



**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
STATE BOARD OF FIRE SERVICES**

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Date: December 27, 2012

To: State Board of Fire Services

From: Scott Vail CICCIS TF

Subject/Agenda Action Item:

Additions to the CICCIS Equivalency Matrix to incorporate NIMS Position Specific Training

Recommended Actions:

Incorporate 15 NIMS ICS position specific courses to the CICCIS Equivalency Matrix. The 15 Courses are:

- Incident Commander (L-9 50)
- Liaison Officer (L-956)
- Public Information Officer (L-952)
- Safety Officer (L-954)
- Logistics Section Chief (L-967)
- Finance Section Chief (L-973)
- Planning Section Chief (L-962)
- Operations Section Chief (L-958)
- Division Supervisor (L-960)
- Facilities Unit Leader (L-971)
- Supply Unit Leader (L-970)
- Communications Unit Leader (L-969)
- Cost Unit Leader (L-975)
- Situation Unit Leader (L-952)
- Resource Unit Leader (L-965)

In addition, add the All-Hazard Incident Management Team Course (NFA 0305) to the Equivalency Matrix (although there is no equivalency being sought for this by CICCIS at this time).

Background Information:

In August 2003, USFA convened a focus group of stakeholders and experts from across the country to best determine the means to develop Type 3 Incident Management Teams (IMTs). The focus group agreed to stay with the basic National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) Incident Command System (ICS) training and typing models for the all hazards emergency response community. FEMA in 2006 began developing NIMS Position Specific training that would provide the emergency responders all-hazard incident management team position training to enhance local and state government response capacity. The courses have been available nationally since 2008. California has been lagging behind many states in adopting this training.

The FEMA NIMS position specific training as been provided in California for three years to fire personnel throughout the state, generally through home-land security grant funded training programs.

In 2010 FEMA and NWCG commissioned a contractor, ICF International, to develop a Crosswalk /Gap Analysis of NIMS All-Hazard Position and NWCG Courses to determine their equivalency. The 15 Courses are equivalent and are essentially the same, if not better, than the NWCG position courses due to updated material and focus on all-hazards. The courses have been recently updated and are available to all approved instructors.

Many fire and rescue personnel throughout the state have taken or plan on taking the FEMA courses because they have been sponsored through fire agencies or other emergency management agencies including CalEMA. Some of this training is being taught at little or no cost to the attendees making them very attractive alternatives than waiting to attend an NWCG Course. In addition having Type 3 All-Hazard Incident Management Teams available are more desirable than supporting either the CalFire or Federal teams. At this time no credit is being given for course attendance.

The All Hazards Incident Management Team Training NFA 0305 Course, while a requirement to achieving a Type 3 Command and General Staff position, is not available to many people in California due to the high cost associated with its presentation. is a concern that the CICC TF is addressing with FEMA.

Analysis/Summary of Issue:

Type 3 All-Hazard Incident Management Teams are being developed in California with encouragement from FEMA, CalEMA and CalFire. These teams are primarily to meet the needs of local areas.

The development of Type 3 All-Hazard Incident Management Teams has been mandated by Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD-5 and HSPD-8). The IMTs provide local jurisdictions with an effective response organization to manage resources and information and provide planning and operational advice to manage and mitigate an incident.

If Type 3 positions are incorporated into the CICC guide the Guide has to be revised to show alternate methods of achieving Type 2 Command and General Staff position qualifications because the position courses are being presented at the Type 3 level.

A Historical Recognition process will need to be instituted as there are a number of existing teams and personnel who have served on them.

The addition of these courses to the equivalency matrix will allow Fire and Rescue personnel who have taken the position specific courses to obtain credit for those courses and to be qualified in Type 3 positions.

Please read the attached draft document entitled Course Equivalencies 12-12-12 and Type 3 Incident Management Team (IMT) Program Overview for further clarification.