INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM – FIREFIGHTING

DESCRIPTION	The Incident Management Team (IMT) – Firefighting provides incident management or support during fire incidents or events that exceed a jurisdiction's or agency's capability or capacity. Teams may include members of local, state, tribal, territorial, and federal entities; Nongovernmental Organizations (NGO); and private sector organizations. Teams encompass various agencies and jurisdictions
RESOURCE CATEGORY	Fire/Hazardous Materials
RESOURCE KIND	Team
OVERALL FUNCTION	The IMT – Firefighting: 1. Deploys to manage fire incidents or events that require a higher capability or capacity level than the requesting jurisdiction or organization can provide 2. Assumes management of the incident for the requesting jurisdiction or agency, or supports a local Incident Commander (IC) or Unified Command and its IMT in managing an incident or event 3. Directs and tracks tactical resources that the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) and other supporting organizations provide 4. Performs Command, Operations, Planning, Logistics, Finance/Administration, Safety, Public Information, and Liaison functions, as the incident requires 5. Coordinates with Emergency Operations Center (EOC) personnel, the AHJ, and Agency Administrators regarding incident management objectives and support

COMPOSITION AND ORDERING SPECIFICATIONS	1. Discuss logistics for deploying this team, such as working conditions, length of deployment, security, lodging, transportation, and meals, prior to deployment 2. Discuss available facilities for establishing an Incident Command Post (ICP), including their proximity to the incident 3. Discuss team relief or replacement, as well as team member overlap to allow for smooth operational transition 4. Discuss staffing and equipment needs based on the complexity of the incident, such as the need for deputies and assistants or the need to provide 24-hour coverage 5. Requestor conducts an incident complexity analysis and discusses the results with the provider to identify necessary levels of support. Typical incident complexity factors include: a. Threat to life, property, and the environment b. Extent or severity of damage or harm c. Need for 24-hour staffing d. Length of expected deployment periods e. Impact to the population f. Geographic extent of the incident g. Organizational complexity and number of jurisdictions involved h. Availability of resources i. Political, social, and economic sensitivities j. Level of public and media attention 6. Requestor and provider discuss IMT, Firefighting responsibilities and authority throughout the incident 7. An IMT – Firefighting working outside of its sponsoring entity's authority may need authorization from the requesting jurisdiction or agency, such as a Delegation of Authority, Financial Spending Authority, Letter of Direction, or Mission Assignment 8. Requestor and provider discuss existing incident command structures and other coordinating entities, such as federal, state, tribal, territorial, and local governments; EOCs; Multiagency Coordination (MAC) Groups, and Joint Information Systems (JIS) 9. As an incident grows geographically or to more jurisdictions, the IMT should ensure that appropriate authorizations are in place, such as a Delegation of Authority from a regional or state entity 10. Requestors should consider ordering the closest available resource to manage expanding incidents until a more qualified and capable resource is available 11. Requestor and provider discuss the need to include trainees on the team 12. Requestor and provider discuss the process and expectations for documentation; ordering, tracking, and managing resources; tracking and managing personnel hours; ensuring adequate personnel accountability; ensuring personnel safety and welfare; managing contracts and Memorandums of Understanding (MOU); and managing communications processes and equipment

Each type of resource builds on the qualifications of the type below it. For example, Type 1 qualifications include the qualifications in Type 2, plus an increase in capability. Type 1 is the highest qualification level.

COMPONENT	TYPE 1	TYPE 2	TYPE 3	TYPE 4	NOTES
MINIMUM PERSONNEL PER TEAM	Same as Type 2	26	12	Same as Type 5	Not Specified

COMPONENT	TYPE 1	TYPE 2	TYPE 3	TYPE 4	NOTES
MANAGEMENT AND OVERSIGHT PERSONNEL PER TEAM	Same as Type 2	1 - Deputy Incident Commander 1 - Safety Officer 1 - Public Information Officer 2 - Operations Section Chief 1 - Air Operations Branch Director 1 - Planning Section Chief 1 - Logistics Section Chief 1 - Finance Section Chief 2 - Operations Branch Director or Division/Group Supervisor 1 - Geographic Information System Specialist 1 - Computer Technical Specialist 6 - Discretionary Positions 6 - IMT Trainee	1 - Operations Section Chief 1 - Planning Section Chief 1 - Logistics Section Chief 1 - Finance Section Chief 1 - Safety Officer 1 - Public Information Officer 2 - Task Force Leader 3 - IMT Trainee	Same as Type 5	Not Specified
CAPABILITIES PER TEAM	Same as Type 2, PLUS: 1. Coordinates resources from multiple agencies 2. Oversees personnel and equipment assigned to the incident	1. Supports command and general staff positions 2. Establishes base camps 3. Provides support during multiple operational periods	1. Provides support during an initial attack to wildland fires 2. Incorporates several task forces or strike teams 3. Provides support that extends into multiple operational periods	Provides support during initial attack or first response to the incident for one operational period	Not Specified
PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE) EQUIPMENT PER TEAM MEMBER	Same as Type 2	Same as Type 3	Same as Type 4	Same as Type 5	1. PPE requirements are based on the position, the nature of the incident, and the environmental conditions experienced or expected. Not all positions require PPE 2. PPE is mission specific and may vary by work environment. It includes protective footwear, protective clothing for skin exposure, eye and ear protection, respirators, gloves, and masks

COMPONENT	TYPE 1	TYPE 2	TYPE 3	TYPE 4	NOTES
COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT PER TEAM	Same as Type 2	Same as Type 3	Same as Type 4	Same as Type 5	The IMT – Firefighting arrives with or can order portable radios, repeaters, portable cellular towers, mobile communications units, mobile command posts, and other communications support equipment as necessary to provide communications for the incident

COMPONENT	TYPE 5	NOTES
MINIMUM PERSONNEL PER TEAM	1	Not Specified
MANAGEMENT AND OVERSIGHT PERSONNEL PER TEAM	Not Applicable	Not Specified
CAPABILITIES PER TEAM	Provides short-term support during the initial attack	Not Specified
PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE) EQUIPMENT PER TEAM MEMBER	Appropriate PPE, if necessary	1. PPE requirements are based on the position, the nature of the incident, and the environmental conditions experienced or expected. Not all positions require PPE 2. PPE is mission specific and may vary by work environment. It includes protective footwear, protective clothing for skin exposure, eye and ear protection, respirators, gloves, and masks
COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT PER TEAM	Communications equipment commensurate with the mission assignment	The IMT – Firefighting arrives with or can order portable radios, repeaters, portable cellular towers, mobile communications units, mobile command posts, and other communications support equipment as necessary to provide communications for the incident

NOTES

Nationally typed resources represent the minimum criteria for the associated component and capability.

REFERENCES

1. FEMA, National Incident Management System (NIMS), October 2017
2. FEMA, NIMS Guideline for the National Qualification System, November 2017
3. FEMA, National Response Framework, October 2019
4. FEMA, Field Operations Guide, June 2016
5. National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC) Logistics Teams Configuration, May 2019
6. National Interagency Mobilization Guide - Geographic Areas, March 2021
7. National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG), Wildland Fire Incident Management Field Guide, April 2013