

NATIONAL WILDFIRE COORDINATING GROUP

Montana DNRC, Forestry
2705 Spurgin Road
Missoula, MT 59804
(406) 542-4300

MAR 20, 2002

TO: NWCG MEMBERS

FROM: DON ARTLEY, Chair, NWCG

SUBJECT: RESTRUCTURING THE HELICOPTER MANAGER POSITION

At our fall 2001 meeting, we approved an IOSWT recommendation to restructure the helicopter manager position into two separate positions for inclusion in 310-1. This was in response to our request to resolve the differences between the 310-1 and the IHOG relating to the helicopter manager position. Attached is a memo from the IOSWT with the actions necessary for implementation.

Please ensure that the attached information is widely circulated through your organization, and that you take the appropriate steps to ensure implementation.

DA:krnk

cc: Bob Leaverton, Chair, IOSWT
Neal Hitchcock, NICC
Chairs, Geographic Area Coordinating Groups

National Wildfire Coordinating Group Incident Operation Standards Working Team

Memorandum

To: Don Artley, Chair, National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG)

From: Bob Leaverton, Chair, Incident Operation Standards Working Team (IOSWT)

Subject: Helicopter Manager Position Restructuring

Several months ago NWCG directed the IOSWT to work with the interagency aviation community in determining and correcting several conflicts between the Wildland and Prescribed Fire Qualifications Guide (310-1) and the Interagency Helicopter Operations Guide (IHOG), relating to the Helicopter Manager position.

At the Fall 2001 meeting held in Bar Harbor, Maine, NWCG approved the proposed resolution jointly developed by the IOSWT and the Interagency Helicopter Operations Group (attached). As presented at the Fall meeting this resolution identifies two separate helicopter management positions for inclusion in 310-1.

One part of the agreed upon resolution is the adoption of a required "S-372 Helicopter Manager" training course to be included in the 310-1. This course has been adopted and used by several wildland fire agencies. The IOSWT will be working with the TWT in order to get this course reviewed and approved for full Interagency use. The Federal Aviation Management Council has already sanctioned this course for use by the wildland fire agencies.

A task book(s) is also being worked on by several Subject Matter Experts for both Helicopter Manager positions. We anticipate completion of the task book(s) by March 2002.

There are several important implementation considerations to be addressed. As with any significant change in the wildland fire management community, training will be needed. The following are key points to be considered and addressed with implementation of the Helicopter Manager positions:

- There is no longer an ICT4 requirement with either the Helicopter Boss (Single Resource) or the Helicopter Manager Call-When-Needed position. This needs to be articulated to the Interagency Fire Community.

- The Helicopter Boss (Single Resource) position has an arduous fitness rating and the Helicopter Manager (CWN) has a moderate fitness rating.
- The S-372 Helicopter Manager Training Course is required training in 310-1.
- There is a biennial CWN Helicopter Manager Workshop required for CWN Helicopter Manager position.
- Individual agencies may establish specific qualifications and/or requirements for these positions that exceed the 310-1.
- All qualifications and physical fitness requirements for Helicopter Manager position have been removed from the IHOG, so an addendum to 310-1 needs to be transmitted to the wildland fire agencies.
- Implementation no later than May 1, 2002.

If you have any further questions, feel free to contact me.

Bob Leaverton

HELICOPTER BOSS (SINGLE RESOURCE) (HELB)

REQUIRED TRAINING

S-230, S-290, Helicopter Manager Training (S-372)

**ADDITIONAL TRAINING WHICH
SUPPORTS DEVELOPMENT OF
KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS**

**I-200, S-234, S-260, S-270
Biennial Helicopter Manager Workshop
(attend workshop once every two years)**

PREREQUISITE EXPERIENCE

**Satisfactory performance as an Advanced
Firefighter/Squad Boss**

+

**Satisfactory performance as a Helicopter
Crewmember**

+

**Satisfactory position performance as a
Helicopter Boss (Single Resource)
on a wildland or prescribed fire incident**

PHYSICAL FITNESS

Ardous

**OTHER POSITION ASSIGNMENTS THAT
WILL MAINTAIN CURRENCY**

None

NOTES: Above information to be included in 310-1. This position is intended as Supervisor of full-time agency initial attack Helicopter Crew and serves as the manager of an exclusive use or agency owned helicopter. Position will be included on Aircraft Request ("A" Number) when exclusive use contract helicopter is filling the Resource Order. Qualification in this position will not satisfy prerequisite for Strike Team Leader. Qualifications in this position will satisfy prerequisite for HCWN, ICT4, HEB2 and HLCO.

HELICOPTER MANAGER (CALL-WHEN-NEEDED) (HCWN)

REQUIRED TRAINING

**Helicopter Manager Training (S-372)
plus Biennial CWN Helicopter Manager Workshop
(after S-372, attend workshop once every two years)**

ADDITIONAL TRAINING WHICH SUPPORTS DEVELOPMENT OF KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

I-200, S-234, S-260, S-270

PREREQUISITE EXPERIENCE

**Satisfactory performance as a Single Resource Boss
Helicopter, Crew or Engine
+
Satisfactory performance as a Helicopter
Crewmember
+
Satisfactory position performance as a
Helicopter Manager (Call-When-Needed)
on a wildland or prescribed fire incident**

PHYSICAL FITNESS

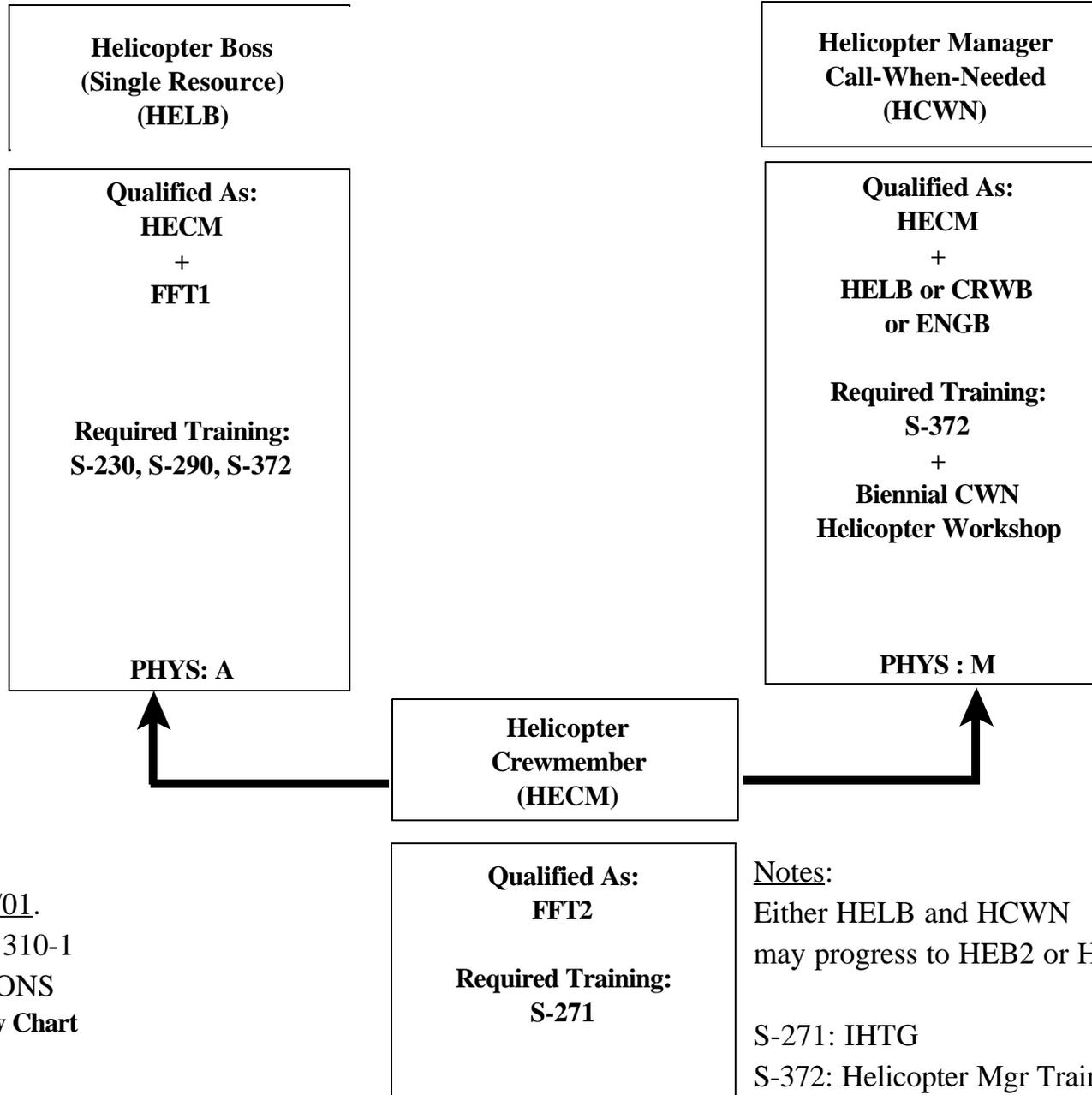
Moderate

OTHER POSITION ASSIGNMENTS THAT WILL MAINTAIN CURRENCY

None

NOTES: Above information to be included in 310-1. This position is intended to manage CWN helicopters and CWN modules on a temporary basis. Position must be ordered on an overhead Request ("O" Number). Qualification in this position will not satisfy prerequisite for Strike Team Leader. Qualifications in this position will only satisfy prerequisite for Helibase Manager (HEB2) and

Helicopter Coordinator HLCO.



*IOSWT 10/17/01.
To be placed in 310-1
AIR OPERATIONS
Qualification Flow Chart

