

Branch of Wildland Fire
National Interagency Fire Center
Forestry and Fire Conference Call
April 13, 2010

Attendees

National Staff: Bill Downes, Bernie Ryan, ITC, Jim Moriarty, Bill Yemma, NIFC Staff

Regions: NW/Western/NW/Navajo

ITC

- During the symposium, a listening session will take place to talk about the National Cohesive Strategy. Requests active participation and input from the regions.

Central Office Updates

Chief Forester, Bill Downes

- There will be a meeting with the regional foresters at ITC 4/19 at the Mescalero Agency
- The “Foresters of the Month” Program is starting again.
 - This is a training/developmental opportunity targeted at BIA and Agency Regional Foresters to become familiar with Central Office.
 - 30-Day detail
 - Contact Bill.Downes@bia.gov for information
- Sr. Executives are meeting 4/14-15 to discuss the 2012 Presidential Budget Request.
 - 2% decrease expected in target budget
- If in need of pins/ patches from the DFWFM 100-yr. celebration, contact Bill.Yemma@bia.gov to place orders for paraphernalia.

Sr. Forester, Bernard Ryan

- The A – 123 questionnaire is in the programmatic review process. It has gone out to the regions. Response will close 5/31.
- Will participate in financial review at Great Lakes next week.
- DOI Economic Impact Report is out and available online.
 - Forest data does not accurately reflect the actual economic impact to forestry. Bernie is investigating data sources with the intent of fixing the data to accurately reflect the impacts.
- International Affairs Program has invited BIA to become involved with international resource issues.
 - Looking for a list of candidates interested in providing project oversight and outreach for forest development centered around the Conservation of the Indian Amazon. Contact Bernard.Ryan@bia.gov for info.

BFRP

Chief, Tim Moriarty

- Send inventory questions to Timothy.Moriarty@bia.gov before the start of ITC

Forester, Bill Yemma

- Moving content from Inside Indian Affairs onto the new Content Management server. Anything that needs posting, send to Bill.

NIFC

Fire Director, Lyle Carlile

- NWCG Incident Management Team Succession Planning is under way to look at how IMT's are structured and how teams will adapt to changing workforce capabilities.
 - Is the liaison for BIA.
 - First meeting took place the week of April, 5. Teams met for briefing and strategic planning for implementation.
 - Looking at a 1-yr. planning timeline. 5-10 years implementation timetable.

Deputy Fire Director, Bodie Shaw

- Reviewing critical needs

Administrative Officer, Nancy Hunt

- USDA FS released their AD pay plan – *separate from DOI, which is NOT released yet*. DOI pay plan expected to match USDA's when released.
- Incident Business Call next week, please notify your reps. Discussion will address how to handle AD's who have residency in a different state than they were hired in. Causes dual state taxation.

Fire Comm/Edu. Specialist, Robyn Broyles

- Returned from RNO after attending IMT team meetings. Held discussions with Public Information Officers from the Great Basin teams focusing on:
 - Discussion regarding the Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy Implementation and how PIO will talk/message to the public about wildland fire.
 - USDA-FS and DOI national issues and identifying what issues were within the Fire PIO domain, and what national issues needed to be passed to agency specific Public Affairs Officers.
 - Appropriate Geographic Coordination Center point of contact
 - National Webinar that took place Feb. 23 and its usefulness to the interagency community.
 - Discussion on the 5 national Themes for the 2010 fire season
 - Status of InciWeb. NIFC will soon be the host site for InciWeb.

Assistant Director, Operations, Dalan Romero

- Blue Book is at the printers and will be out shortly.
 - BlueBook will be available online the week 4/19.
 - At the printers and will be available for distribution 4/26
- IFPM deadline approaching. Resources are moving around to facilitate training opportunities. If need assistance to get resources qualified, contact Dalan for guidance.
- Carlos Noise is Acting Deputy Operations through 4/24.

Wildland Fire Safety Specialist, Tony Beitia

- Great Basin Cache opens 5/3 – Place orders for IRPGS and refresher information from cache ASAP.
- Medical Standards Program Rollout scheduled for 4/12. Interim program current until contract is final.
- One fatality and multiple serious accidents from Ok and Kansas VFD and rural fire departments occurred last week.

Assistant Director, Training, Dave Koch

- Working with central office HR specialists to issue an opinion paper. supporting tribal employee matching Bureau Employee IFPM standards.

- For employees who do not meet NWCG qualifications by Oct. 1, HR has proposed three Employee Action options:
 1. **Directed Reassignment** – employee will be reassigned to a position they are qualified for.
 2. **Lower Grade** – employee will be demoted until qualifications can be met
 3. **Complete Removal** – employee will be replaced with a qualified person
- All FMO's need to make sure they have conditions of employment paperwork in place if removal is eminent.

Deputy Fire/ Fuels, Sam Scranton

- 4/16 NFPORS deadline
 - Working on including fire trespass data in system
- 5/3 Positions and supplemental return deadline due back
 - 75% of budget dedicated to WUI treatments. (High risk areas are not counted in the WUI)
 - 25% of budget dedicated to Non-WUI treatments

OJS Special Agent, Fire, Jonathan Whitefoot

- Will be in Eastern Cherokee next week reviewing cases.

Fire Planner, Scott Bradshaw

- 4/15 FPA deadline
- DataPoney is housed on <http://www.myfirecommunity.net/>. Before calling NIFC for help, check **MyFire Community, BIA Fire Planning Neighborhood** for updates.
 - DataPoney 1.04 is most recent available update.
 - 1.05 is coming. Will go to the internet and check to see if user has most recent updates. If not, will prompt user to update software.
- April WFDSS training class in ABQ is full. If anyone plans to cancel out of the class, please advise Scott who will fill with alternate.

Regional Updates:

Fire activity is picking up in the Midwest Region, Great Plains and Oklahoma.