



Bureau of Land Management: Arizona, New Mexico
Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 2
Bureau of Indian Affairs: Southwest, Navajo, Western Regions
National Park Service, Intermountain Region
US Forest Service, Southwestern Region
Arizona State Forestry Division
New Mexico State Forestry

Date: 12/08/2008

To: SW Incident Commanders, Command and General Staff, IMT's

From: Southwest Coordinating Group

Topic/Issue: Southwest Incident Management Team Meeting, Wildland Firefighter Foundation, Silent Auction

Wildland Firefighter Foundation's main focus is to help families of firefighters killed in the line of duty and to assist injured firefighters and their families (<http://www.wffoundation.org/>). They honor and acknowledge past, present, and future members of the wildland firefighting community, and partner with private and interagency organizations to bring recognition to wildland firefighters.

The Foundation came together as a group of volunteers in 1994, shortly after the Storm King tragedy. With dedication and lots of volunteer work, plans were developed for a national monument to honor firefighters, a dream that was realized in May 2000. The Wildland Firefighter Foundation was officially formed in the spring of 1999. Since 1999, the Foundation has provided emergency support services to the families of firefighters, seriously injured or killed in the line of duty. Families left behind, many with young children, often find themselves with few resources, and the Foundation steps in to help.

Our silent auction will provide much needed monetary support for this organization. Teams should strive for a minimum of 10 items, some significant others less valuable but interesting and fun. This should be an entertaining and rewarding experience for all. Example auction item ideas include old fire memorabilia, shirts, patches, belt buckles, fire photos in frames, artwork, knives, quilts, wood carvings, antiques, rare coins, old forestry, mining, logging, fire equipment, land management agency memorabilia, signs, books, etc...

ICs please send a descriptive list of items collected by your teams to mark_kaib@fws.gov. Include any appraisals or authenticity reports if applicable. At the meeting, we will have items displayed and the descriptive lists of all items to inform the bidders. The general rules of the silent auction will also be provided prior to the meeting.

All money generated will be given directly to the Wildland Firefighter Foundation. Vicki Minor, the Executive Director of the Foundation will be present and will handle all financial transactions. Thus you can be assured that this money will not be going to the winter vacation fund for the IC's. Bidders and donators need to be prepared to provide checks, cash, or credit card. We really would like to make this an enjoyable and meaningful experience for all. We may possibly make it part of the annual IMT's meeting pending feedback from you and your teams. We may also provide recognition or an award to the team that generates the most to support to the organization. Thank you all for taking the time to inspire your team members to participate.

/S/ Donald Griego

Chair, Southwest Coordinating Group