

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

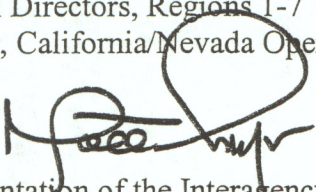
Washington, D.C. 20240

In Reply Refer To:
FWS/ANRS-NR-FM/018531

SEP 09 2004

Memorandum

To: Regional Directors, Regions 1-7
Manager, California/Nevada Operations Office

From: Deputy
Director 

Subject: Implementation of the Interagency Fire Program Management
Qualifications Standards and Guide (IFPM Standard)

Studies of wildland fire incidents for a number of years highlighted the fact that more stringent, uniform qualification standards were needed for certain fire management positions to assure firefighter safety. The lengthy collaborative effort between the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture to establish uniform fire management qualifications standards to improve firefighter safety and increase professionalism in the fire management program has been completed.

In a memorandum dated June 18, 2004, Assistant Secretary P. Lynn Scarlett **established October 1, 2004, as the date to officially begin implementing** the Interagency Fire Program Management Qualifications Standard and Guide (IFPM Standard). A subsequent memorandum was issued on July 2, 2004, by Carolyn Cohen, Director, Office of Personnel Policy, to all Bureau Human Resources Directors reaffirming this implementation date.

The National Fire and Aviation Executive Board through the Federal Fire Training Task Group chartered an interagency IFPM Implementation Team consisting of human resources, training, and fire management personnel. The Implementation Team met on August 5-6, 2004, to begin their work on an interagency basis. Their first task is to develop an implementation plan, which will be issued on October 1, 2004. This plan will provide guidance on the implementation process.

The above-mentioned memorandums, the IFPM Standard, and related information can be found on the internet at http://www.nifc.gov/training_qual/IFPM/ifpm.htm. If you have further questions, please contact Phil Street, Chief, Fire Management Branch, at (208) 387-5596 or via email at phil_street@fws.gov.

cc: 3238-MIB-FWS/Directorate File
3238-MIB-FWS/CCU
3251-MIB-FWS/ANRS
670-ARLSQ-FWS/ANRS-DNRS
570-ARLSQ-FWS/ANRS-NR
570-ARLSQ-FWS/ANRS-NR-FM (file)
570-ARLSQ-FWS/ANRS-NR-FM (Borzik)
HR-2035-ARLSQ-FWS/ABHR-HR
Regional Chiefs, R1-7 & CNO
Regional Fire Management Coordinators, R1-7 & CNO

FWS/ANRS-NR-FM:JBorzik:kem:8/17/04:304-876-7749 & 703-358-2043
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