pathogen Training

CA-BLM Required:
- < Basic ICS I-200
- < Initial Attack Incident Commander S-200
- < Ignition Operations S-234
- < Fire Business Management Principles S-260
- < Basic Air Operations S-270
- < Campbell Wildfire Predictive System (CPS) - *Recommended*
- < **Certification required for successful completion of the training requirements.**

Experience and Qualifications:
- < Successful completion of Single Resource Boss (Crew) Position - Task Book

Physical Fitness Level: Arduous

7. <u>HELICOPTER CREWMEMBER</u>:

Training:

    310-1 Required:
- <   Interagency Helicopter Training Guide S-217
- **<**   Firefighter Training S-130, (ICS-100 included)
- <   Introduction to Fire- Behavior S-190

    BLM Required:
- <   Standards for Survival
- <   Hazardous Materials Awareness Program for Firefighters
- <   First Aid/CPR & Blood borne Pathogen Training
- <   **Certification required for successful completion of the training requirements.**

Experience and Qualifications:
- <   Successful completion of Helicopter Crewmember Position - Task Book

Physical Fitness Level: Arduous

8. <u>LEAD HELICOPTER CREWMEMBER</u>:

As per the Interagency Helicopter Operations Guide (IHOG), the Lead Helicopter Crewmember must meet the following: **This position is not defined in 310-1.**

Training:
- <   Supervisory Concepts and Techniques S-281
- <   Portable Pumps and Water Use S-211
- <   Wildfire Power Saws S-212

Recurrent Training:
- <   Interagency Helicopter Operations review (S-217) and re-certification, annually

Experience and Qualifications:
- <   Must have 1 season as Helicopter Crewmember on a Fire Helicopter *(a season =90 days)*
- <   Firefighter 1 qualified

Physical Fitness Level: Arduous

9. <u>EXCLUSIVE USE ASSISTANT FIRE HELICOPTER MANAGER</u>

As per the Interagency Helicopter Operations Guide (IHOG), the Assistant Fire Helicopter Manager must meet the following: **This position is not defined in 310-1.**

Training:
- <   Initial Attack Incident Commander S-200
- <   Fire Operations in the Urban Interface S-215
- <   Crew Boss S-230
- <   Fire Business Management Principles S-260

<   Helibase Manager S-371
<   Fire Behavior S-290
<   COR/Project Inspector

BLM Required:
<   Aviation Conference & Education (ACE)

CA-BLM Required:
<   Campbell Prediction System - *Recommended*

Recurrent Training:
<   Interagency Helicopter Operations review (S-217) and re-certification, annually
<   Biennial attendance at either an Exclusive Use Helicopter Managers Workshop or a California Interagency Fire Helicopter Managers Workshop
<   COR/Project Inspector Training every 3 years
<   Aviation Conference & Education (ACE) Training every 3 years

Experience and Qualifications:
<   Interagency Helicopter Operations Guide requirements as follows:
    -   Must have 2 seasons as a Lead Crew or Crewmember on a Fire Helicopter or,
    -   two seasons as a Call When Needed Fire Helicopter Manager. *(A Season is 90 days)*
<   Type IV Incident Commander *(Single Resource Boss qualified)*
<   Successful completion of Helicopter Manager Position - Task Book

Physical Fitness Level: Arduous

10.   <u>EXCLUSIVE USE FIRE HELICOPTER MANAGER</u>

Training:
<   Successful completion of all Exclusive Use Assistant Fire Helicopter Manager Requirements
<   Interagency Aviation Management & Safety (IAMS)
<   COR/Project Inspector

BLM Required:
<   Aviation Conference & Education (ACE)

CA-BLM Required
<   Campbell Prediction System - *recommended*

Recurrent Training:
<   Interagency Helicopter Operations review (S-217) and re-certification, Annually
<   Biennial attendance at either an Exclusive Use Helicopter Managers Workshop or a California Interagency Fire Helicopter Managers Workshop.
<   COR/Project Inspector Training every 3 years
<   Aviation Conference & Education (ACE) Training every 3 years

Experience and Qualifications:
<   Interagency Helicopter Operations Guide requirements as follows:
    -   Must have 1 season as an Assistant Fire Helicopter Manager or,
    -   two seasons as Lead Helicopter Crewmember. *(A Season is 90 days)*
<   Helibase Manager Type 2 (Trainee)
<   Type IV Incident Commander (Single resource Boss Qualified)

< Successful completion of Helicopter Manager Position - Task Book

Physical Fitness Level: Arduous

11. INCIDENT COMMANDER - INITIAL ATTACK (TYPE 5)

Training:
310-1 Required:
< Look up, Look Down, Look Around S-133
CA-BLM Required:
< Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior S-290
< **Certification required for successful completion of the training requirements.**

Experience and Qualifications:
< Satisfactory performance as a FFT1/Squad Boss
< Successful completion of IC Type 5 Position - Task Book

Physical Fitness Level: Arduous

12. INCIDENT COMMANDER - INITIAL ATTACK (TYPE 4)

Training:
310-1Required:
< Fire Operations in the Urban Interface S-215
CA-BLM Required:
< Initial Attack Incident Commander S-200
< Ignition Operations S-234
< Campbell Predictive Wildfire System - *recommended*
< **Certification required for successful completion of the training requirements**.

Experience and Qualifications:
< Satisfactory performance as a Single Resource Boss
< Successful completion of ICT4 Position Task Book

Physical Fitness Level: Arduous

13. INCIDENT COMMANDER - EXTENDED ATTACK (TYPE 3)

Training:
310-1 Required:
< Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior Calculations S-390

CA-BLM Required:
< Intermediate ICS I-300
< Leadership and Organizational Development, S-301
< Task Force/Strike Team Leader S-330
< Incident Commander Extended Attack S-300
< **Certification required for successful completion of the training requirements.**

Experience and Qualifications:
- < Incident Commander Type 4
- < Task Force Leader **or** Strike Team Leader plus any 2 single resource boss positions.
- < Successful Completion of ICT3 Position Task Book

Physical Fitness Level: Arduous

14. INITIAL ATTACK DOZER OPERATOR/HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

Training:
310-1 Required: **Position not defined in 310-1**
BLM Required:
- < Successful completion of Firefighter 2 Training

CA-BLM Required:
- < Fire Behavior S-290
- < Basic ICS I-200
- < Ione CDF Fire Dozer Academy - *recommended*
- < Campbell Wildfire Predictive System - *recommended.*
- < **Certification required for successful completion of the training requirements**.

Experience and Qualifications:
- < Satisfactory position performance as a Dozer Operator on a wildfire incident.

Physical Fitness level: Moderate

15. ASSISTANT HAND CREW MODULE LEADER - PRESCRIBED FIRE MODULE

Training:
310-1 Required: **Position not defined in 310-1**

CA-BLM Required:
- < Crew Boss S-230
- < Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior S-290
- < Prescribed Fire Monitor RX-91
- < Basic ICS I-200
- < Ignition Operations S-234
- < Interagency Incident Business Management S-260
- < Basic Air Operations S-270
- < Supervisory Concepts & Techniques S-281
- < First Aid/CPR & Blood borne Pathogen Training

Experience and Qualifications:
- < Qualified as FFT1

Physical Fitness level: Arduous

16. HAND CREW MODULE LEADER - PRESCRIBED FIRE MODULE

Training:
310-1 Required: **Position not defined in 310-1**
CA-BLM Required:
< Crew Boss S-230
< Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior S-290
< Prescribed Fire Monitor RX-91
< Basic ICS I-200
< Ignition Operations S-234
< Interagency Incident Business Management S-260
< Basic Air Operations S-270
< Supervisory Concepts & Techniques S-281
< First Aid/CPR & Blood borne Pathogen Training

Experience and Qualifications:
< Qualified as Ignition Specialist (RXI2) & Burn Boss 3 (RXB3)
< Qualified as single resource boss - crew (CRWB) & IC Type 5 (ICT5)

Physical Fitness level: Arduous

17. AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE

Training:
310-1 Required: **No requirements, agency established.**

CA-BLM Required:
< Intermediate ICS I-200
< Wildland Fire Suppression Orientation for Non-Operations Personnel S-110
< California BLM Agency Representative Training - *recommended.*

Recurrent Training.
< Annual firefighter recurrent training

Experience and Qualifications:
< Satisfactory performance as a BLM Agency Representative trainee. *(5 year currency requirement)*

Physical Fitness Level: Light   *(Local office may make more restrictive.)*

18. ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST

Training:
310-1 Required: **Position not defined in 310-1**
CA-BLM Required:
< Introduction to ICS I-200

<   Wildland Fire Suppression Orientation for Non-Operations Personnel S-110
<   California BLM Agency Representative Training - *recommended.*

Recurrent Training:
<   Annual firefighter recurrent training.

Experience and Qualifications:
<   Satisfactory performance as a BLM Environmental Specialist trainee *(5 year currency requirement)*

Physical Fitness Level: Moderate   *(Local office may make more restrictive.)*