

ICS GISS Position

Unit Objectives

At the end of this unit each student will:

- Identify the components of the wildland qualification system.
- Describe where the GISS fits into the ICS structure.
- Identify the members who work in the Situation Unit.

Unit Objectives continued

- Explain how a GISS becomes qualified for an ICS position.
- Describe basic GISS responsibilities and explain the importance of each.
- Explain how ICS position availability is determined.

Unit Overview

1. Wildland Fire Qualification System Components
2. ICS Structure
3. GISS Responsibilities
4. GISS Position Requirements/Qualification Process
5. Determining Availability

ICS is Performance Based

- Qualification is based upon real performance measured on the job versus perceived performance measured by an exam or classroom activities.

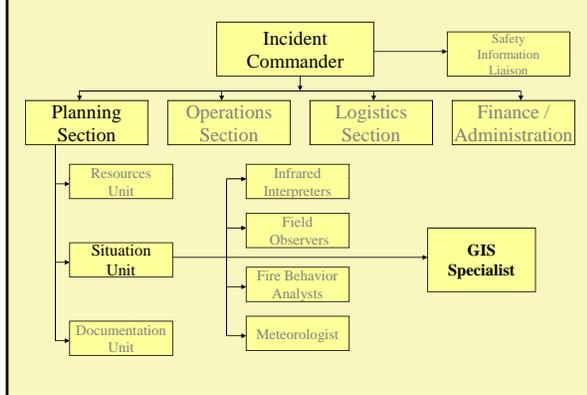
Components of the wildland fire qualification system:

- Position Task Book
- Training courses and job aids
- Agency certification

Where The GISS fits within ICS

- The GIS position is named Geographic Information System Specialist (GISS)
- The GISS is a member of the Situation Unit
- The GISS works for the Situation Unit Leader
- The Situation Unit is a part of the Planning Section

ICS Structure



The Situation Unit

- Other members of the Situation Unit include:
 - Field Observers (FOBS)
 - Infrared Interpreters (IRIN)
 - Display Processors (DPRO)
 - Incident Meteorologists (IMET)
 - Fire Behavior Analysts (FBAN)

The responsibilities of the GISS

- Provide the most current spatial information to the people on the ground.
- Automate the revision and production of digital maps and displays
- Gather and process digital data from incident staff
- Conduct GIS analysis as needed

ICS Position Requirements

- The GISS position was approved by *National Wildfire Coordinating Group* (NWCG) starting in 2006
- There are three components for an approved ICS position :
 - Incident qualifications guide position description (PMS 310-1)
 - Position Task Book (PTB)
 - Training Course (S-341)

How to become a GISS

- Request an ICS Qualification Card (also known as a “red card”) from your agency listing you as a “GIS Specialist Trainee - GISS-T”
- Complete the tasks required by the Position Task Book on an incident.
- Generally more than one incident is required to complete the Position Task Book.

Determining Availability

- Your supervisor **MUST** approve your availability
- Assignments are a 14 to 21 day commitment
- Notify your Dispatch Center if and when you are available locally, regionally, or nationally
- Assignments choose you, you don't choose your assignment location

GISS Position: *Unit Review*

- Describe how the GISS position fits into the ICS structure
- Describe the basic responsibilities of the GISS position
- Describe the process to become a GISS
- Explain how to determine availability
