



Bureau of Land Management: Arizona, New Mexico  
Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 2  
Bureau of Indian Affairs: Southwest, Navajo, Western Regions  
National Park Service, Intermountain Region  
US Forest Service, Southwestern Region  
Arizona State Forestry Division  
New Mexico State Forestry

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**Date: 10-28-08**

**To: Southwest Zone Coordinating Group Chairs and Dispatch Center Managers**

**From: Chair, Southwest Coordinating Group**

**Topic/Issue: Establishment of Standing Type 3 Teams in the Southwest**

For the last several years it has become apparent that we have not always had strong Type 3 organizational capacity in the Southwest. NMAC has repeatedly requested that we encourage Type 3 organizations, as have southwest interagency fire reviews. Type 3 organizations are able to fully utilize the Appropriate Management Response and prevent medium complexity incidents from growing into Type 2 or Type 1 incident.

The SWCG recently asked the Southwest Operations Group to foster these organizations by developing some tools that would make it easier for zones to organize and assemble Type 3 organizations. These products (attached) include: suggested selection process and time frame, suggested standing Type 3 organization, minimum position responsibilities and qualifications, IC recruitment notice/application form, and member recruitment notice/nomination form.

SWCG's expectation is that Southwest zones will join together to develop Type 3 teams. We have set a minimum goal of having at least one standing Type 3 team in New Mexico and one in Arizona for 2009, but perhaps more are possible. It is important that no member of a standing Type 3 organization be on a Southwest Type 1 or Type 2 team. Dual membership of members has led to the collapse of our Type 3 organizations during busy times, the times when we need Type 3 teams the most. SWCG's expectation is that two or more zones will get together and sponsor/manage one Type 3 team, with one agreed to coordination center as the dispatch entity for that team. Our expectation is that these teams would be available starting April 1 and go until the monsoons set in. If they are available after that, then they could likely be utilized in the northern geographic areas with their later fire seasons. During the Southwest season they would be available to go anywhere in the Southwest Area, although their sponsoring zones would have priority. Note that the minimum requirements for some of the support positions encourage participation by non-full time fire personnel in our agencies; we are looking for untapped folks that have an aptitude for incident organizational functions.

We ask that each Zone Coordinating Group Chair engage in discussions with your local coordinating group members, zone center managers, and adjacent zones to figure out how to make this work. We know it is an additional workload, but a crucial one to ensure maximum success on all complexity of incidents in the Southwest.

Recently, each member of the SWCG has been assigned to liaison with a zone in the Southwest, not just for this issue, but for other issues or communications as well. The assignments are as follows:

Leon Ben, Jr. (BIA Western)	-	CWZ
Jason Greenlee (BIA Navajo)	-	NAZ
Bob Lineback (NPS)	-	SNZ
Hector Madrid (BLM-NM)	-	PEZ
Donald Griego (NM State)	-	TAZ
Helen Graham (BLM-AZ)	-	SEZ
Loren DeRosear (FWS)	-	ABZ
Dave Behrens (AZ State)	-	WMZ
Marsha Kearney (USFS)	-	GLZ
Cal Pino (BIA Southwest)	-	Floating, (available to fill for absences)

Please contact your representative if you have additional questions. Hopefully they will be able to attend at least one or your zone meetings per year. Members of the Southwest Operations Group may also be available to assist as requested, as well as Kenan Jaycox at SWCC.

Thanks for your consideration.

***Bob Lineback***

Chair, Southwest Coordinating Group

Attached:     **IMT3 SW Info 10-08**  
                  **IMT3 Nomination-Selection Process-Time Frame 10-08**