



## FFAST Meeting February 13, 2008

### Attendees:

Larry Sutton - USFS  
Michelle Ryerson – BLM  
Al King – NPS  
Rod Bloms – FWS  
Tony Beitia – BIA  
Marie Bates - BLM  
Kevin Jensen – Medical Standards  
Michelle Moore – Medical Standards

### **Medical Standards Program (MSP)**

#### **Q & A with Michelle Moore**

Michelle Moore, the newly selected MSP Assistant, met with the FFAST group to discuss expectations of her new role and responsibilities. The group discussed the waiver and accommodation process and how it was working amongst all the agencies.

**Decision:** It was agreed upon to get the FFAST agency rep involved in situations when Michelle receives waiver/accommodation cases where local unit managers do not want to participate either way on a waiver/accommodation decision. This will now get deferred from Michelle to the FFAST rep.

**Decision:** It was discussed and agreed that it will be a local unit responsibility to redeem a decision on granting extension requests past the 30 days for IMRB hearings. This will be a FMO/SHRO decision but FFAST reps would like to have a CC copy of the decision.

**Action Item: Med. Standards to send for FFAST review updated Appeal to IMRB memo.**

**Action Item: Med. Standards to send for FFAST decision the rules by agency for emailing non-clearance memos and the result of the 1<sup>st</sup> level review.**

#### **Reviewed MSP Log**

MSP Manager and FFAST discussed the MSP action, review, and decision log.

**Decision:** The FFAST will provide feedback on the MSP review, decision, and action log to the MSP at each monthly FFAST meeting. If MSP issues need immediate FFAST attention, the MSP will flag those messages with timeframes due.

### **FY-07 CHS Program Review**

The FFAST and MSP received the FY-07 CHS Program Review comments document and will review and provide comments back to the MSP.

### **Reviewed FFAST Action Log**

FFAST reviewed and updated the FFAST action log.

### **Briefing on NWCG Organization Structure**

Michelle gave the group a briefing of the January meeting with NWCG and the Substructure groups. She distributed a handout of notes collected from the meeting for FFAST discussion. A more in-depth briefing will be presented at the Feb. Safety and Health Working Team meeting.

### **Recommendation on FFAST Management/Oversight for the Medical Standards Program**

The FFAST discussed with Phil Spottswood's (OPM) suggested language/recommendation for oversight of the Medical Standards Program. The FFAST would still be an entity to provide this oversight and direct management.

**Action Item: AI to draft up a document to send to the Fire Director's using the suggested language developed by Phil Spottswood on FFAST Management/Oversight for the Medical Standards Program.**

### **Boots and OSHA**

This subject continues discussions about interpretation of the new OSHA PPE standard in relation to work boots and agency payment for required PPE. Tony updated the group on the BIA SW region union contract. The BIA situation is now at the solicitors' office for determination of appeal. The standard is inconsistent amongst the agencies and needs to be further clarified. Barry Noll from DOI is seeking an official interpretation from OSHA on the new OSHA PPE standard and how it may affect wildland fire agencies.

### **Bin Items**

#### **FEMA Document**

Michelle shared with the group a document sent to her by Wally Josephson from the DOI, Office of Wildland Fire Coordination Dept. Titled "Guidance on How to Manage Worker Fatigue" developed by the FEMA National Response Team. His group works with the Department of Emergency Management and was asking for interagency input and comments back.

**Action Item: The FFAST to review the document and send comments back to Michelle who will take the lead and consolidate a response back to Wally Josephson. Michelle will attach to the comments information on Risk Assessment Workshop and make reference on our PPE program.**

### **ATV/UTV Policy**

There are now at least three different policies in place (FS, FWS, NPS, BLM etc.). There needs to be clarification on how to deal with the different policies on the different jurisdictions. FFAST concurred you follow the policy of your agency no matter where you are, whatever jurisdiction you are in. Once all agency policies come out on ATV/UTV use the FFAST will take a look and develop a table that displays what each agency policy says. Ideally, high-level direction would come out directing the agencies to develop a single policy that could be used by all.

Next FFAST meeting will be on Monday, March 31 at 0900 in Workshop #1, Old Admin Training Building.