

National Wildfire Coordinating Group Operations and Training Committee

Date: 19 June 2019 OTC-2019-07
To: Steven Davis
From: Steve Shaw, Chair, Operations and Training Committee
Subject: Request for Change: 2016 Radio Operator

The Operations and Training Committee (OTC) has completed work on your 2016 request for change to the Radio Operator position qualifications. Your request went through a number of NWCG committees and subject matter experts during past three years.

The Wildland Fire Radio Standards and Use Subcommittee ultimately provided recommendations through the Equipment and Technology Committee back to OTC. OTC approved modifying the Radio Operator Position Task Book to include experience blocks to ensure trainees:

- Use appropriate communication protocol when responding to emergency situations, and
- Use appropriate communication protocol when responding to routine requests/information.

Additionally, Annual Fireline Safety Refresher Training, RT-130, will become a requirement for all RADOs on October 1, 2019.

The additional portions of your request for change were not accepted by NWCG, but each was considered and thoroughly discussed. Much has changed since 2016 with the continued evolution and focus on prompt medical responses for our firefighters increases the focus on accurate and timely communications across all facets of fire operations.

Thank you for your original request and commitment to improving the effectiveness of our wildland fire standards and qualifications. I apologize for the length of time that passed between your request and this response, but I believe the RADO position will be better served due to your request. If you have additional questions or concerns please contact Steve Shaw, srshaw@blm.gov, or 208-387-5722.

Respectfully,



Chair, Operations and Training Committee

Cc: Sean Cross, NWCG Program Manager
Garth Fisher, NWCG Executive Board Chair
Dave Haston, Equipment and Technology Committee Chair
Jeff Hughes, NWCG Training and Development Program
Tim Blake, NWCG Coordinator
Jesse Bender, NWCG Publications Manager
Deb Fleming, NWCG Coordinator