



Bureau of Indian Affairs
U.S. Department of Interior

Division of Forestry and Wildland Fire Mgt
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DFWFM Conference Call Notes

August 9, 2011

Central Office

Bill Downes – Chief Forester

- Next Monday, Aug. 15 – IA-PMS opens for entry of 4th Quarter estimates
 - When making estimates, document how the estimate was developed.
- Nov 15-17 - Regional Foresters meeting in San Diego.
- March 6-8 - National DFWFM meeting in San Diego.

Faline Haven, Senior Forester

- Working on agenda items for the November Forestry and DFWFM meetings. Please send an email to Bill.Downes@bia.gov or Faline.Haven@bia.gov to propose new meeting topics. The draft agenda will be shared next month. Goal to have final agenda out by Nov. 15.

Bryan Rice, Associate Director, Resource Protection

- IRMP Funding – letter in the Director’s office is signed and in final review.
- SharePoint Update – Inside Indian Affairs on the DFWFM site, there is a new Budget folder in test phase that allow users to view and monitor workflow of budget and other working documents. Site currently is in test phase, with intent of going live for FY12. From Inside Indian Affairs, view at:
<https://sp.ia.doi.net/sites/BIA/ots/dfwfm/Budget/Forms/AllItems.aspx>
- Yemma keeping the Portal site updated with ITAP program information. Apply if interested.
- The Forest Healthy Protection Handbook is nearing stage for field edits. Will be sent by end of week.
- The Department is updating the Department Manual. The manual will be going to the Bureaus for comment shortly.

BFRP

Tim Moriarty, Branch Chief

- Funding analysis coming up. Looking at how best to make documents available to prepare for the new FY.
- New estimate to move to the new office is now the first week in November.
- If anyone needs a SharePoint site set up, working with Chad and Faline to create. Users can restrict access to meet confidentiality practices.

ITC

Don Motanic

- July 25 – Yakama Nation hosted an export workshop by the ITC for the NW tribes with about 30 participants.

- Next ITC board meeting will be at the Ka Nee Tah Resort in Warm Springs, Oregon on September 13-15.
- IFMAT-III Info:
 - The oversight team will be having a call to finalize the Team and activities.
 - Received funding for \$300,000 from the USDA Forest Service in addition to the original funding source.
 - FS is interested in using ITC to contract study similar to the IFMAT study for Region 6.
- Working on the symposium proceedings CD and synthesizing the findings/ recommendations from ITC Symposium workshops.

Jim Erickson

- Tribal Forest Protection Act – getting money from FS and looking for tribal interest/ participation. Will be doing a Survey Monkey to know there is an opportunity for stewardship work. Key interest groups will be identified and site visits will take place for the project.
- Will be participating in the first ever research committee meeting with Joint Fire Science Labs to help determine how to prioritize and coordinate research for Indian Country.

NIFC

Lyle Carlile, Fire Director

- BIA-NIFC is re-writing the Budget Officer position description. It will be a GS-401 12/13 and will require a fire and resource management background. For questions of interest, contact Gini Broyles 208-387-5696
- IMT Succession Planning – Final recommendations have been made and will be brought forward to NWCG. Once approved an implementation team will be brought on. For more information, visit: <http://www.nwcg.gov/imosp/index.htm>

Gini Broyles, Budget/Admin Officer

- New FireCodes have been loaded. Made request that F8-F9 be loaded, which will take us to end of FY11.

Dave Koch, Associate Director, Training

- The USDA FS efforts to begin using the GS-301 Job Series were submitted to OPM and USDA for review and approval. OPM and USDA leadership questioned the degree to which DOI Bureaus were engaged in the decision to use the GS-301 series.
- Record Keeping for Firefighters – IQCS is our system of record for firefighters, but the Blue and Redbooks say firefighters will be responsible for maintaining hard copies. Here are four questions to consider for the 2012 Blue Book:
 1. Should we not maintain folders for employees and utilize IQCS as intended? IQCS, as the official system of record, is technically all anyone needs to validate a responder's qualification status and history. By keeping hard copy files we are creating extra unnecessary work and, creating something that investigators can potentially shoot holes in if everything is not in order.
 2. Should we only maintain folders for regular employees (tribal and GS) and use IQCS for everyone else? If it is still desired to maintain hard copy records, should we consider limiting only to tribal and GS employees, thereby minimizing considerable paperwork?

3. Should we go electronic for all employee files? Scanning and saving records will free up considerable file space.
 4. Should we include verbiage in the Blue Book that state's employees are "ultimately responsible for managing their records and should not rely on the government to do this for them."
 - o Suggestion to have Greg Peterson respond to this through the Operations Committee.
- The deadline to have the required IS-700/800 NIMS Training has been pushed back to September, 2012 in the 301-1.

Joel Kerly, Aviation Manager

- P3s were terminated from the USDA FS contract. To augment airtankers availability, NIFC has pulled 2 Convair 580's from Canada, and have ability to request 6 additional aircraft if needed.
- Reminder – as we get close to end of FY – managers need to have an AMS username and password to do the reconciliations. Contact Joel if you have questions.

Scott Bradshaw, Associate Director, Planning

- If any regions need help with WFDSS as they come into their fire season, the Planning shop can assist.
- [Wildland Fire and Decision Support Summer 2011 Newsletter Volume 2](#) newsletter came out July 14.

Tony Beita, Safety Specialist

- SAI Class will be in November. BIA needs Team Leaders and Chief Investigators. Contact Tony if interested.

Dalan Romero, Associate Director, Operations

- As crews and personnel move around, be aware of the resources that have been working in the southern area and southwest all summer. Are they adequately rested? If they need to be down for awhile, rest them before sending out again for 14 day assignments.
- Has been assigned to a new working team to evaluate HSP-PD12 system cards that will be assigned to firefighters to protect IT and PII data. IT, Fire Personal, HR specialists and DC representatives are engaged to develop guidelines on who will be required to use these cards while on fire assignments. The team will provide their feedback to the DOI Bureaus for implementation.

Mark Jackson, Associate Director, Fire Use/ Fuels Director

- Mary Taber will be in Fort Apache to do a Fuels Effectiveness after action review, who then work with the Lessons Learned Center to share the results of effective fuels treatments.
- Working on the HFPAS process. EMDS model and mapping are complete and have been accepted by the Fire Directors.

Vacancies

- NW Regional Forester out GS-14 coming out week of August 15.
- Two FMO positions in Truxton Canyon and Fort Apache can be found on USA jobs:
 - o http://jobview.usajobs.gov/getjob.aspx?JobID=101375423&aid=99469128-8811&WT.mc_n=125

- http://jobview.usajobs.gov/getjob.aspx?JobID=101407704&aid=99469128-8811&WT.mc_n=125
- http://jobview.usajobs.gov/getjob.aspx?JobID=101535262&aid=69087914-9811&WT.mc_n=125
- http://jobview.usajobs.gov/getjob.aspx?JobID=101536756&aid=69087914-9811&WT.mc_n=125

Next Fire-only Conference Call:

- **Aug 30.** Send agenda items to Robert.Carlile@bia.gov

Next DFWFM Conference Call Scheduled:

- **Sept. 13.** Send agenda items to Bill.Downes@bia.gov