



# Northern Rockies Coordinating Group

Federal, State, and Local Government Agencies Working Together in Emergency Response Management

Date: July 05, 2023 NRCG Memo# 2023-005  
To: Northern Rockies Interagency Wildland Fire Community  
From: Chair, Northern Rockies Coordinating Group  
Subject: Complex Incident Management Teams Mobilization Guidance

The Northern Rockies Geographic Area has transitioned to utilizing Complex Incident Management Teams (CIMT). To ensure Agency Administrators, Incident Commanders, local dispatch centers, and the Northern Rockies Coordination Center (NRCC) are receiving consistent information when ordering an IMT in the Northern Rockies, we recommend the following:

- Place orders in IROC Overhead Group Type: Complex Incident Management Team, Date and Time needed set to the time of the in briefing, address of the briefing location, contact for further information.
- IROC Special needs must include: The recommended organization (Type 1, Type 2) determined from the complexity analysis and risk management assessment. If the incident host agency does not use PMS 236, please include the recommended organization from their respective organizational complexity analysis.
- When a CIMT is ordered, The Agency Administrator and Incident Commander are required to discuss the incident's risk and needs as soon as possible after the order is placed to NRCC; for most agencies, the NWCG Wildland Fire Risk and Complexity Assessment (RCA), PMS 236, is the standard for doing so (NMAC Correspondence M2023-01). The RCA will inform complexity by functional area and assist in identifying additional Incident Command System (ICS) position needs.

This short process will allow the incoming incident commander to gain a thorough understanding of the team configuration required for successful management of the incident. As not all geographic areas have transitioned to CIM, if the Northern Rockies cannot fill the order and it must be placed with another Geographic Area Coordination Center, this will provide the information necessary to fill the order accordingly. Wording example: "For this incident, our assessment indicates the need for a {Type 1 or Type 2 IMT} based on..."

As the Northern Rockies and other Geographic Areas transition their IMT's to complex incident management, we feel it is necessary to emphasize some mobilization standards. Incident commanders along with their command and general staff must meet the requirements from the 2023 National Mobilization Guide (Chapter 20, Pg.31):



*“Complex, Type 1 and Type 2 IMTs will be considered unavailable for a national assignment if the primary Incident Commander or two Command & General Staff positions are vacant. The Deputy Incident Commander may be allowed to take the team with Geographic Area Multi-Agency Coordinating Group (GMAC) approval. Any deviation to the aforementioned availability, and substitution principle must have GMAC and NMAC approval.”*

A NRCG Board representative may consult with “on call or next up” Incident Commanders when an order for a Northern Rockies team is placed. This consultation will help ensure our teams are configured for successful management of an incident based on the indicated complexity of the incident and the geographic area making the request. Some things to consider would be:

- Is the team staffed appropriately?
- Are you confident in your team’s ability to successfully manage this incident?
- Should we change the rotation?
- Should we ask other teams to provide mentorship for this particular assignment?

These discussions will be essential to ensure a successful assignment for both the CIMT and the hosting unit.

Rich Cowger  
Chair, Northern Rockies Coordinating Group (NRCG)

