Date: August 21, 2014

To: State Board of Fire Services

From: Michael A. Garcia, Deputy State Fire Marshal III

SUBJECT/AGENDA ACTION ITEM:
National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG), National Incident Management System (NIMS), California Incident Command System (CICCS) update

Recommended Actions:
Information/discussion only
Report on changes for responsibility of curriculum and instructor requirements for NWCG, NIMS and CICCS courses

Background Information:
Effective October 1, 2014, the NWCG will no longer support nine of the “S” courses. The Command/General Staff position courses and several Incident Command System (ICS) courses will no longer be managed by NWCG or State Fire Training (SFT). These courses are being shifted to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)/NIMS to become all hazard/risk.

State Fire Training will not be administrating FEMA/ NIMS (L) courses. These courses will be administered by Cal OES-Training. Cal OES must adhere to FEMA/NIMS instructor requirements. Historical recognition is ongoing at this time and Cal OES will accept SFT instructors if they meet FEMA requirements.

Analysis/Summary of Issue:
On July 18, 2014, the STEAC committee was briefed on the transition of courses from NWCG to FEMA/NIMS. Questions regarding access to classes, instructor qualifications (including out of state instructors), certificate issuance, and recognition were discussed. The committee was also informed that SFT is facing a revenue shortfall due to the movement of those courses.

SFT and Cal OES are working together cooperatively on implementing this change and will produce a plan prior to the next Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee (STEAC) meeting on October 17, 2014.