

Date: 2/26/2020

To: Fire Training and Agency Certification Coordinator, DNR Forestry
MN Interagency Fire Center

From: Chair, MN DNR Statewide Prescribed Burn Committee (Donovan Pietruszewski) 

RE: MN Ignition Specialist (MRXI2 and MRXI1) to MN Firing Boss (MFIRB) Transition

The MN Ignition Specialist (MRXI2 and MRXI1) positions were replaced by the MN Firing Boss (MFIRB) position in the MN DNR Prescribed Burn Handbook (2020). The following actions have been taken to facilitate this change:

- The MFIRB training requirements have been updated in the Prescribed Burn Handbook to reflect any changes in NWCG course numbers and names. S-131 Firefighter Type 1 was added to the new course training requirements.
- The MFIRB position task book (PTB) was created. The MFIRB PTB is very similar in tasks to the previous MRXI1 position task book.
- Individuals with MRXI2 or MRXI1 PTBs initiated prior to February 1, 2020 may complete the PTB within 3 years of initiation. If MRXI2 or MRXI1 task books initiated prior to February 1, 2020 are not completed within 3 years of initiation, the trainee must then initiate a MFIRB PTB. Any uncompleted tasks in the MRXI2 or MRXI1 PTB must be completed in the MFIRB task book.
- The MN DNR Incident Qualification System (IQS) will be changed so that:
 - All currently qualified MRXI2 and MRXI1 personnel will be awarded MFIRB qualification. The change in the IQS system will be completed by May 1, 2020.
 - Until January 31, 2023, MFIRB qualification will be awarded to those successfully completing MRXI2 and MRXI1 PTBs that were initiated prior to February 1, 2020.

These changes are based on recommendations from the MN DNR Prescribed Burn Committee. These changes will help improve integration of MN prescribed fire qualifications and make it less complicated for personnel to progress to MN Prescribed Burn Boss qualification levels.