CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT ISSUE PAPER NUMBER 4
---PROPOSED CHANGE IN DEVELOPMENT SCHEDULE---

NIFC DIVISION OF TRAINING
MARCH 4, 1994

BACKGROUND:

Reference the projected schedule for course development submitted to the Training Working Team and approved for implementation in February 1992. This schedule has been updated several times to reflect additions and status of development, however there have been no major scheduling changes. The current schedule is attachment 1.

CURRENT STATUS:

The current schedule is based upon completing course development by function, beginning with operations and air and continuing sequentially with finance, planning, command and command staff, and logistics. Unit Leader S-320 and Command and General Staff S-420 are scheduled last because we believed the other training and job aids would need to be developed first.

Development remains in accordance with the originally approved schedule. Training in operations and air will be completed by September 1996. Development of the Training Specialist S-445 course has been completed and two job aids have been completed with a third currently under development.

During the development of the Wildland Fire Suppression Curriculum Project Management and Development Guidelines which was recently distributed to ICS and Training Working Team members, the entire curriculum and each of its components were again analyzed in some detail. This analysis revealed more clearly the direct inter-relationship between the S-320 and S-420 courses and the job aids and/or courses for the positions which take S-320 and S-420. The Division of Training now believes that it is important to develop these job aids and/or courses together with S-320 and S-420.

Attachment 2 shows the "clustering" of job aids with the S-320 and S-420 courses and a revised development schedule which would allow us to develop the courses and job aids together. Note that:

1. There is no change in the development schedule until FY 96-97.

2. Job aids for the entry level positions will be developed first (FY 96-97).

3. Development of the S-320 course and related job aids is scheduled over a three-year period because of the number of products.

4. The projected completion date for all products remains unchanged (FY 2000).

BENEFITS:

This Proposal will:

1. Allow unit leader and command and staff courses and/or job aids to be developed together during the same time period. The direct inter-relationship and use of the job aids in the S-320 and S-420 courses make it important that these products be developed together.

2. Allow courses to be developed in sequence based on organizational level, thus enabling higher level courses to build upon skills/knowledge in the lower level courses.

3. Provide the opportunity to manage development of the unit leader and command and staff courses and related job aids and/or courses as single large projects. This may reduce the number of SMEs required and the overall cost.

4. Require no increase in either development time or funding for the total curriculum. It is possible, but not assured, that there may be some savings in both time and dollars.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

<u>Due to the pending deadline for the preparation of the FY 95-97 budget submission to NWCG, an approval is needed from the Training Working Team by April 15.</u>

It is our recommendation that the Training Working Team approve a change in the development schedule which will allow development of S-320 and S-420 and related courses and job aids during the same time period. Attachment 3 is the recommended schedule.

ACTION REQUIRED:

1. Upon approval of this recommendation by the Training Working Team, the NIFC Division of Training will prepare the multi-year budget package for NWCG in accordance with the revised schedule.

2. The Training Working Team will need to coordinate this action with the ICS Working Team and with NWCG so that changes in the schedule and budget projections will be understood.