

Chapter 20 – Overhead and Teams

[NISRM- Chapter 20 Overhead and Teams](#)

Units will maintain a list of qualified personnel for assignments and keep their qualifications current in the current ordering system of record and/or the agency’s system of record. Units will maintain a hard copy of personnel qualifications, to serve as a backup to the current ordering system of record.

If a request is required to be self-sufficient it means the resource will be able to provide their own food, lodging and local transportation if needed.

Name Requests

Overhead can be name requested. Prior to placing the request, the ordering Unit will receive confirmation of availability, supervisor approval, Unit ID, and verify person is qualified or trainee in the current ordering system of record for the requested position.

The CAL OES Name Request Justification form is required for all local government overhead name requests with the exception of IMT members. IMT members rostered in the current ordering system of record, on the initial fill of the team, do not require a Name Request Justification form. Team members responding after the initial team roster has been filled in the current ordering system of record require a Name Request Justification form. This form should be used once a resource order has been returned “Unable To Fill” at both California GACC’s. This form may be used for hard to obtain or specialize resources identified as Critical Needs.

The form can be located at:

<https://www.caloes.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/Fire-Rescue/Documents/CalOES-Name-Request-Form-20140901uax.pdf>

Pre-suppression/suppression detail requests in the current ordering system of record must be accompanied by a Preparedness/Detail Request form. Form will be submitted to the GACC. Refer to Appendix for the link to this form.

Air Resource Advisor – ARA -Federal

The need for an ARA will vary based on conditions with the incident, topography, weather, population, exposure risk, dispersion and area attainment designation. An incident smoke footprint can often span multiple air quality and public health jurisdictions as well as state boundaries. The ARA involvement will range from factors encompassing incident management to community, state, and tribal coordination with agency administrators.

All ARA order requests will be placed by the appropriate GACC. Requests will often be initiated by incidents, GACCs, Agency Administrators, or agency Air Quality Program staff. All orders will be coordinated as name requests with the Washington Office (WO) FAM Smoke Coordinator. Orders are authorized to commence upon concurrence of the requesting official. GACC Predictive Service Meteorologists may be asked to help facilitate the orders. Duty locations may vary from incidents to GACCs depending on complexity and occurrence of multiple events.

Air Quality Monitoring equipment can be ordered through agency air quality staff and will be coordinated, as necessary, with the California Air Resources Board Office of Emergency Services, Tribes and respective Air Quality Management Districts.

Ordered in the current ordering system of record as: THSPs with the special needs “Air Resource Advisor” then placed to the GACC.

Key contacts:

Pete Lahm - WO	peter.lahm@usda.gov	661-GET-1ARA
	Pete.lahm@gmail.com	602-432-2614 (cell)
Brent Wachter - NOPS	brent.wachter@udsa.gov	505-414-0227
Andrea Nick - Air Quality Program	andrea.nick@usda.gov	626-590-4451(cell)

Archaeologists (ARCH) – All Agencies

Efforts should be made to incorporate archaeologists into the fire organization.

Federal - a list should be available at each Federal Unit of qualified archaeologists. Unit archaeologists should be pre-identified.

CAL FIRE – all requests for archaeologists will be placed to the appropriate GACC.

Blasters- Federal

Blasters are highly specialized positions that meet specific agency/incident objectives.

Ordering unit must specify type of blaster.

Fireline Explosive Advisor (FLEA)

Fireline Explosive Blaster-in-Charge (FLEB)

Fireline Explosive Crewmember (FLEC)

A blaster may request a fire suppression crew to be present at the blast site because certain types of explosives can start fires. In order to determine which blasting materials are right for a job, the blaster will communicate with local staff to discuss the job details, site conditions, and desired results.

Certified blasters must have a “Hazard Trees” endorsement on their certification cards to fell danger trees with explosives. A commercial driver’s license and vehicle with proper placards are required when transporting blasting materials. Blaster examiners in each region are responsible for training, coordination, and management of regional blasting programs.

Cost Share Specialist – All Agencies

Cost Share incidents (multi-jurisdictional, unified command) may require special skills to develop a cost share agreement. When determined by the incident and the incident management team, Cost Share Technical Specialists can be ordered. In most cases, the expectation is to have a Cost Share Specialist representative from each agency having jurisdiction on the incident.

Federal - Cost Share Specialist orders will be coordinated with the appropriate federal incident business coordinator (listed below) to ensure resource assignments are commensurate with the complexity of the incident.

Agency	Contact	Office	Cell
BLM	Vanessa Kobilis	916-978-4446	916-406-4990
BIA	Christina Rich	(916) 978 6169	(916) 215 5653
FS	Kris Armstrong	707 562-8926	661-342-7297
FWS	Veronika Klukas	530-231-6174	307-250-5684
NPS	Robert Rivelle		707-498-1761

Incident Meteorologist (IMET) – All Agencies

When an IMET is requested for an incident, the request will be created and placed to the appropriate GACC. The GACC will then request an IMET from the NWS National Fire Weather Operations Coordinator (NFWOC) at 1-877-323-IMET (4638). The NFWOC will advise the GACC of fill information. The GACC will advise the requesting Unit to edit the request to a "Name Request" with the fill information. When ordering, specify whether the request is for wildfire response or prescribed fire; if prescribed fire, provide number of days IMET is expected to be deployed. The IMET will be mobilized by the appropriate GACC. NOTE: All requests for IMETs must note in Special Needs, "authorizing a rental vehicle and computer support". The following list designates which California GACC will status and dispatch personnel for the California Weather Forecasting Offices. The current ordering system of record status can be maintained as Available/Local.

North Ops

CA-EKAW Eureka WFO
 CA-STOW Sacramento WFO
 CA-MTRW San Francisco/Monterey WFO
 HI-HFOW Honolulu WFO
 AS-PPOW Pago Pago/American Samoa WFO

South Ops

CA-HNXW Hanford WFO
 CA-LOXW Los Angeles/Oxnard WFO
 CA-SGXW San Diego WFO

Interagency Incident Business Advisors (INBA) – Federal

INBAs provide oversight on administrative and financial activities and serve under the authority of the Agency Administrator, as per each agency's policy. INBA orders, including name requests will be coordinated with the appropriate federal incident business coordinator (listed below) to ensure resource assignments are commensurate with the complexity of the incident.

Agency	Contact	Office	Cell
BLM	Vanessa Kobilis	916-978-4446	916-406-4990
BIA	Christina Rich	(916) 978 6169	916-215-5653
FS	Kris Armstrong	707 562-8926	661-342-7297
FWS	Veronika Klukas	530-231-6174	307-250-5684
NPS	Robert Rivelle		707-498-1761

In some situations, IBA assignments are filled with an individual from the local Unit. Orders will be initiated by incident host Unit, not the Incident Management Team.

Infrared Interpreters (IRIN) – All Agencies

All national infrared flights require an Infrared Interpreter be ordered. All requests for IRINs will be placed with the GACC. The GACC overhead desk will work with the California or National IR Coordinator to find a qualified IRIN. The GACC and the IR coordinator will determine who is going to be the IRIN and which incidents they will support; IRINs can do multiple incidents.

For additional ordering information, refer to Chapter 50.

Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR)

LiDAR is a method for determining ranges by targeting an object with laser and measuring the time for the light to return. LiDAR is often used by wildland fire investigators to map large areas before or after fires.

CALFIRE – When an incident requests a LiDAR Team, the lead investigator will provide a list of wildland Fire investigators (INVF) to be name requested. In the resource ordering system of record, the Special Needs must state “LiDAR Team”. Teams will consist of two to six investigators or private consultants.

Short-Haul Boosters (SHLR) and Short-Haul Spotter (SHLS) - Federal

Booster orders will be placed on an overhead order as SHLR for Short-Hauler and SHLS for Short Haul Spotter and may be filled by individuals from multiple bases. Short-Haul bases shall coordinate with their local GACC and/or NICC on boost requests and status. At a minimum, orders shall be filled with (6) Short-Haulers and a manager to support needs documented on the aircraft order through the current ordering system of record. The Short-Haul spotter/manager will determine transportation needs for the additional short-haulers on the order. Aerial transport of boosters may be ordered by the requesting unit.

Smokejumper (SMKJ) – All Agencies

Refer to Chapter 30.

Training Specialist (TNSP) – All Agencies

The training specialist organizes and implements the incident’s training program, by developing individual training plans and documenting individual trainee assignments. All Agencies – A training specialist will be ordered, as part of an IMT activation. A TNSP may also be ordered on non-team incidents, at the discretion of the incident commander. Order through the normal ordering process.

Forest Service – Upon activation of a CIMT on a Forest Service incident, the GACC Training Officer, in concert with the host Forest, shall process a resource order requesting a minimum of 20 trainees. Forest Service will have first attempt to fill these requests.

Wildland Fire Safety Officer – Federal

When a federal agency activates a CIMT, the GACC will notify the appropriate agency Wildland Fire Safety Officer. It is the responsibility of the Safety Officer to notify the affected Unit if there is an intended visit for the purpose of review or observation. Affected Units may initiate the request on their own. Each agency will set its own guidelines for protocols regarding such visits. Unless otherwise stipulated or agreed to, such visits should be of an informal nature to help foster positive safety attitudes within the incident environment. Informal reviews and observational visits do not require a formal entrance or exit meeting with agency administrators. Written documentation will be required if further formal action or follow-up is needed by the CIMT, affected Unit or a higher management level. The Safety Officer will discuss the visit with the CIMT and with appropriate members of the Agency Administrator's staff prior to departing.

Incident Management Teams

All Incident Management Team and Dispatch Rotations are located on the respective GACC's Intelligence page under "Team Rotations".

[ONC Intelligence > News and Notes > Team Rotations\(nifc.gov\)](#)

[OSC Intelligence > News and Notes > Team Rotations\(nifc.gov\)](#)

All California Interagency Complex Incident Management Team rosters are located on the [California Wildland Fire Coordinating Group](#) webpage.

All Hazard Incident Management Teams – National Park Service

The National Park Service has All Hazard Incident Management Teams for national use. The purpose of the teams are to manage any incident except a wildland or prescribed fire.

These teams are ordered in the current ordering system of record as: Team, All Risk NPS.

The GACC will advise the Regional Contact listed below and then place the request to NICC. Pacific West

Region Contact: Matt Knowles, Visitor and Resource Protection Specialist, 415-470-4037 Kristin Kirschner, Regional Emergency Services Manager 360-809-9512.

All-Hazard Incident Management Teams- Type 3 – CAL OES / Local Government

Purpose/Mission/Capability:

The purpose of the Type 3 All-Hazard Incident Management Team (AHIMT3) is to provide organized teams of highly trained personnel to assist local, state, and federal agencies with Complex Incident Management. AHIMT3's may be requested for an emergency incident, a planned event, or other mobilization requests.

Configuration

Participating Agencies/ Local Operating Areas:

The Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) shall determine the size and composition of the AHIMT3 based on incident type and complexity. An AHIMT3 may deploy as a full team, a partial team ("short" team), or as single resource. Team size shall not exceed 21 in California.

California State Geographic Deployments (Full Team Configuration):

- Incident Commander (ICT3)
- Deputy Incident Commander (ICT3)
- Safety Officer (SOF3)
- Information Officer (PIO3)
- Liaison Officer (LOFR)
 - Law Enforcement Unit (LELO)
- Operations Section Chief (OSC3)
- Finance Section Chief (FSC3)
- Logistics Section Chief (LSC3)
 - Supply Unit Leader (SPUL)
 - Facilities Unit Leader (FACL)
 - Communications Unit Leader or Incident Communications Technician (COML or COMT)
 - Medical Unit Leader (MEDL)
- Plans Section Chief (PSC3)
 - Resource Unit Leader (RESL)
 - Situation Unit Leader (SITL)
 - Tech Spec. GISS
- Four Trainees (with concurrence of the ordering agency)

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) Deployments.

Use the FEMA Team Configuration Guideline: An order/request for an AHIMT3 (whether through EMAC or through the National Firefighting Mobilization System) shall be filled with a minimum of 14 members that are comprised of the following positions:

- Incident Commander (ICT3)
- Safety Officer (SOF3)
- Information Officer (PIO3)
- Assistant PIO (PIO3)
- Liaison Officer (LOFR)
- Operations Section Chief (OSC3)
 - Deputy Operations Section Chief (OSC3)
 - Staging Area Manager (STAM)
- Finance Section Chief (FSC3)
- Logistics Section Chief Type 3 (LSC3)
 - Communications Unit Leader or Incident Communications Technician (COML/COMT)
- Plans Section Chief (PSC3)
 - Resource Unit Leader (RESL)
 - Situation Unit Leader (SITL)

Note: The 14 AHIMT3 members, and any other AHIMT3 members subsequently ordered shall be from an organized, local government fire-sponsored agency, and shall meet recognized qualifications for the positions they are filling. An order/request for an AHIMT3 is for the personnel only and does not include any communications or office equipment or supplies (this should be supplied by the AHJ). If the AHIMT3 arrives and determines that they need additional or specialized personnel, equipment, and/or supplies, those shall be ordered through the established ordering process.

California AHIMT3 Status

The CAL OES Fire and Rescue Division shall maintain an on-call roster of available AHIMT3 within California.

Team Status Reporting:

Monday morning by 1000, teams that are available for statewide or national mobilization will update Google Sheets and status the on-call IC.

Rotation: (9)

AHIMT3's that are currently recognized by CAL OES Fire and Rescue:

Orange County – OC

Long Beach – LB

Santa Barbara – SB

East Bay – EB

North Bay – NB

Sacramento Regional – SR

San Diego – SD

South Bay – So. B

San Luis Obispo – SLO

AHIMT3 Mobilization/Ordering Process

The mobilization for AHIMT3's outside of their local operating area and local agreements shall use the CAL OES Fire and Rescue Division's resource ordering process.

Teams shall use the following naming convention: Team – AHIMT – T3 – CA – IC name, team name, or team number.

Duration of Assignments

A deployment should last no longer than 14 days (excluding travel).

CAL FIRE Incident Management Teams – Type 1

CAL FIRE maintains 6 statewide Type 1 All Hazard Incident Management Teams to direct large-scale complex emergency incidents. CAL FIRE IMTs are available year-round for statewide response, with one team on call at any given time.

CAL FIRE IMTs are ordered through the GACC. These teams are ordered in the current ordering system of record as: Team, Type 1 Long

California Federal Interagency Complex Incident Management Teams – CIMT

The California Federal Interagency Complex Incident Management Teams are managed by the California Wildland Fire Coordinating Group (CWCG), which consists of a representative from each agency with wildfire suppression responsibility. CWCG is responsible for selecting team members, monitoring and evaluating team performance, and providing for team member development.

CWCG will select and manage ten CIMTs as components of a national rotation established and maintained by NICC, through the National Interagency Standards for Resource Mobilization.

Excerpt from the National Interagency Standards for Resource Mobilization, Chapter 20

“NMAC Management of IMTs (Typically during preparedness level 4 and 5.)

NMAC is delegated authority to prioritize and direct the use of all team assignments for Complex Incident Management Teams (CIMTs), National Incident Management Organization (NIMO), and Area Command Teams as necessary to achieve team experience objectives, ensure proficiency, manage fatigue, or for other reasons. NMAC engagement in IMT management will occur according to direction contained herein.

When situations warrant (determined by NMAC), rationale is required by NMAC for assignment of Complex, NIMO, and Area Command Teams prior to mobilization.

To manage fatigue, promote mental health and well-being, and provide opportunities for CIMT members to attend to work and personal responsibilities, all IMTs will have 7 days of unavailability upon return from any assignment geographically or nationally (including preposition) of 7 days or more (exclusive of travel). (This applies to the IMT; individuals may have differing agency requirements.) During periods of elevated need, there may be a request by NMAC for earlier availability. This will be determined and communicated as early as practicable and prior to the start of the team’s unavailability period. A GA may extend a team’s unavailability period for additional rest.

Interagency Incident Management Teams (IMTs)

Each GA is responsible for annual selection and rostering of CIMTs, developing an internal rotation schedule, and maintaining team availability commensurate with fire activity and mobilization guides as well as supporting national response needs. GAs will manage their CIMTs in accordance with the National Interagency Standards for Resource Mobilization and communicate with their NMAC liaison regularly on any changes or concerns.

Within their GA, CIMTs will be mobilized according to GA guidance, with the following exception: CIMTs ordered through NICC or prepositioned by NICC from the national rotation for staging within a GA will be prioritized for assignment to any new federal incident within that area or when a replacement team is needed within that area.

CIMTs will be requested through established ordering channels. When a GA cannot fill an CIMT order internally, the national rotation will be utilized. NMAC manages the national rotation and will direct changes to the management of geographic rotations based on preparedness levels and/or resource scarcity. NMAC, at any time, can direct a GA to utilize an out-of-area IMT. CIMTs will be mobilized nationally according to the call-out procedures from the national rotation managed by NICC.

The intent of CIM is to strive for continuous improvement. This includes leadership development and mentorship opportunities unique to each incident. Individual teams are expected to seek to improve their capacity and to request and provide assistance as needed.

The assignment length and unavailability period for IMTs is determined based on the Incident Commander's (IC) travel. Refer to Chapter 10 for specific information on IMT length of assignment and mandatory unavailability.

Complex IMT Configuration

CIMTs are expected to be fully rostered when available. CIMTs will be considered unavailable for assignment if the IC or more than one Command & General (C&G) position is vacant.

All CIMT rosters shall follow the standard CIMT configuration:

- Master CIMT roster will consist of 44 qualified personnel and 6 team trainees, for a total of 50.*
- The following 7 positions must be filled with Complex or Type 1 qualified C&G responders: Incident Commander, Public Information Officer, Safety Officer, Finance/Administration Section Chief, Logistics Section Chief, Operations Section Chief, and Planning Section Chief.*
- The remaining 37 qualified positions and 6 trainee positions may be filled at the IC's discretion.*
- A 50-position CIMT roster will be used when a CIMT is made available for assignment in IROC(National)''*

Additional California Specific CIMT Configuration:

A 58-position CIMT roster is approved for use in California, any roster above 58 must be approved by the Agency Administrator prior to mobilization.

National Roster Configuration

CIMT	Qualified	Trainees	Total
Master Roster (Calendar Year) Mobilization	44	6	50
Negotiation (Incident Specific needs)	Up to 26	Up to 14	Up to 40
Incident total	Up to 70	Up to 20	Up to 90

California Roster Configuration

CIMT	Qualified	Trainees	Total
Roster (Calendar Year) Mobilization	44	14	58
Negotiation (Incident-Specific Needs)	Up to 26	Up to 6	Up to 32
Incident total	Up to 70	Up to 20	Up to 90

For more information refer to the current California Interagency Incident Management Team Operating Guidelines.

[2022 CWCG Operations Guidev2.pdf \(nifc.gov\)](#)

Excerpt from the National Interagency Standards for Resource Mobilization, Chapter 20

CIMT Roster Negotiation

AAs will utilize the NWCG Wildland Fire Risk and Complexity Assessment (RCA), PMS 236, to guide the negotiation discussion, specifically Part D: Functional Complexity.

- *The RCA will inform complexity by functional area and assist in identifying additional Incident Command System (ICS) position needs. Based on this discussion, the AA and IC may negotiate up to an additional 26 qualified and 14 trainee CIMT positions necessary to manage the incident.*

- *Continued use of Wildland Fire Decision Support System (WFDSS) is equally important for those agencies who do so.*
- *Document the agreed upon mobilization roster in the delegation of authority, with guidance for how further scaling will be communicated and accomplished during the team's assignment.*
- *The additional negotiated positions will be immediately added to the roster for mobilization. ICs may provide names of qualified available personnel to fill these additional negotiated positions; these name requests will be honored.*
- *Hosting GA representative will notify the receiving GA of any position shortages.*
- *When a CIMT is ordered to preposition, ICs will negotiate any positions in addition to the master roster with the ordering GA coordinating group chair to determine the mobilization roster.*
 - *Rosters for NICC preposition orders will be negotiated between the IC and NICC CIMT Coordinator based on direction from NMAC.*
- *To support incident workforce development and succession, assignment of trainees is strongly encouraged. Up to 20 trainees may be initially mobilized with a CIMT, 6 on the master roster and an additional 14 through negotiations based on incident complexity.*
 - *AAs and ICs should negotiate the number and types of trainees; consideration should be given to trainees critical to CIMT succession and to trainees in positions that are chronically difficult to fill nationally.*
 - *ICs should utilize trainees in their trainee position, not in a position in which the individual is already qualified.*
 - *Assignment of regular agency employees (including full time state and local agency personnel) deploying as trainees should be given priority over all other Administratively Determined (AD) trainees.*

Mobilization rosters in IROC will be closed at either 90 total positions or at the time of in-briefing. While it is recognized there may be incidents that require large numbers of overhead personnel for safe and effective management, additional personnel should be ordered based upon the specific incident needs rather than by increasing the CIMT roster beyond the approved configuration of 90 total personnel.

NICC CIMT Coordinator

The NICC CIMT Coordinator will manage the national rotation list and serve as the NMAC CIMT Coordinator when this NMAC support function is activated. The CIMT Coordinator is responsible for communications with the GAs and ICs to ensure transparency in the process and clarity of guidelines.

CIMT National Rotation Process

For 2024, all interagency CIMTs are included in the national rotation. Additional teams (such as state or local teams) may choose to participate and will be integrated appropriately with NMAC coordination.

- *GACCs will ensure their respective CIMTs available for the national rotation are rostered in IROC.*
- *The national rotation list rotates every seven (7) days.*
- *The list will identify availability based on the GA, which will determine which of their teams fills the order based on availability and internal rotations. Each GA will receive a number of places in the national rotation based on the number of CIMTs they host (i.e., a GA with 3 teams receives 3 places in the national rotation).*
- *Between January and April and October and December, the national rotation list will include two (2) available CIMTs each week, identified by the GA for a 7-day period.*

<i>SAMPLE</i>	<i>1st Out</i>	<i>2nd Out</i>
<i>January 1 – 7</i>	<i>GA 1</i>	<i>GA 2</i>
<i>January 8 – 14</i>	<i>GA 3</i>	<i>GA 4</i>

- *IMT rosters may differ from peak season rosters; ad hoc CIMT rosters are acceptable.*
- *If additional teams are needed beyond the two in rotation, the requesting GA will follow established ordering channels by placing an order to NICC. The NICC will coordinate with the Geographic Areas to fill based on closest forces.*
- *Between May and September, the national rotation list will include a minimum of four (4) available CIMTs each week, identified by the GA for a 7-day period.*

<i>SAMPLE</i>	<i>1st Out</i>	<i>2nd Out</i>	<i>3rd Out</i>	<i>4th Out</i>
<i>April 29 – May 5</i>	<i>GA 1</i>	<i>GA 2</i>	<i>GA 3</i>	<i>GA 4</i>
<i>May 6 – 12</i>	<i>GA 5</i>	<i>GA 6</i>	<i>GA 1</i>	<i>GA 3</i>

- *If all four teams are mobilized, the next four GAs will be notified and asked to begin their 7-day availability period immediately.*
 - *GAs are responsible for managing their CIMT rotations and assignments to equitably spread assignments across teams.*

- *Historical data suggests a median of 3 assignments per calendar year per CIMT is an optimal goal for NMAC and GAs to manage towards.*
- *At any time, NMAC may adjust the number of available CIMTs in the national rotation to meet demands.*
- *Teams will be requested in order of the national rotation, provided they can meet the date and time needed. GAs must return a resource order as Unable to Fill (UTF) if no eligible CIMT can meet the date and time needed.*
 - *CIMTs remain on-call for the national rotation for a maximum of 7 days.*
 - *GAs unable to provide an CIMT when ordered for assignment from the national rotation list will be listed as unavailable on the national rotation.*
 - *If the IC determines that the CIMT is underprepared for the incident due to experience or comfort levels of the C&G due to incident complexity, they may maintain their place in the national rotation without penalty and the next available CIMT will be requested.*
 - *Prepositioned/staged CIMTs will be considered part of the rotation and will be the first utilized.*
- *CIMTs on GACC preposition will be first within the GACC.*
- *CIMTs on NICC preposition will be first nationally.*
- *Hosting units will not hold prepositioned/staged CIMTs longer than 7 days.*
- *Preposition will count as an assignment when assigned 96 hours or longer from the date and time needed.*
- *A CIMT's first assignment, either internally or from the national rotation, will move them to Round 2 of the national rotation. Their second assignment will move them to Round 3.*
 - *Reassignment of a committed CIMT prior to demobilization will be counted as a single assignment within the round they were mobilized.*
 - *Teams mobilized in the previous calendar year and whose assignment extends into the new calendar year will not be shown as assigned in the new calendar year.*
 - *If a CIMT is ordered but canceled, unassigned, or released within 72 hours, it will return to its position on the national rotation.*
- *A rotation round ends when all available CIMTs have been exercised or are unavailable.*

- *The GA will coordinate with NICC before reassigning an out-of-area CIMT to another incident.*
- *CIMT extensions can be requested through existing approval processes.*
- *The CIMT current national rotation list and assignment history is maintained throughout the calendar year at: <https://www.nifc.gov/nicc/logistics/overhead>*

Regardless of Preparedness Level, NMAC retains the authority to manage all team assignments as necessary to achieve team experience objectives, ensure proficiency, manage fatigue, or for other reasons. This also includes the authority to amend the national rotation or proceeding to the next round, as necessary.

Excerpt from the National Interagency Standards for Resource Mobilization, Chapter 20

CIMT Assignment to All-Hazard Incidents

The primary mission of CIMTs is wildfire incident management. IMTs may respond to all-hazard incidents under the following guidelines:

Planned events should be managed internally by the respective agency.

The planned length of assignment should not exceed fourteen (14) days without negotiated approval from the sending geographic area and NICC. A FEMA mobilization under the NRF will be accomplished according to the national call-out procedures. The standard length of assignment of fourteen (14) days may be extended up to thirty (30) days after negotiated approval between the IC, Regional ESF #4 Coordinator and FEMA. Base hours for federal employees, in most cases, are not reimbursed by FEMA. Overtime, premium pay, and travel expenses may be paid by FEMA.

National Incident Management Organization (NIMO) Team – Federal

Appropriate assignments for NIMO consideration include: Wildland fire, Long Duration Incidents or Mission Specific Assignments, regional and national special projects, require a completed Project Request Form. Refer to the National Interagency Standards for Resource Mobilization, Chapter 20.

NIMO teams are ordered through the GACC. Ordered in the current ordering system of record as: Team, NIMO.

Burned Area Emergency Response Teams (BAER) – Federal

BAER Teams are ordered to assist field units to plan for immediate post-wildland fire site stabilization. These teams address post incident needs, including potential floods, mud and debris flows, watershed/municipal water supplies. It is the responsibility of the local Unit to select the number of team members and the skills needed.

Forest Service team members are ordered in the current ordering system of record as individual overhead requests, as: BAES. In special needs, list type of skills needed and level of skill.

DOI maintains two (2) National BAER Teams to assist field units plan for immediate post wildland fire site stabilization. National BAER Teams are dispatched to only the most complex BAER incidents involving risks to human life and critical Federal assets. Potential floods, mud and debris flows, watershed/municipal water supplies, urban interface, and complex and multiple jurisdictions are the dispatch prioritization criteria factored into the mobilization decision. DOI team members are ordered in the current ordering system of record as individual overhead requests, as the approved agency-specific BAER mnemonic (as shown in IQCS/the current ordering system of record).

Buying Unit Teams (BUYT)– Federal

Federal Buying Unit teams will normally be assigned to a centralized location and may be requested to support multiple incidents onsite as well as virtually. Depending on the needs of the region, some team members may work virtually in support of the team onsite. Buying Unit Teams supplement the local Unit procurement and dispatching organizations during emergencies. Orders will be placed through the GACC, in coordination with Regional Incident Business staff. If unable to fill regionally, the GACC will place an order through NICC for a National Buying Unit Team.

These teams are ordered in the current ordering system of record as: BUYT - Team, Buying.

Review, Audit, Process Team (RAP) -Federal

The National Park Service Payment Teams will no longer be ordered on a rotational basis. Instead, before a Payment Team is ordered to audit and process DOI incident invoices, the ordering unit should contact:

Julie Bennet, 775-315-0465, julie_bennet@nps.gov

Once the configuration of the team is determined, requests for Payment Teams will be placed through established ordering channels using an Overhead Group Request. Payment team leaders and members will be ordered by the jurisdictional unit as THSPs.

Damage Inspection Team – Federal Incidents

Damage Inspection Team may be ordered by the incident through CAL OES to assess structure damage and loss.

Damage Assessment – State Incidents

No longer ordered as Team. Order in the current ordering system of record as individual overhead requests. Damage Inspection Manager (DINM), Damage Inspection Technical Specialist (DINS), or Field Observer (FOBS) as needed.

Interagency ECC Support Teams – Federal

Dispatch teams provide personnel qualified in Dispatch Center expanded functions for timely mobilization in support of wildland incidents. There are 4 federal dispatch teams in California. Normal

configuration is 2 EDSPs, 2 ESDs, 2 EDRs and up to 2 trainees. Priority use of these teams is to support incidents in California.

Team rotation will be based on the Forest Service pay period schedule: bi-weekly, effective at 0001 on Sunday. There will be one team available during the two-week period.

The rotation schedule can be located at: [Team Rotations \(nifc.gov\)](https://www.nifc.gov)

ECC Support Teams – CAL FIRE

ECC Support teams provide personnel qualified in ECC expanded functions for timely mobilization in support of Emergency Command Center operations. Reference CAL FIRE Handbook 7700, section 7758. Dispatch procedure in CAL FIRE Handbook 8100, policy 8141 procedure 8141-43.

There are a total of 10 teams statewide, with each Region fielding 5 teams. Normal configuration is Team Leader/EDSP, Deputy Team Leader/EDSP (t) or ESD, 2 ESDs, 2 EDRs and 4 optional trainee positions.

Teams will be on immediate call (one-hour getaway) for one-week rotations. Order in the current ordering system of record as: ECCT - Team, ECC Support CA Only.

Fire Behavior Assessment Team (FBAT) – Federal

The primary mission of the FBAT is monitoring fuels, vegetation, fire behavior, and fire effects on wildland fire incidents and supporting the incident and land management units through information delivery. The FBAT generally consists of 6 to 12 fireline qualified personnel led by overhead qualified at the Task Force Leader level or above. The FBAT is most successful when ordered early during an incident. One of the Team Leads will formulate a list of name requests for the incident to order. Contact Matt Dickinson, Lead: 614-566-2271 or Carol Ewell, Assistant Lead: 209-283-4563. For more information, visit: <https://www.frames.gov/fbat>

Fuel Treatment Effectiveness Team – Federal

The primary mission of the fuel treatment effectiveness teams is to provide documentation on wildfire behavior or effects. This documentation is required by law to be provided within 90 days of control of the fire (FSM 5144). This team will gather GIS and observational information about the fire and complete fuel treatment effectiveness reporting including required entries in the Fuel Treatment Effectiveness Monitoring database (FTEM).

Team members are ordered in the current ordering system of record as THSP – name requests after contacting the Regional Fuels Staff, Robyn Woods 530-206-6918/ Kendra Sallon 707-980-9195. Include special needs of “Fuel Treatment Effectiveness Team member”. One or more team members may be ordered.

Medical Emergency Response Teams (MERT) – CAL FIRE

MERT is ordered when a significant commitment of California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) inmate firefighters are assigned to an incident. A MERT is typically made up of three personnel consisting of a registered nurse and two medical technical assistants to provide medical assistance to inmate firefighters. The CDCR MERT personnel respond from the Sierra Training Center (TCU).

Order in the current ordering system of record as: MERT – Medical Emergency Response Team (California Only). Create and place a single overhead request for the team. If a higher level of medical care is needed document in special needs Medical Doctor or Physician’s Assistant.

Reference CAL FIRE Handbook 8100, policy 8141 procedure 8141-65

Retrograde Team – CAL FIRE

Upon the closure of an incident, excess items purchased through the emergency fund shall be retrograded (i.e. inventoried, documented, credited) to the incident and charged off to the appropriate account(s).

The incident will order a retrograde team 72 hours before the anticipated incident closure. The team will be requested to arrive at least 48 hours before the anticipated closure of the incident base.

A retrograde team will consist of a minimum of 3 personnel: a retrograde team leader, a representative from the host Unit (Fire Logistics Officer) and one representative from the incident (Logistics Section Chief).

Order in the current ordering system of record as: individual overhead requests. At least one request will be for a Retrograde Team Leader (RETG) and placed to the GACC. Additional requests may be made by the team leader for Retrograde Team Members (RETT).

Reference CAL FIRE Handbook 7500, section 7585.

Rapid Extraction Support Module (REMS)

A pre-staged rescue team assigned to provide firefighters safe egress off the fireline in the event of an injury/illness during firefighting operations.

Order in the current ordering system of record under Overhead, REMS - Module, Rapid Extraction Support (California Only). Under Special Needs add documentation.

“Reference REMS identification in FIRESCOPE ICS – 223”. Under Configuration Option choose Catalog Item with Configuration.

Reference the FIRESCOPE website for more information.

Suppression Modules - Federal

Suppression modules will be ordered as an Overhead SMOD – Module, Suppression. The minimum standards for a Suppression Module, reference the current [Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations \(nifc.gov\)](#)

Wildland Fire Modules (WFM)– Federal

The primary mission and priority for these modules is to provide skilled and mobile personnel to assist with prescribed fires in the areas of planning, fire behavior monitoring, ignition, and holding. Secondary priorities (in order) include support of prescribed burn unit preparation, assistance with fire effects plot work, and support of mechanical hazard fuel reduction projects. Some agency restrictions exist for fuels related work.

WFM's are highly skilled and versatile fire crews with a primary commitment to maintain fire's role as a natural ecological process. They provide technical and ecological based expertise in the areas of long-term planning, ignitions, holding, suppression, prescribed fire preparation and implementation support, hazard fuels reduction, and fire effects monitoring. WFMs provide an innovative, safe, highly mobile, logistically independent, and versatile fire module for wildland fire management and incident operations.

As a national interagency resource, the modules are available nationally throughout the fire year. Each module is comprised of a module leader, assistant leader, three to five module members, and a detailer during the primary burning season.

Forest Service has Wildland Fire Modules on the Stanislaus NF, Klamath NF, Sequoia NF, Six Rivers NF, Lassen NF, and Inyo NF. NPS has Wildland Fire Modules on the Whiskeytown NRA, Sequoia-Kings NP and Yosemite NP. These modules are ordered in the current ordering system of record as: WFM2 or WFM1 Module, Wildland Fire.

NPS: Modules are available for large fire support with concurrence from the Regional WFM Coordinator, John Goss, 559-908-6526, john_goss@nps.gov.

Watershed Emergency Response Teams (WERT) – CAL FIRE

The primary goal is to avoid or reduce the risk posed by post-fire hazards downslope or downstream of burn areas (life, safety, and property). This includes the following steps:

- Determine soil burn severity (requires a Burned Area Reflection Classification (BARC) map)
- Identify values at risk.
- Identify, model and classify hazards.
- Develop emergency protective measures.
- Communicate findings.

Note: WERT personnel will help support the Unit in communication with stakeholders and other cooperators.

Criteria for ordering (Note: Most fires do not qualify for a WERT):

- The presence of life-safety-related values at risk (VAR) (e.g., homes, businesses, schools, hospitals, other infrastructure) downslope and/or downstream of steep hillslopes and catchments burned at moderate to high soil burn severity.
- Significant likelihood of debris flow and flooding hazards based on soil burn severity, geology, topography, and likely rainfall rates.
- Historical occurrence of debris flows and flooding during burned and/or unburned conditions.
- Transportation networks (e.g., highways, rail lines), water supply systems, power generating plants and conveyance systems, campground/resorts, parks and hiking trails, and other high value sites expected to be at risk due to post-fire debris flows and/or flooding.
- A high percentage of State Responsibility Area (SRA) included in the fire area.

A WERT is ordered through the incident as name requests and placed to the GACC.

- WERT staffing can vary depending on available staff and size of the incident.
- Staffing may be a combination of the following: CAL FIRE, CGS, DWR/RWQCB, GIS and trainees.
- The WERT team will need a BARC map prior to engaging on the landscape.

California Medical Assistance Team (CAL MAT) – CAL FIRE

The California Medical Assistance Team (CAL MAT), activated through a Call-When-Needed (CWN) agreement with the California Emergency Medical Service Authority (EMSA), is a group of medical personnel designed to provide assistance and equipment. CAL MAT will provide the necessary personnel and equipment through direct request by CAL FIRE for incidents with a large number of personnel and an extended duration. The CAL MAT will be available to respond within 10 hours of notification and will be self-sufficient for the first 72 hours of deployment. Initial deployment for wildland fires consist of a minimum of five personnel which includes one Medical Doctor (MD), a Physician Assistant (PA) or a Nurse Practitioner (NP); one Registered Nurse (RN); one Paramedic (EMT-P); one Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and an additional Advanced Life Support (ALS) provider (e.g., RN, EMT-P). CAL MAT personnel may be added or subtracted at the request of CAL FIRE as the incident dictates. The CAL MAT will work under the direction of the incident's Medical Unit Leader.

Reference CAL FIRE Handbook 8100, policy 8141 procedure 8141-66

California Incident Management Team Rotations

All Incident Management Team and Dispatch Rotations are located on the respective GACC's Intelligence page under "Team Rotations".

[ONC Intelligence > News and Notes > Team Rotations\(nifc.gov\)](#)

[OSC Intelligence > News and Notes > Team Rotations\(nifc.gov\)](#)

California Incident Management Team Rotations	
CIMT National Rotation	Changes Sundays at 2400 MST
CICIMT Regional Rotation	Changes Sundays at 2400 PST
CAL FIRE Type 1 IMT Regional Rotation	Changes Monday at 0800 PST
CA Dispatch Team Rotation	Changes Saturday at 2400 PDT

Additional Requirements for Complex Incident Management Teams (CIMT) Rotations

When a team "On-Call" is not available due to being assigned, or is unavailable, the next team on the rotation moves up to the "On-Call" position for the remainder of the current on-call period and all additional periods until their own on-call period has expired, unless the on call team becomes available and is put back in their normal scheduled rotation.

When a team has had an assignment, they maintain their place in the rotation. Unlike the national rotation, teams will no longer have to wait for all other teams to get an assignment. (Referred to by the ICs as "luck of the draw").

GACC Intel will update "News and Notes" as soon as possible and keep rotation information consistent on both GACC websites.

GACCs will have final decision on management of all CIMT assignments and deviation from the rotation based on commitments, PL levels, specific NICC requests, and based on team availability.

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