

CHARTER

GEOGRAPHIC AREA TRAINING REPRESENTATIVES

November 16, 2000

(Revised May 15, 2006)

I. Name

The group will be named the Geographic Area Training Representatives hereinafter known as GATR.

II. Authority

The GATR has been established pursuant to the charter authority granted by individual Geographic Area Coordinating Groups or the primary agencies that assign training responsibility.

In general, each GATR will respond to a board of directors within the respective Geographic Area. This may be in the form of a Geographic Area Training Working Team, Steering Committee, or any similar configuration. Geographic Area updates and recommendations associated with training implementation and evaluation will be passed on to the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) Training Working Team (TWT).

III. Purpose

The purpose of the GATR is to assist in the implementation, coordination, and evaluation of fire management training programs for Federal and State agencies. Individual representatives may function as part of a working group and be assigned specific tasks as determined by a consensus of the GATR.

IV. Membership

The GATR will be composed of one representative (elected by the Geographic Area Working Team, Steering Committee, or other approving authority within the Geographic Area) from each Geographic Area and a National Advanced Fire and Resource Institute (NAFRI) representative. They will be knowledgeable in fire management training delivery and will represent the interagency partners from their Geographic Area. The elected members will serve as the voting members of the GATR and will be reviewed annually. Additional agency, state, and local partners can be included, as advisors, through the consensus of the representatives and approval of the Chairperson.

The membership may also include specialized members to assist in an advisory capacity.

V. Organization

The GATR serve under the direction of their respective Geographic Area Coordinating Groups or primary agencies that assign responsibility for training. The GATR will provide a liaison to the National Wildfire Coordinating Group Training Working Team (NWCG-TWT) as needed.

The GATR will elect one member from the group to serve as Chairperson. The Chairperson will serve for two years, beginning at the end of the spring meeting. It is through the Chairperson that the NWCG Training Working Team will correspond with the GATR. A Co-chairperson will be elected by the GATR and will be the Chairperson at the end of the two years. Co-chairperson will be responsible for all chairperson duties in the absence of the Chairperson.

VI. Authority of the Chairperson

The Chairperson is authorized to convene meetings and conference calls at such times and places as deemed necessary by the GATR or in association with NWCG - TWT meetings. It is expected that meetings and conference calls will be held to the minimum necessary to accomplish the defined purposes of the GATR.

VII. Meetings

Meetings should be scheduled and agendas provided to members in advance. The GATR will meet with the NWCG-TWT in May of each year.

Cost of the meeting must be borne by the agencies that sponsor membership of the GATR.

VIII. Responsibility

The GATR is the primary contact for NWCG training delivery and implementation within their Geographic Area and in support of the National training program. See GATR Operating Plan for specific responsibilities and procedures.

IX. Reports and Minutes

An accurate summary of the completed and anticipated actions is required for each meeting. Sufficient records of the GATR business should be kept to analyze the performance of the GATR and to keep track of actions taken. The Chairperson shall ensure that information on the GATR activities as a Group is widely distributed.

X. Task Forces

Ad-Hoc committees may be established as special needs arise. Ad-hoc committees can be rechartered annually and are subject to GATR review.

Chair, Northern Rockies Coordinating Group

Chair, Rocky Mountain Coordinating Group

Chair, Southwest Coordinating Group

Chair, Great Basin Coordinating Group

Chair, California Wildfire Coordinating Group

Chair, Pacific Northwest Coordinating Group

Chair, Southern Area Coordinating Group

Chair, Eastern Area Coordinating Group

Chair, Alaska Wildfire Fire Coordinating Group