Northern Rockies Area Incident Commander (IC) Recruitment Notice

REPLY DUE COB, October 29, 2021

To: IC, Deputy, Alternate and IC Trainee Candidates for Interagency Incident Management Teams

From: Northern Rockies Coordinating Group, (NRCG)

Information

The Northern Rockies Geographic Area includes the States of Montana, North Dakota, and northern Idaho, Yellowstone National Park, and a small portion of South Dakota. The Northern Rockies hosts two interagency Type 1, four interagency Type 2 Incident Management Teams (IMTs) and one Wildland Fire Management Team (WFMT). Northern Rockies IMTs are managed by the NRCG through the Northern Rockies IMT Standard Operating Guide, as well as the National and Northern Rockies Mobilization Guides. Rotation and dispatching are coordinated by the Northern Rockies Coordination Center.

Type 1 Teams are required to maintain year-round availability per a national rotation. Type 2 Teams and the Wildland Fire Management Team typically remain available from June through October and are dispatched on a rotational basis. These teams manage high complexity incidents and usually consist of the most experienced incident management personnel. Although their primary incident response is wildfire, the teams may respond to all-risk incidents such as hurricanes, floods, or other national emergencies.

Incident Commanders from within the Geographic Area are selected for three-year tenures. Outgoing Incident Commanders may re-apply for another second - three-year tenure. Qualified and Trainee IC’s from all agencies are encouraged to apply, if they can fulfill the commitment. Type 1 and 2 Incident Commanders, Deputies, and Alternate ICs should be filled by Federal, State and Local Government employees who are employed on a permanent basis (per NMAC Memo March 2016). Supplemental resources are not approved for Type 1 and 2 Incident Commanders and Deputy Incident Commander positions. Supplemental employees from local governments are defined as overhead tied to a local fire department, generally by agreement, and are mobilized primarily for response to incidents/wildland fires outside of the district or mutual aid zone. They are not a permanent part of the local fire organization and are not required to attend scheduled department staff training, meetings, etc.

The selection prioritization for all IC’s will follow the below listed priorities:

1. Agency employees (includes Federal, State, permanent FD/local agency, tribal employees) within Northern Rockies Geographic Area (NRGA) Agencies/Regions.

2. Federal/State Agency employees from outside the NRGA Agencies/Regions.
This recruitment is seeking highly qualified and motivated candidates interested to perform as IC, Deputy IC, Alternate IC or Trainee IC on Northern Rockies Type 1, Type 2 and Wildland Fire Management Teams for the 2022-2024 seasons. Current Northern Rockies IMT IC’s do not need to reapply.

INSTRUCTIONS:

Submit the following application package to mtnrc@firenet.gov
- Completed Northern Rockies Incident Commander Application Form
- Your responses to the supplemental questions.
- Your agency’s NRCG Board Line Officer Letter of Recommendation for you to serve as a Northern Rockies IC addressed to the NRCG Board Chairman.
- Your direct supervisor’s Letter of Support.
- Your Individual Incident Qualifications Master Record

Date due: October 29, 2021. Application package will be accepted via email to mtnrc@firenet.gov with “IC Application” in the subject line or Kathy Pipkin – IMT Coordinator Kathy.pipkin@usda.gov. After submitting your application, please follow-up with a phone call to the Northern Rockies Coordination Center at 406-329-4880 to ensure receipt. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

Methods of Evaluation and Selection. The IMT Coordinator will forward out applicant packages to the NRCG Board of Directors for review and selection. A standard set of selection factors and a rating and ranking criterion shall be utilized to determine the best-qualified candidates. The NRCG Chair is responsible for notification of selection and non-selections.

If Selected: The IC, Deputy IC, Alternate IC, or Trainee IC will be expected to attend the IMT Selection Meeting in February, the IMT Meeting when scheduled in the spring, and the Fall Incident Commander After Action Review. IC’s become a member of the Northern Rockies Incident Commander Committee (NRICC). Trainee IC’s must apply to the Northern Rockies Priority Trainee Program each respective year performing as trainee.
NORTHERN ROCKIES INCIDENT COMMANDER APPLICATION FORM

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Applicant Name: Agency/Unit:

Sponsoring NRCG Agency:

E-Mail: _______________________________ Phone: _______________________________ Cell Phone: _______________________________

POSITION(S) APPLYING FOR - IC Type 1: ☐ IC Type 2: ☐

APPLICANT SIGNATURE

I understand that if selected, this commitment will be for a three (3) year tenure as Incident Commander. I will be committed to lead and manage a team to the highest standard and to the best of my ability.

Applicant: _______________________________ Date: _______________________________

Applicant Remarks (If Any):

SUPERVISORY APPROVALS

I concur with the goals and availability of the applicant for the Incident Commander position and fully support this employee’s availability and commitment, if selected.

Supervisor: _______________________________ Date: _______________________________

Print Name: _______________________________ Phone #: _______________________________

Supervisor Remarks (If Any):

LINE OFFICER APPROVALS

I concur, and fully support this employee’s availability and commitment for the Incident Commander position if selected.

Agency Board Line Officer: _______________________________ Date: _______________________________

Print Name: _______________________________

Line Officer Remarks (If Any):
NORTHERN ROCKIES INCIDENT COMMANDER APPLICATION

Supplemental Questions

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(Each applicant should address all five questions and attach to their application)

1. Describe your experience related to the full use of available strategies under the current Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy.

2. Describe your short- and long-term goals for yourself as it relates to the leadership of a Northern Rockies Incident Management Team.

3. There are studies in progress concerning the future structure and missions of IMTs. Describe your vision of what a future IMT should look like and how it should function?

4. Describe your approach to working with agency administrators and local fire leadership in the management of an incident.

5. Describe your approach to the management of risk to fire fighters and the public as well as political risk.