

10. Matters referred from the Fire Fighter Advisory Committee (FFAC), including but not limited to:

B. Discussion and possible action on proposed amendments, new sections, and repeals as follows:

2. Discussion and possible action regarding proposed amendments to title 37 TAC, Chapter 455, Minimum Standards for Wildland Fire Protection Certification.



Texas Commission on Fire Protection

Agenda Item Summary

MEETING: Commission

DATE: 7/30/2015

Agenda Item #: 10 B: #2
Agenda Title: Testing for Wildland Certification & SFFMA Name Change
Action to be taken: Discussion and possible action for publication
Origin of Item: FF Advisory Committee

1. INTRODUCTION/PURPOSE

The purpose of the proposed recommended change is to delete obsolete language regarding testing for Basic Wildland certification. The exam was waived during the first year following introduction of the certification. Additionally, a minor change is being recommended to the SFFMA name reference to match the current name adopted by the association.

2. DESCRIPTION/ JUSTIFICATION

Obsolete language should be deleted or amended.

3. BUDGET IMPACT

None anticipated.

4. TIMELINE CONSIDERATIONS

Proposed language is for possible publication.

5. RECOMMENDATION

Reviewed and forwarded as approved by FF Advisory Committee.

6. REFERENCES

Title 37, Part 13, Chapter 455 (Wildland Fire Protection), Texas Administrative Code

CHAPTER 455

MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR WILDLAND FIRE PROTECTION CERTIFICATION

§455.1 Minimum Standards for Wildland Fire Protection Personnel.

- (a) A wildland fire fighter is defined as an individual whose assigned function is suppression of fires in the wildland or wildland-urban interface setting.
- (b) Individuals holding Wildland Fire Protection certification shall be required to comply with the continuing education requirements in Chapter 441 of this title (relating to Continuing Education).
- (c) All Wildland Fire Protection certifications issued by the commission and referenced in this chapter are voluntary.

§455.3 Minimum Standards for Basic Wildland Fire Protection Certification.

In order to be certified as Basic Wildland Fire Protection personnel, an individual must:

- (1) possess valid documentation of accreditation from the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress as Wildland Fire Fighter Level I; or
- (2) complete a commission approved Basic Wildland Fire Protection program and successfully pass the commission examination as specified in Chapter 439 of this title (relating to Examinations for Certification). An approved Basic Wildland Fire Protection training program shall consist of one of the following:
 - (A) completion of the commission approved Basic Wildland Fire Fighter Curriculum, as specified in the applicable chapter of the commission's Certification Curriculum Manual; or
 - (B) completion of the following National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) courses:
 - (i) S-130: Firefighter Training
 - (ii) S-190: Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior
 - (iii) L-180: Human Factors on the Fireline
 - (iv) I-100: Introduction to the Incident Command System, or an equivalent basic incident command system course such as NIMS IS-100.

~~[(3) The commission examination requirement is waived for individuals who have completed the training requirements in paragraph (2)(A) or (B) of this section and apply for certification by August 31, 2013. After this date, individuals must successfully pass the commission examination prior to applying for certification.]~~

§455.5 Minimum Standards for Intermediate Wildland Fire Protection Certification.

In order to be certified as Intermediate Wildland Fire Protection personnel, an individual must:

- (1) hold Basic Wildland Fire Protection certification issued by the commission; and
- (2) complete the associated position task book as adopted by the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) 310-1. Proof of completion of the position task book must be from the Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System (TIFMAS) (e.g. task book approval form or TIFMAS card); and

- (3) individual who hold Structure Fire Protection certification issued by the commission must complete a commission approved Intermediate Wildland Fire Protection program and successfully pass the commission examination as specified in Chapter 439 of this title (relating to Examinations for Certification). An approved Intermediate Wildland Fire Protection training program shall consist of one of the following:
- (A) completion of the commission approved Intermediate Wildland Fire Fighter Curriculum, as specified in the applicable chapter of the commission's Certification Curriculum Manual; or
 - (B) completion of the NWCG course G-131: Wildland Training (FFT1) for Structural Fire Fighters; or
 - (C) completion of the NWCG courses S-131 and S-133; or
- (4) individuals who hold a State **Firefighters'** ~~Firemen's~~ and Fire Marshals' Association Advanced Accredited certification issued prior to January 1, 2012, or a State **Firefighters'** ~~Firemen's~~ and Fire Marshals' Association Firefighter II certification issued on or after January 1, 2012, must complete a commission approved Intermediate Wildland Fire Protection program and successfully pass the commission examination which includes both Basic Structure Fire Protection and Intermediate Wildland Fire Protection, as specified in Chapter 439 of this title. An approved Intermediate Wildland Fire Protection training program shall consist of one of the following:
- (A) completion of the commission approved Intermediate Wildland Fire Fighter Curriculum, as specified in the applicable chapter of the commission's Certification Curriculum Manual; or
 - (B) completion of the NWCG course G-131: Wildland Training (FFT1) for Structural Fire Fighters; or
 - (C) completion of the NWCG courses S-131 and S-133.

§455.7 Examination Requirements.

- (a) Examination requirements of Chapter 439 of this title (relating to Examinations for Certification) must be met in order to receive Wildland Fire Protection Certification.
- (b) Persons seeking a commission certification referenced in this chapter who do not currently hold a certification issued by the commission must meet all requirements regarding application for initial certification.

-----Original Message-----

From: Lutostanski, Andrew
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2015 8:29 AM
To: Tim Rutland
Subject: RE: SFFMA name change

Jim's got a good point. Given that, it's probably better to keep the old name in the rule or put it in parentheses behind the new name.

From: Tim Rutland
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2015 8:01 AM
To: Lutostanski, Andrew
Subject: FW: SFFMA name change

Good morning, Andrew.

See Jim's email below. I hadn't thought about the fact that 419 refers to SFFMA via the old name. How should that influence our consideration about changing the name in our rules?

Thanks

Tim Rutland
Executive Director
Texas Commission on Fire Protection
Office: 512-936-3812

From: Jim Reidy
Sent: Tuesday, June 09, 2015 7:30 PM
To: Tim Rutland
Subject: SFFMA name change

Tim,
I was looking for something else and stumbled across this reference in the statute to the official name of SFFMA. Can/should we still propose the name change in the rules?
Jim

Sec. 419.004. COMPOSITION OF COMMISSION. 3) two members to be selected from a list of five names submitted by the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas who are volunteer fire chiefs or volunteer fire fighters;