A Publication of the National Wildfire Coordinating Group

NWCG Task Book for the Position of:



WILDLAND FIRE INVESTIGATION TEAM LEADER (INVL)

PMS 311-90 October 2021

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:

WILDLAND FIRE INVESTIGATION TEAM LEADER (INVL)

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 Interagency Incident Management System (NIIMS) 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 Wildland Fire Investigation Team Leader (INVL) 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.			
 Gather information necessary to assess incident assignment and determine immediate needs and actions. Resource order information including mode of travel. Reporting time and place. Type of incident. 	О		
 Obtain and assemble materials needed during the case development phase of a wildland fire investigation. ICS forms. Law enforcement forms. ICP support supplies. Evidence collection materials. Diagramming materials. Casting materials. GPS (optional). Investigation database software. Fire scene diagramming software (optional). Technical investigative equipment. Specialized surveillance equipment other than technical investigative equipment. Local maps, contact lists, and intelligence relating to the incident. 	O		
Behavior: Understand and comply with incident saf	ety proc	edures and p	practices.
 3. Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of safety issues related to the case development aspects of a wildland fire investigation. • Describe specialized safety considerations. • Origin and cause determination • Interview/interrogation • Surveillance • Other team operations • Search and arrest warrant execution • Prepare a job hazard analysis. • Provide a safety briefing. 	O		

Wildland Fire Investigation Team Leader (INVL) **EVALUATOR:** EVAL. TASK \mathbf{C} 0 RECORD **Initial & date** D # upon completion E of task Behavior: Gather, update, and apply situational information relevant to the assignment. 4. Obtain briefing from assignment supervisor. T Organizational structure. Single or multiple fires to investigate. Fire cause history and patterns if multiple fires. Weather. Fire behavior. Communications. Resources. Safety. W 5. Demonstrate a working knowledge of arson investigation strategies and tactics. Specialized arson investigation strategies Static surveillance Mobile surveillance Aerial surveillance Camera traps Technical investigation equipment Sequential timeline analysis Rewards *Informants* Neighborhood canvass Interrogation **Polygraphs** Physical and behavioral evidence analysis Search warrants K-9 tracking Juvenile fire setter program Firefighter arson 6. Demonstrate proper knowledge of principles of O wildland fire behavior as they relate to investigation. Weather and fire behavior forecasts. Fire behavior calculations and computer modeling software used to support origin and cause determination. Fire behavior calculations used to include/exclude Advantages/disadvantages of applying fire

behavior data to fire cause conclusions.

TASK	C O D E	EVAL. RECORD #	EVALUATOR: Initial & date upon completion of task
 Coordinate a second opinion analysis of a fire origin. Criteria for when a secondary analysis is required. Assessment of preliminary documentation information. Effects of weather/time on various indicators. Determination of suppression actions. Scene disturbance by preliminary investigators. Scene security/evidence integrity issues. Fire behavior information. Witness information. Difference of opinion with preliminary findings. 	W		
Behavior: Establish effective relationships with relevant	vant per	sonnel.	
 8. Conduct self in a professional manner. • Respectful and courteous. • Respectful of public and private property. 	I		
9. Establish and maintain positive interpersonal and interagency working relationships.	I		
10. Assure assigned team members have the authority and credentials for the tasks assigned.	I		

Behavior: Understand and comply with ICS concepts and principles.

11. Develop standard investigation team organizational structure; relate team structure to investigation plan objectives. Describe various team investigative functions. List the necessary administrative tasks associated with team management. • ICS concept • Standard team organizational structure • Command function • Logistics function • Planning function • Operations function • Incident Action Plan • Daily briefings • Origin determination • Witness interviews • Tip line management • Security • Time keeping • Fiscal management • Media relations/media management • Information management • Documentation • Photography and video services • Clerical support • Investigative specialists • Reports • Attorney liaison • Evidence management • Coordinated surveillance • Interagency relationships/unified command • Resource staffing • Incident debriefings • Demobilization planning and implementation	0		
 12. Apply ICS concept and principles to complex/major fire investigation. Establish contact with Incident Commander and/or Agency Administrator. Advise of location of interest. Express and mitigate security concerns. Establish and communicate access restrictions. Make request for specialized equipment or functions as needed. Oversee and ensure contact with incident finance, supply, and logistics. Notify any expert use. Procure lodging and transportation as needed. Procure any special supplies. Conduct briefings. 	W		

Wildland Fire Investigation Team Leader (IN	VL)		
 13. Apply ICS concept and principles to serial arson investigation. Establish contact with Incident Commander and/or Agency Administrator. Maintain confidentiality. Information sharing on a need-to-know basis. Establish and communicate. Make request for specialized equipment or functions as needed. Oversee and ensure contact with incident finance, supply, and logistics. Procure lodging and transportation as needed. Procure any special supplies. Conduct briefings. 	W		
Competency: Communicate effectively. Description: Use suitable communication techniques to shar personnel on a timely basis to accomplish objectives in a rap			
Behavior: Ensure relevant information is exchanged	during	briefings an	d debriefings.
14. Organize and deliver in briefings and After Action Reviews (AAR).	I		
15. Demonstrate knowledge of confidentiality of investigation and who can and cannot receive protected information.	I		
Competency: Ensure completion of assigned objectives. Description: Identify, analyze, and apply relevant situational complete assignments safely and meet identified objectives. Otimeframe. Behavior: Ensure relevant information and evidence.	l informa Complete	tion and evalu actions within	uate actions to established
documented, and secured.	I	T	ı
 16. Gather and interpret information relevant to the case development phase of an investigation. Weather data Weather data records Lightning map Lightning data Dispatch logs ICS terminology 	О		

Wildland Fire Investigation Team Leader (INVL) 17. Interpret samples. O Lightning map Weather data • Fire behavior report Dispatch log 18. Obtain information from other sources. O Financial data Criminal history • DMV information Ownership/tax information W 19. Utilize arson investigation techniques, strategies, tactics, and arson investigation team or task force management. Arson ignition sources/factors. *Origin and cause considerations.* Behavioral evidence analysis. ICS team/task force organizational structure. Interagency operations/liaison. Unified command. Communications. Security. Operational compromise. Command post considerations. Media relations. Prosecutorial considerations. Administrative considerations. Information databases. Chronological pattern analysis. Spatial pattern analysis. Arson motive recognition. Special scene processing techniques. Modus operandi vs. signature/ritual behaviors. Linkage blindness. *Types of fire setter.* Special scene processing techniques establishing intent. Gather and analyze past fire investigation reports. Gather intelligence (911 call, dispatch logs, video, witness statements, etc.) and coordinate review. Develop Incident Action Plan (IAP) and conduct briefings. Organize and ensure financial and logistical needs.

Wildland Fire Investigation Team Leader (IN	VL)	
 20. Utilize complex/major fire investigation techniques, strategies, tactics, and investigation team, or task force management. Advise of location of interest and establish security. Express and mitigate security concerns and covert needs of the team. Establish and communicate access restrictions. Obtain and review 911 calls and dispatch recording. Ensure interviewing of first at scene resources. Make request for specialized equipment or functions as needed. Oversee and ensure contact with incident finance, supply, and logistics. Notify any expert use. Procure any special supplies. Conduct briefings. Evaluate team and individual performances. 	W	
 21. Organize, coordinate, and conduct witness interviews, obtain, and record witness statements, and use that information to support findings in a case. • Identify and locate additional witnesses. • Identify victims. • Use constructive interview format. • Develop material questions. • Document statements. • Use leading questions. • Identify key points. • Compose a witness statement. • Observe verbal and non-verbal behavioral cues. • Deal with a hostile or uncooperative witness. • Identify minimum subject identification requirements. • Summarize a witness statement in the report. 	W	
 22. Assign others or obtain and conduct interrogations of suspects in cases where criminal charges may be filed. • Agency policy regarding interrogation. • Interrogation legal requirements (Miranda Waiver). • Interrogation preparation. • Basic interrogation techniques. • Structured questions. • Verbal behavioral cues. • Non-verbal behavioral cues. • Alternative themes. • Specialized interrogation situations (e.g., juveniles, non-native language speakers, diminished capacity, multiple suspect elimination). • Polygraph. 	W	

Wildland Fire Investigation Team Leader (IN	VL)		
23. Document, collect, and preserve evidence in accordance with current standards. • Legal requirements and authorities for: ○ Collection ○ Documentation ○ Transfer ○ Storage ○ Preservation ○ Testing ○ Final disposition • Spoliation issues. • Managing non-routine items. • Impression evidence. • Trace evidence. • Computer and other electronic devices. • Soils. • DNA. • Other evidence categories. • Managing and cataloguing large amounts of evidence. • Integrate evidence into the investigation report. • Crime lab protocols and evidence collection assistance.	0		
Behavior: Prepare and present a case to administration	tive and	legal staff.	
 24. Prepare a comprehensive investigation plan for the case development phase of a wildland fire investigation. Preliminary assessment of facts Goals, objectives, and scope Milestones, timelines, and cutoff points Investigative techniques Specialized equipment needs Administrative support Additional resources Jurisdictional issues 	W		
 25. Document the findings of an investigation and identify any specialized documentation requirements. Preliminary fire investigation reports Fire behavior data Witness statements Photographs/video Sketches and diagrams Forensic analyzes Compliance records Technical reports Scientific research Investigative depositions Grand jury testimony Engineered diagrams 	W		

 26. Present a case to administrators and/or attorneys for consideration of legal action. Final investigation report Preliminary contacts with litigators Investigation summary preparation Professional relationship with legal staff. 	O	
 27. Make a professional appearance and present sworn testimony. Curriculum Vitae (provide copy) Frye standard Daubert v. Merrill-Dow Pharmaceuticals Kumho Tire v. Carmichael Michigan Millers Mutual v. Benfield Wisegram v. Marley Rule 702 Pre-testimony preparation Courtroom demeanor Deposition vs. testimony Grand jury proceedings Perjury Fact vs. opinion Voir dire Qualifying as an expert Cross examination 	R	

	Evaluation Record #
	Trainee Information
Printed Na	ame:
Trainee Po	osition on Incident/Event:
Home Uni	t/Agency:
Home Uni	t /Agency Address and Phone Number:
	Evaluator Information
Printed Na	me:
Evaluator 1	Position on Incident/Event:
Home Uni	t/Agency:
Home Uni	t /Agency Address and Phone Number:
	Incident/Event Information
Incident/E	vent Name: Reference (Incident Number/Fire Code):
Duration:	
Incident K	ind: 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
OR Prescri	ibed Fire Complexity Level (circle one): Low, Moderate, High
FBPS Fuel	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 in 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 in 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	x:

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

	Evaluation Record #
	Trainee Information
Printed Na	me:
Trainee Po	sition on Incident/Event:
Home Unit	t/Agency:
Home Unit	t /Agency Address and Phone Number:
	Evaluator Information
Printed Na	me:
Evaluator l	Position on Incident/Event:
Home Unit	t/Agency:
Home Unit	t /Agency Address and Phone Number:
	Incident/Event Information
Incident/Ev	vent Name: Reference (Incident Number/Fire Code):
Duration:	
Incident K	ind: 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
OR Prescri	ibed Fire Complexity Level (circle one): Low, Moderate, High
FBPS Fuel	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 in 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 in 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	:

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