

NWCG CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT ISSUE PAPER #86
RX-310 Introduction to Fire Effects Curriculum Design Change
January 29, 2007

BACKGROUND

The RX-310 (formerly RX-340), Introduction to Fire Effects Course is currently under revision. The last revision of this course was completed in August 1995.

CURRENT STATUS

The SME and field reviewer applicants for the current revision were surveyed on the course content and all agreed the content needed to be updated. There were twenty responses to the survey. Three findings were emphasized by the survey respondents. The first was that the content for the course is constantly changing due to new research findings. The second was that the current materials are rarely if ever used to present the course and that instructors developed their own geographically specific lesson plans. The third finding was that instructors were not consistently utilizing the NWCG developed objectives.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that this course be revised using a model common at the collegiate level. Minimum course hours will be established. Instructors will be presented with course and unit objectives covering required and optional elements; the objectives would be broad enough to assure coverage of a variety of geographic areas. Instructors will be expected to design lesson plans and materials supporting these objectives. Materials will need to be submitted to the lead instructor for review to ensure objectives are met prior to teaching the material. A web based clearinghouse through Lessons Learned will be established to house developed lesson plans, electronic presentations, and labs for instructors to reference.

APPROVED / **DENIED**
(circle one)

SIGNATURE



02/01/07

TWT Chair

Date

cc: Chair, Fire Use Working Team