**National Wildfire Coordinating Group Operations and Workforce Development Committee**

January 22, 2015

**To:** Erik Torres-Jacquez, Wildland Fire Information Technology (WFIT) Program Board

**From:** Mark Jones, Chair, Operations and Workforce Development Committee

**Subject:** Computer Technical Specialist Request for Change Decision

The NWCG Operations and Workforce Development Committee has completed the review of the Request for Change submission for inclusion of the Computer Technical Specialist (CTSP) position in the Wildland Fire Qualification System Guide PMS 310-1. Certain criteria must be met for a position to be considered for inclusion in the PMS 310-1. The CTSP primary position qualifications are addressed or supported by industry standards and training as evidence by information presented in both the request for change as well as the verbal presentation to the group. After deliberation, this request is denied due to failure to meet these criteria for inclusion.

Technical Specialists are personnel with specialized skills gained through educational degree programs or industry training of established standards. These personnel may perform the same duties during an incident that they perform in their regular job and may have supplemental training in order to use their specialized skills in the incident environment. The CTSP position falls into this category.

The [Federal Wildland Fire Qualifications Supplement](http://www.nwcg.gov/pms/docs/supplement-2015.pdf) includes federal agency-sponsored positions that are not included in the 310-1. Positions and associated requirements listed in this supplement have been approved for inclusion by representatives from their respective agencies for incident response activities. This supplement lists established minimum requirements for training, experience, physical fitness level, and currency standards for all participating agencies. OWDC encourages the WFIT Program Board to continue pursue discussions with the Federal training representatives for adoption and inclusion of the CTSP standards developed in this guide.

Please direct any questions to me at mjones@blm.gov or (208) 387-5934.



Mark Jones

Chair, Operations and Workforce Development Committee