

National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group

3833 South Development Avenue; Boise, ID 83705

NMAC Memorandum 2021-23

July 18, 2021

To: Geographic Area Coordinating Group Chairs

From: National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group

Subject: Incident Management Team Rationale

We are currently experiencing very high demand on Type 1 and Type 2 Incident Management Teams (IMTs) and this heavy demand is projected to continue. Given the limited number of available IMTs, it is necessary to manage assignments nationally. Effective immediately requests for Area Command, National Incident Management Organization (NIMO), Type 1 and Type 2 IMTs must be approved by the National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group (NMAC). This includes internal assignments, except for emerging incidents posing an imminent threat to life and property. Reference the 2021 National Interagency Mobilization Guide, Chapter 20, page 43. In order to facilitate prioritization of team orders, NMAC is requesting ordering units provide rationale and information describing the need, using the form fillable [Rationale For Assigning/Requesting Incident Management Teams](#).

The following should be considered when composing rationale for NIMO, Type 1 and Type 2 IMTs:

Life threatening situations (firefighter or public safety)

- Evacuations currently taking place
- Advisory evacuations
- Evacuation plans in place
- Road, highway, or interstate closures

Real Property Threatened

- Number of structures, commercial and/or residences
- Number of subdivisions
- Name of communities and population
- Historically significant cultural resources
- Natural resources, such as crops, grazing, timber, watershed
- Major power lines, energy sources or other infrastructure

High Damage Potential

- Likelihood that long- or short-term damage will occur to values at risk
- Severity of impact on community if damage occurs

Incident Complexity

- Multi-jurisdictional
- Fuel type, incident size, and growth potential
- Political situations
- Severity, extreme fire behavior and fuels conditions



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There are three Area Command Teams available nationally. NMAC believes this resource should be utilized to assist impacted units and geographic areas during these periods of high fire occurrence resulting in critical resource shortages. Area Command can assist with long-range planning for assignment and replacement of multiple Incident Management Teams and the complexing of incidents within an area of responsibility.

Requests for Area Command should address the following:

- An assessment of the risks/threats which warrant the use of an Area Command to include political sensitivities and management implications, general size of the area of responsibility and complexity.
- A description of the proposed assignment for the Area Command Team.

To ensure an integrated approach to IMT management, extension requests for all Area Command, NIMO, Type 1 and Type 2 IMTs (internal and external to home geographic area) will require NMAC approval. Requests must be submitted four days prior to their fourteenth day on the assignment for review and approval of NMAC. All [Resource Extension Request Forms](#) submitted, regardless of IMT type, must have block 6 signed for final approval. This change is consistent with NMAC management actions identified in NMAC Correspondence M2021-15 *Management of Critical and Scarce Resources for Fire Year 2021*, specific to when demand exceeds supply for Type 2 IMTs.

All rationale should be sent to your NMAC Liaison and the NICC by e-mail (cod@blm.gov).

/s/ Joshua Simmons Chair, NMAC

