

National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group

3833 South Development Avenue; Boise, ID 83705

May 30, 2013

To: Geographic Area Coordinating Groups
From: National Multi Agency Coordinating Group
NMAC Correspondence # 2013-3
Subject: NCSU Fire Chasers Research Project

Incident Commanders and Area Commanders may be contacted by the North Carolina State University (NCSU) Fire Chasers research project to arrange opportunities to observe teams working on active incidents. The National Multi-Agency Coordination Group (NMAC) and National Incident Commander / Area Commander Council (ICACC) fully supports this project, and encourages incident commanders and agency administrators to cooperate with and participate in this research.

The Fire Chasers research project is led by Drs. Branda Nowell and Toddi Steelman, and is funded by the National Science Foundation and the Joint Fire Science Program. One of the project's core objectives is to produce a series of risk assessment and management tools to help local communities, local units, and incident management teams better manage wildfires. NMAC and ICACC members have spoken with Fire Chasers researchers and believe that their work merits our support and participation.

Fire Chaser project researchers plan on visiting active incidents to observe how coordination and communication develops with the Agency Administrators, federal and state partners, local communities and their officials, as well as local citizens. This will enable them to observe how Incident Commanders and their teams resolve issues and make decisions critical to achieving incident objectives. Fire Chasers researchers will visit incidents at their own expense and liability.

Please encourage Incident Commanders, Area Commanders, and Agency Administrators to cooperate and participate in this research and contact Dr. Brenda Nowell (919-513-1768) with questions or requests for additional information.

/s/ John Segar
Chair, NMAC

