CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT ISSUE PAPER NUMBER 20
MODIFICATION OF COURSE NUMBERING SYSTEM INFORMATION THAT IS CURRENTLY IN THE COURSE DEVELOPMENT AND FORMAT STANDARDS

BACKGROUND

See attached memorandum (NWCG Course Numbering System Information Update)

CURRENT STATUS

The Course Development and Format Standards (CDFS) and the Field Managers Course Guide are both being revised. The proposed information about the course numbering system, following any modification and approval, should be included in these documents.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Modify the CDFS as indicated below, and put similar information in the Field Managers Guide. Proposed changes, starting on page 1.3 of the CDFS, are as follows:

D. Course Numbering System.

The NWCG has an established alpha-numeric numbering system. Each alpha-numeric combination designates a meaning unique to the specified curriculum. A hyphen will be used to separate the letter and the subsequent number.

The current NWCG endorsed curricula are:

"D" Courses -- These are developed for the Dispatcher Curriculum.

"I" Courses -- These are courses which support the all-risk application of the Incident Command System (ICS).

"J" Job Aids-- "How to" documents that contain skill related material unique to the specific position. They are not formal courses and not controlled by an instructor or coordinator.

"M" Courses -- These are courses that are outside a specific curriculum but are determined to be supporting more than one, such as managerial type courses.

"P" Courses -- These are developed for the Fire Prevention Curriculum.

"S" Courses -- These are Wildland Fire Suppression Skills courses.

"Rx" Courses -- These are developed for the Prescribed Fire Curriculum.

The first digit designates the complexity level and the organizational level at which a particular course is targeted and presented.

100 Firefighter
200 Advanced Firefighter, Squad Boss, Crew Boss
Entry, or introductory level. BLM District, Forest Service Ranger District or Forest, NPS Park, BIA Reservation, State (County Forester level), FWS Area.

300 Incident Commander Type 3 (ICT3), Strike Team / Task Force Leaders (ST/TFLD), Unit Leaders, Division / Group Supervisors
400 Type 2 Management Teams, Section Chiefs, Officers
Intermediate, mid-level or operational level. BLM State, Forest Service Region, NPS Region, BIA Area, State (State Forester level), FWS Area or Region.

500 Type 1 Management Teams, Fire Behavior Analyst and other selected national level positions
600 Area Command
Advanced level. National Agency or Interagency.

The TWT will assign the appropriate complexity / organizational level designation to the course based on the formula listed above, the analysis of the project development team, the target group, the recommendations from the project team leader and input from other NWCG Teams that may be involved.

The second digit designates the subject area of the course.

000 Command and General Staff
010 Skills
020 Organization
030 Operations
040 Plans
050 Logistics
060 Finance/Administration
070 Air Operations
080 General
090 Fire Behavior

The third digit is assigned sequentially, or as appropriate to maintain continuity, as courses are certified within a particular subject area.

ACTIONS REQUIRED

Upon approval of the recommendation:
Modify the CDFS and the Field Managers Course Guide to reflect the changes to the Course Numbering System.
Make number changes to the following courses as they come up for normal revision.

S-205 Fire Operations in the Urban Interface
(Scheduled for revision in the year 2000, and have 100, 200, 300 and 400 level courses replace the one existing course. These courses could be classified, for example, as either skills [S-115, S-215, S-315 and S-415] or general courses [S-180, S-280, S-380 and S-480]).

S-201 Supervisory Concepts and Techniques
S-301 Leadership and Organizational Development
S-401 Effective Management
(Could be changed when revised to S-281, S-381 and S-481, general courses.)

D-105 Entry Level Dispatcher
(Could be changed when revised to D-110, with the current D-110 being renumbered as D-210)

Rx-340 Introduction to Fire Effects
(Could be changed when revised to Rx-380, general course, or Rx-316, skills course.)

Rx-450 Smoke Management Techniques
(Could be changed when revised to Rx-480, general course, or Rx-416, skills course.)

Rx-540 Applied Fire Effects
(Could be changed when revised to Rx-580, general course, or Rx-516, skills course.)

APPROVED
George M. Weeks
Chairperson, Training Working Team

Date 9/23/98

CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT ISSUE PAPER NUMBER 21
MODIFICATION OF COURSE NUMBERING SYSTEM TO ESTABLISH A "TS"OR A "T" NUMBER FOR TRAINING MATERIALS DEVELOPED FOR TECHNICAL SPECIALISTS

BACKGROUND

See attached memorandum (NWCG Course Numbering System Information Update)

CURRENT STATUS

Course materials and job aids for technical specialist positions are not being numbered because the NWCG Course Numbering System only provides numbers for those training materials that are part of the established curriculum.

RECOMMENDATION

Modify the NWCG Course Numbering System to establish a new alphabetic designator of either "T" or "TS" to accommodate the development of training materials for technical specialist positions that are not part of the NWCG curriculum:

Using the T or TS designator, courses and job aids for technical specialist positions could be given a number that follows the established system (TS-256 Cache Demobilization Specialist job aid; T-210 Expanded Dispatch Job Aids) and be given a Level II certification.

Using the "T" designator would be more consistant with the other designators currently being used. Whereas, using the "TS" designator could identify the course or job aid as being a little different, i.e. not part of the curriculum.

ACTIONS REQUIRED

Upon approval of the recommendation:

Modify the NWCG Course Development and Format Standards (CDFS) and the Field Managers Course Guide to reflect the changes to the Course Numbering System.

APPROVED

Chairperson, Training Working Team

12/7/98

Date