A Publication of the National Wildfire Coordinating Group

NWCG Task Book for the Position of:



PLANNING SECTION CHIEF COMPLEX (PSCC)

PMS 311-123 JANUARY 2023

Task Book Assigned To:
Trainee's Name:
Home Unit/Agency:
Home Unit Phone Number:
Task Book Initiated By:
Official's Name:
Home Unit Title:
Home Unit/Agency:
Home Unit Phone Number:
Home Unit Address:
Date Initiated:

The material contained in this book accurately defines the performance expected of the position for which it was developed. This task book is approved for use as a position qualification document in accordance with the instructions contained herein.

Verification/Certification of Completed Task Book for the Position of:

PLANNING SECTION CHIEF COMPLEX (PSCC)

Final Evaluator's Verification To be completed **ONLY** when you are recommending the Trainee for certification. has successfully performed I verify that (Trainee name) as a Trainee by demonstrating all tasks for the position listed above and should be considered for certification in this position. All tasks are documented with appropriate initials. Final Evaluator's Signature: Final Evaluator's Printed Name: Home Unit Title: Home Unit/Agency: Home Unit Phone Number: _____ Date: _____ **Agency Certification** I certify that (Trainee name) _____ has met all requirements for qualification in the above position and that such qualification has been issued. Certifying Official's Signature: Certifying Official's Printed Name: ______ Title: Home Unit/Agency: _____ Home Unit Phone Number: _____ Date: _____

This document is posted at the NWCG website: https://www.nwcg.gov/publications/position-taskbooks

NATIONAL WILDFIRE COORDINATING GROUP (NWCG) POSITION TASK BOOK

NWCG Position Task Books (PTBs) have been developed for designated National Incident Management System (NIMS) positions. Each PTB lists the competencies, behaviors, and tasks required for successful performance in specific positions. Trainees must be observed completing all tasks and show knowledge and competency in their performance during the completion of this PTB.

Trainees are evaluated during this process by qualified Evaluators, and the Trainee's performance is documented in the PTB for each task by the Evaluator's initials and date of completion. An Evaluation Record will be completed by all Evaluators documenting the Trainee's progress after each Evaluation opportunity.

Successful performance of all tasks, as observed and recorded by an Evaluator, will result in a recommendation to the agency that the Trainee be certified in that position. Evaluation and confirmation of the Trainee's performance while completing all tasks may occur on one or more training assignments and may involve more than one Evaluator during any opportunity.

INCIDENT/EVENT CODING

Each task has a code associated with the type of training assignment where the task may be completed. While tasks can be performed in any situation, they must be evaluated on the specific type of incident/event for which they are coded. For example, tasks coded W must be evaluated on a wildfire. Performance of any task on other than the designated assignment is not valid for qualification. The codes are defined as:

O = **Other**: In any situation (classroom, simulation, daily job, incident, prescribed fire, etc.).

I = Incident: Task must be performed on an incident managed under the Incident Command System (ICS). Examples include wildland fire, structural fire, oil spill, search and rescue, hazardous material, and an emergency or non-emergency (planned or unplanned) event.

W = **Wildfire**: Task must be performed on a wildfire incident.

RX = **Prescribed fire**: Task must be performed on a prescribed fire incident.

W/RX = **Wildfire OR prescribed fire**: Task must be performed on a wildfire OR prescribed fire incident.

R = **Rare event**: Rare events such as accidents, injuries, vehicle or aircraft crashes occur infrequently and opportunities to evaluate performance in a real setting are limited. The Evaluator should determine, through interview, if the Trainee would be able to perform the task in a real situation.

Tasks within the PTB are numbered sequentially; however, the numbering does NOT indicate the order in which the tasks need to be performed or evaluated. The bullets under each numbered task are examples or indicators of items or actions related to the task. The purpose of the bullets is to assist the Evaluator in evaluating the Trainee; the bullets are not all-inclusive. Evaluate and initial ONLY the numbered tasks. DO NOT evaluate and initial each individual bullet.

A more detailed description of this process and definitions of terms are included in the *NWCG Standards for Wildland Fire Position Qualifications*, PMS 310-1, https://www.nwcg.gov/publications/310-1.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibilities of the Home Unit/Agency, Trainee, Coach, Training Specialist, Evaluator, Final Evaluator, and Certifying Official are identified in the *NWCG Standards for Wildland Fire Position Qualifications*, PMS 310-1. It is incumbent upon each of these individuals to ensure their responsibilities are met.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE POSITION TASK BOOK EVALUATION RECORD

Evaluation Record #

Each Evaluator will need to complete an Evaluation Record. Each Evaluation Record should be numbered sequentially. Place this number at the top of the Evaluation Record page and also use it in the column labeled "Evaluation Record #" for each numbered task the Trainee has satisfactorily performed.

Trainee Information

Print the Trainee's name, position on the incident/event, home unit/agency, and the home unit/agency address and phone number.

Evaluator Information

Print the Evaluator's name, position on the incident/event, home unit/agency, and the home unit/agency address and phone number.

Incident/Event Information

Incident/Event Name: Print the incident/event name.

Reference: Enter the incident code and/or fire code.

Duration: Enter inclusive dates during which the Trainee was evaluated.

Incident Kind: Circle the kind of incident and specify if other (e.g., search and rescue, flood, etc.).

Location: Enter the geographic area, agency, and state.

Management Type or Prescribed Fire Complexity Level: Circle the ICS organization level or the prescribed fire complexity level.

Fire Behavior Prediction System (FBPS) Fuel Model Group: Circle the Fuel Model Group letter that corresponds to the predominant fuel type in which the incident/event occurred.

G = Grass Group (includes FBPS Fuel Models 1-3): $1 = \text{short grass } (1 \text{ foot}); 2 = \text{timber with grass understory}; <math>3 = \text{tall grass } (1\frac{1}{2} - 2 \text{ feet})$

B = Brush Group (includes FBPS Fuel Models 4 - 6): 4 = Chaparral (6 feet); 5 = Brush (2 feet); 6 = dormant brush/hardwood slash; 7 = Southern rough

T = Timber Group (includes FBPS Fuel Models 8 - 10): 8 = closed timber litter; 9 = hardwood litter; 10 = timber (with litter understory)

S = Slash Group (includes FBPS Fuel Models 11 - 13): 11 = light logging slash; 12 = medium logging slash; 13 = heavy logging slash

Evaluator's Recommendation

For 1-4, initial only one line as appropriate, this will allow for comparison with your initials in the Oualifications Record.

Comments: Additional information specific to the Evaluator's recommendation. The Evaluator should note any deficiencies, additional assignment needs, or additional focus areas that were identified. Record additional remarks/recommendations on an Individual Performance Evaluation or by attaching an additional sheet to the Evaluation Record.

Evaluator's Signature: Sign here to authenticate the recommendation.

Date: Document the date the Evaluation Record is completed.

Evaluator's Relevant Qualification (or agency certification): List your qualification or certification relevant to the Trainee position you supervised.

Note: Evaluators must be either qualified in the position being evaluated or supervise the Trainee; Final Evaluators must be qualified in the Trainee position they are evaluating.

Competency: Assume position responsibilities.

Description: Successfully assume role of Planning Section Chief Complex and initiate position activities at the appropriate time according to the following behaviors.

TASK	C O D E	EVAL. RECORD #	EVALUATOR: Initial & date upon completion of task
Behavior: Ensure readiness for assignment.			
 Complete required team management responsibilities. Section recruitment and selection Standard operating procedures Team building Section roster Necessary equipment 	O		
Behavior: Understand and comply with incident safe	ety proc	edures and p	oractices.
2. Ensure section areas integrate safety considerations into all aspects of section management.	I		
Behavior: Ensure availability, qualifications, and caassignment.	pabilitie	s of resource	es to complete
 3. Evaluate staffing needs required to manage the section. • Organize to meet the needs for management and control of the section. • Make appropriate decisions about immediate needs and actions. • Order additional resources through established channel. • Identify training opportunities. 	I		
Behavior: Gather, update, and apply situational info	ormation	relevant to	the assignment.
 4. Obtain briefing from Agency Administrator and/or outgoing Incident Commander. • Incident information [e.g., Incident Briefing, (ICS 201); Incident Objectives, (ICS 202); wildland fire decision support documentation; Written Delegation of Authority; copy of most recent Incident Status Summary, (ICS 209); map(s) of the incident]. • Copies of current Resource Orders, (ICS 260), and resources committed to incident. • Key contact list with phone and fax numbers. 	I		

TASK	C O D E	EVAL. RECORD #	EVALUATOR: Initial & date upon completion of task
 5. Obtain briefing from Incident Commander (one-on-one or in Incident Management Team (IMT) meeting). • IC's priorities, goals, and objectives for IMT and the incident. • Initial instructions concerning the tasks expected of the Planning Section. • Expected timeframes for briefings, planning meetings, and team meetings. 	I		
 6. Collect information from outgoing Planning Section Chief or other personnel responsible for incident prior to arrival. Status of incident and assigned resources. Status of existing Planning Section. 	I		

Competency: Lead assigned personnel.

Description: Influence, guide, and direct assigned personnel to accomplish objectives and desired outcomes in a rapidly changing, high-risk environment.

Behavior: Model leadership values and principles. Ι 7. Exhibit principles of duty. Be proficient in your job, both technically, and as a leader. • *Make sound and timely decisions.* • Ensure tasks are understood, supervised, and accomplished. Develop your subordinates for the future. 8. Exhibit principles of respect. Ι Know your subordinates and look out for their well-being. • *Keep your subordinates informed.* Build the team. Employ your subordinates in accordance with their capabilities. 9. Exhibit principles of integrity. Ι Know yourself and seek improvement. Seek responsibility and accept responsibility for your actions. Set the example.

TASK	C O D E	EVAL. RECORD #	EVALUATOR: Initial & date upon completion of task
Behavior: Ensure the safety, welfare, and accounta	bility of a	assigned per	sonnel.
 10. Manage operational periods to achieve objectives. Evaluate need for extended operational periods. Ensure adequate work/rest ratio. 	I		
11. Ensure the strategic and operational risk management processes are maintained, documented, and communicated at all levels of the incident.	I		
Behavior: Establish work assignments and perform performance, and provide feedback.	nance exp	ectations, m	onitor
12. Ensure subordinates understand assignment for operational period.	I		
 13. Continually evaluate performance. Communicate deficiencies immediately and take corrective action. Provide training opportunities where available. Complete personnel performance evaluations according to agency guidelines. 	I		
Behavior: Emphasize teamwork.	1		
14. Establish and maintain positive interpersonal and interagency working relationships.	I		
15. Establish cohesiveness among assigned resources.	I		
Behavior: Coordinate interdependent activities.	•	1	
16. Establish priorities and coordinate units within the section.	I		
 17. Interact and coordinate with command staff, general staff, and appropriate unit leaders. Receive and transmit current and accurate information. Communicate changes to the Incident Action Plan (IAP) or relevant plan. Ensure the Resource Unit Leader is advised of changes in status of resources assigned to the operation. Keep status current. 	I		

TASK	C O D E	EVAL. RECORD #	EVALUATOR: Initial & date upon completion of task
 18. Coordinate incident rehabilitation needs with responsible agencies and environmental specialists. Fire Suppression Rehabilitation Burned Area Emergency Response 	W		

Competency: Communicate effectively.

Description: Use suitable communication techniques to share relevant information with appropriate personnel on a timely basis to accomplish objectives in a rapidly changing, high-risk environment.

Behavior: Ensure relevant information is exchanged during briefings and debriefings.			
 19. Facilitate Planning Section meetings and share pertinent information. Expected duration Changes in objectives or strategy(ies) Additional responsibilities Changes in jurisdictional involvement 	I		
 20. Schedule and conduct operational period briefings 30 minutes or less Incident objectives (Incident Commander or Planning Section Chief) Current situation (Operations Section Chief) Weather information (Incident Meteorologist or Fire Behavior Analyst) Fire behavior (Fire Behavior Analyst) Work assignments (Operations Section Chief) Air operations summary (Air Operations Branch Director) Safety message (Safety Officer) Other applicable information (e.g., Logistics, Finance, Planning, Information, Liaison, Resource Advisors/agency representatives) Changes from the written IAP Incident Commander's remarks 	I		
 21. Ensure presenters are aware of and adhere to meeting responsibilities. Operational briefing Pre-planning/strategy meeting Planning meeting 	I		

TASK	C O D E	EVAL. RECORD #	EVALUATOR: Initial & date upon completion of task
 22. Ensure planning staff has specific assignments and responsibilities to support the incident. Division of duties Work parameters 	I		
23. Facilitate Agency Administrator close-out/After Action Review (AAR).	I		

Competency: Ensure completion of assigned actions to meet identified objectives.

Description: Identify, analyze, and apply relevant situational information and evaluate actions to complete assignments safely and meet identified objectives. Complete actions within established timeframe.

Behavior: Administer and/or apply agency policy, co	ontracts,	, and agreen	nents.
 24. Apply agency policy, legal and fiscal constraints, and political considerations when reviewing and developing plans. Strategic plans (e.g., wildland fire decision support documentation, Delegation of Authority) IAP or other relevant plan Cost containment 	I		
25. Ensure work/rest guidelines and length of assignments are monitored and followed.	I		
26. Ensure release priorities address contractual requirements. • Coordinate with Finance/Administration.	I		
Behavior: Gather, analyze, and validate information and make recommendations for setting priorities.	n pertine	ent to the inc	eident or event
 27. Evaluate and monitor current situation to determine if present plan of action will meet incident objectives. Use technical specialists, operations personnel, and/or agency personnel. Advise command and general staff of significant changes in incident status in a timely manner. 	I		

TASK	C O D E	EVAL. RECORD #	EVALUATOR: Initial & date upon completion of task
 28. Determine if the agency's strategic plan and wildland fire decision support documentation is appropriate and can be supported. Ensure alignment & understanding of values, strategy, and risk at all levels of the incident and with the host agency. WFDSS, incident objectives, strategic plans and risk assessments, and incident action plans provide consistent and transparent messages. 	W		
29. Facilitate and/or participate in preplanning/strategy meetings.	I		
30. Facilitate and/or participate in strategic risk assessment and strategic operations meetings.	I		
 31. Establish, adhere to, and maintain incident planning cycle. Publish, distribute, and post planning cycle. 	I		
 32. Ensure alignment and understanding of values, strategy, and risk at all levels of the incident and with the host agency. WFDSS, incident objectives, strategic plans and risk assessments, and incident action plans provide consistent and transparent messages. 	I		
 33. Inform identified attendees of planning meeting time, location, and information expected of them. Define meeting objectives, agenda, and time expectations. Post agenda at appropriate locations. 	I		

TASK	C	EVAL.	EVALUATOR:
	O D E	RECORD #	Initial & date upon completion of task
 Conduct planning meetings. Complete in 30 minutes or less. Review and validate incident objectives (Incident Commander or Planning Section Chief). Provide current situation (Operations Section Chief). Present weather information (Incident Meteorologist or Fire Behavior Analyst). Present fire behavior (Fire Behavior Analyst). Present work assignments as outlined on Operational Planning Worksheet, (ICS 215), (Operations Section Chief). Present Air Operations Summary, (ICS 220), (Air Operations Branch Director). Present Incident Action Plan Safety Analysis, (ICS 215A), (Safety Officer). Ensure the proposed plan can be implemented and supported by section chiefs and agency representatives. Identify IAP elements required from other sections and time needed by the Planning Section. 	W		
35. Modify and present revised incident objectives to command and general staff.	I		
 36. Revise planning cycle when appropriate. Meeting time and location Operational periods 	I		
 37. Ensure planning staff completes and compiles required elements of the IAP within required timeframes. Obtain elements from other appropriate sections. Assemble the elements into an IAP. Ensure the IAP links management and control objectives with strategies and tactics. Obtain the Incident Commander's approval and signature on IAP. Identify how many copies of IAP are needed. 	W		
38. Ensure distribution of copies of IAP at the operational briefing.	I		

TASK	C O D E	EVAL. RECORD #	EVALUATOR: Initial & date upon completion of task
 39. Coordinate submission of Incident Status Summary, (ICS 209). Accurate and complete Priorities and special considerations Within established timeframes Incident Commander's signature 			
 40. Ensure incident documentation is completed as required by the Incident Commander. Activity Logs, (ICS 214). Personnel and equipment time records to Time Unit Leader each operational period. Incident reports, executive summary, and/or narrative prior to leaving incident. Final documentation package to host agency. 	I		
41. Update Incident Commander as soon as possible on current accomplishments and/or problems.	I		
 42. Implement demobilization plan. Ensure realistic release priorities. Address agency, cooperating/assisting agency and incident requirements. Minimize contract, transportation, and personnel costs. Ensure incident and agency demobilization safety and travel procedures are followed. 	I		
 43. Develop and implement a plan for transfer of command. Include accurate assessment of the situation. Identify incident needs. Identify release priorities. Include date and time of transition and transfer of command. Complete transition of functional duties in a timely, smooth, and efficient manner. Facilitate transfer of command meeting. Brief subordinates. 	I		
 44. Ensure planning staff completes or supports completion of other relevant plans within required timeframes. Contingency plan(s) as needed (e.g., evacuation/ sheltering, structure protection) Demobilization plan Transfer of command plan 	I		

TASK Behavior: Make appropriate decisions based on ana	C O D E	EVAL. RECORD # gathered info	EVALUATOR: Initial & date upon completion of task ormation.
 45. Coordinate an efficient transfer of position duties when mobilizing/demobilizing. Consider transition early in the incident. Inform subordinate staff and Incident Commander. Document follow-up action needed and submit to agency representative. 	I		

	Evaluation Record #
	Trainee Information
Printed Na	ame:
Trainee Po	osition on Incident/Event:
Home Unit	it/Agency:
Home Unit	it /Agency Address and Phone Number:
	Evaluator Information
Printed Na	ame:
Evaluator I	Position on Incident/Event:
Home Unit	it/Agency:
Home Unit	it /Agency Address and Phone Number:
	Incident/Event Information
Incident/Ev	Event Name: Reference (Incident Number/Fire Code):
Duration:	
Incident K	Cind: Wildfire, Prescribed Fire, All Hazard, Other (specify):
Location (i	include Geographic Area, Agency, and State):
Manageme	ent Type (circle one): Type 5, Type 4, Type 3, Type 2, Type 1, Area Command, Complex Incident Manageme
OR Prescri	ribed Fire Complexity Level (circle one): Low, Moderate, High
FBPS Fuel	l Model Letter: G = Grass, B = Brush, T = Timber, S = Slash
	Evaluator's Recommendation (Initial only one line as appropriate)
1)	The tasks initialed and dated by me on the Qualification Record have been performed under my supervision a satisfactory manner. The Trainee has successfully performed all tasks in the PTB for the position. I have completed the Final Evaluator's Verification section and recommend the Trainee be considered for agency certification.
2)	The tasks initialed and dated by me on the Qualification Record have been performed under my supervision a satisfactory manner. However, opportunities were not available for all tasks (or all uncompleted tasks) to be performed and evaluated on this assignment. An additional assignment is needed to complete the evaluation
3)	The Trainee did not complete certain tasks in the PTB in a satisfactory manner and additional training, guidance, or experience is recommended.
4)	The individual is severely deficient in the performance of tasks in the PTB for the position and additional training, guidance, or experience is recommended prior to another training assignment.
Comments	s:
Evaluator's	's Signature: Date:

Additional Evaluation Record Sheets can be downloaded at https://www.nwcg.gov/publications/position-taskbooks.

Evaluator's Relevant Qualification (or agency certification):_____

	Evaluation Record # _	
	Trainee Information	
Printed Na	Name:	
Trainee Po	Position on Incident/Event:	
Home Unit	nit/Agency:	
Home Unit	nit /Agency Address and Phone Number:	
	Evaluator Information	
Printed Na	Name:	
Evaluator 1	or Position on Incident/Event:	
Home Unit	nit/Agency:	
Home Unit	nit /Agency Address and Phone Number:	
	Incident/Event Information	
Incident/Ev	/Event Name: Reference (Incident Number/Fire Code):	
Duration:	ı:	
Incident K	Kind: Wildfire, Prescribed Fire, All Hazard, Other (specify):	
Location (i	(include Geographic Area, Agency, and State):	
Manageme	ment Type (circle one): Type 5, Type 4, Type 3, Type 2, Type 1, Area Command, Complex Incident Man	nagement
OR Prescri	cribed Fire Complexity Level (circle one): Low, Moderate, High	
FBPS Fuel	nel Model Letter: $G = Grass$, $B = Brush$, $T = Timber$, $S = Slash$	
	Evaluator's Recommendation (Initial only one line as appropriate)	
1)	1) The tasks initialed and dated by me on the Qualification Record have been performed under my super a satisfactory manner. The Trainee has successfully performed all tasks in the PTB for the position. I completed the Final Evaluator's Verification section and recommend the Trainee be considered for agreerification.	have
2)	2) The tasks initialed and dated by me on the Qualification Record have been performed under my super a satisfactory manner. However, opportunities were not available for all tasks (or all uncompleted task performed and evaluated on this assignment. An additional assignment is needed to complete the evaluated on the satisfactory manner.	ks) to be
3)	3) The Trainee did not complete certain tasks in the PTB in a satisfactory manner and additional training guidance, or experience is recommended.	3,
4)	4) The individual is severely deficient in the performance of tasks in the PTB for the position and additional training, guidance, or experience is recommended prior to another training assignment.	onal
Comments	nts:	
Evaluator's	or's Signature: Date:	

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Evaluator's Relevant Qualification (or agency certification):