

NWCG CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT ISSUE PAPER #78
Wildland Fire Suppression Tactics Guide
March 2, 2006

BACKGROUND

The original intent of the Wildland Fire Suppression Tactics Guide (PMS 465) was to be a tactical reference for NWCG courses; the intent was never fully achieved. In 2002 seven NWCG courses referred to the Tactics Guide.

CURRENT STATUS

The number of courses referring to the Tactics Guide has dwindled to three, S-231, Engine Boss; S-232, Dozer Boss; and S-339, Division Group Supervisor. Of the three, two are currently under revision and are considering references other than the Tactics Guide. This is due primarily to the fact that courses dealing with wildland fire suppression tactics have developed their own tactical lessons applied through tactical decision games or refer to the Fireline Handbook and/or IRPG.

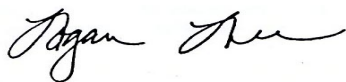
For those who need a single source for wildland fire suppression tactics, commercial versions are available. One example is the "FIREFIGHTER'S HANDBOOK ON WILDLAND FIREFIGHTING, Strategy, Tactics, and Safety – 3rd edition", 2005 by William C. Teie. This book is available through Deer Valley Press; it is a very comprehensive, high quality publication. The concepts and principles in the book accurately capture the doctrine developed by the federal wildland fire community; however it does not contain the geographic references in section 7 of the Tactics Guide. Fortunately this has been developed as a supplement to S-520. It is also available at the Lessons Learned website.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that PMS 465, Wildland Fire Suppression Tactics Guide be deleted from the Publications Management System. NWCG partners should be referred to commercially available publications such as William Teie's FIREFIGHTER'S HANDBOOK ON WILDLAND FIREFIGHTING. It is further suggested that the geographic reference developed for S-520 be modified into a field guide for single resource bosses and other relevant positions.

APPROVED / **DENIED**
(circle one)

SIGNATURE



03/07/06

TWT Chair

Date