



Attendees

Offices: Central Office, BFRP, ITC, NIFC

Regions: All except Pacific, Western, E.Ok., Great Plains

Central Office

Bill Downes, Chief Forester

- A Continuing Resolution is in place until March 18. Another CR is likely, which will include budget cuts. Reminder to be cognizant of travel/ training budgets.
- GPRA Performance measure targets are complete for FY11. Total of Regional targets exceeded National target, which Bill had to reduce some Regional targets to meet the national target cap. The 2012 targets will be increased for FY12.
- Self Governance tribes may be requesting forest development funds for FY 2011. If so, there is still funding available, but will not exceed the FY10 CR funding levels.
- ITC Marketing and Branding workshop in Seattle was a success. Tribes were asked to express preference for four main objectives:
 1. 5 Tribes expressed interest in pursuing an opportunity to sell forest products to Lowe's.
 2. There is interest in developing a brand for Indian forest products.
 3. No interest in Cooperative Marketing at this time.
 4. Little interest in developing a tribal forest certification program at this time.

Bernie Ryan, Forester

- ***This was last conference call for Bernie. Wish him well as he heads into retirement April 1.***
- 2011 Forest Health Protection Funding – FS is behind on funding and will not establish budget until the FY11 budget is determined.
- Mill assessments are completed at Yakama Agency. Next step is to perform analysis of data to determine where improvements can occur.

Bryan Rice, Asst. Director Resource Protection

- Greenhouse Gases Monitoring and Emissions subcommittee are beginning to engage the field with how to monitor greenhouse emissions. By the end of March, the group should have a draft strategy for measuring and reporting.
- Two Vacant Forestry positions are open in Central office now:
 - Climate Change 401 Series, GS - 14/15
 - Forester – GS - 13/14
- [The International Affairs Office](#) has announced the next assignment will be in Mozambique. The Office is accepting applications. Indian Country is encouraged to participate.

BFRP

Tim Moriarty, Branch Chief

- 31 IRMP proposals are in. Bob Bassel is on a 2-week contract to help oversee reviewing proposals.

- FIMP Distributions are dependent on the CR.
- Silviculture Handbook is still out for review. Have received comments back from two regions. Further input is desired. Please send comments to Karen.DeBoard@bia.gov

ITC

Don Motanic

- A survey will soon be sent out to Tribes and BIA to determine what kind of research is needed. Survey will allow new research department to focus and prioritize projects.
- ITC is investigating and researching ways to fund the IFMAT-III report with several federal agencies. The FY2011 funding and position analysis is the key report used to compare Indian forestry funding with other governments and industry for the IFMAT-III report. The FY 2011 analysis will most likely follow the same format as the FY 2001 analysis, and the 10-year periodic comparison will be similar.
- The agenda for the ITC Symposium is expected to be posted to the ITC website next week

NIFC

Bodie Shaw, Deputy Fire Director

- Finalizing the Eastern Oklahoma Review, which will be sent to the Regional Director by the end of this week.
 - These reviews are great opportunities for Regional Staff to see how other regions operate. Thanks to those who participated this year!
- The Interior Fire Executive Council discussed Phase I and Phase II of the Cohesive Strategy. There was descent from NPS, BLM and BIA leadership based upon the 90/10 WUI split. Requesting WFLC to reevaluate (push back to OMB) before making decision.
- Office of Self Governance is meeting May 3-4 in Palm Springs, Ca. ~~Orlando, Florida~~. Bodie and Sean Hart will be in attendance and Sean will be sharing the presentation on Fire Agreements, which he shared at the BIA-NIFC Regional FM Meeting in February.
- BIA-NIFC will issue a transmittal memo this week to update field on the Medical Standards Program transition to an interim process.
- BIA-NIFC will issue a transmittal memo this week for the Department's Policy Memorandum for Hazardous Fuels Prioritization and Allocation System (HFPAS), recently signed by Deputy Assistant Secretary Kim Thorsen.
- The DOI Boots Policy transmittal memo is in draft review by the Department. Currently not on IFEC agenda, but possibly next month. Boots will continue to be a condition of hire. FWS and NPS are following suite, with exception of those that are provided a uniform allowance.

Robyn Broyles, Fire Comm/Ed

- A webinar to discuss Incident Management Organization Succession Planning was hosted March 10. It was recorded and will be posted to the [BIA-NIFC website](#) sometime next week.
- The Indian Affairs – OCIO has tapped BIA-NIFC to start testing social media applications. BIA NIFC is drafting a plan to outline guidance, timelines and procedures for using applications that may be used to assist IA-OCIO on SM development. Those interested in providing suggestions on how the field can benefit from social media apps such as Facebook, Twitter, Flickr and YouTube, please contact Robyn.Broyles@bia.gov to share ideas.

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

- [BIA – NIFC Calendar](#)

Next Fire-only Conference Call:

- March 22, 2011. Send agenda items to Robert.Carlile@bia.gov or Bodie.Shaw@bia.gov

Next DFWFM Conference Call Scheduled:

- April 12, 2011. Send agenda items to Bill.Downes@bia.gov