

DFWFM
Forestry and Fire Conference Call
June 8, 2010

Attendees

National Staff: Bill Downes, Bryan Rice, Bernie Ryan, ITC, BFORP, NIFC

Regions: All except Alaska

ITC

- USDA FS is actively working with tribes on climate change research. They are funding a new program at the regional level, providing \$105,000 per region. The first BIA region to engage is the Northwest. The Institute for Tribal Professionals from AZ is also looking to join.

Central Office Updates

Chief Forester, Bill Downes

- The regions are entering Indian Affairs Performance Measures data. Bill reviews this on quarterly basis and resolves discrepancies a week prior to quarterly conference call. He appreciates those who get data submitted on time.
 - The data points in the 1795 are standard to read “Thousand Board Feet.”
- Next Regional Foresters meeting is the week of Nov. 15-19. Location is tentatively set in Nashville, TN.
- The “Foresters of the Month” Program continues.
 - This is a training/developmental opportunity targeted at BIA and Agency Regional Foresters to become familiar with Central Office. Leadership is advertising a 30-day detail with special experience in timber sales related projects. Central Office covers Per Diem costs.
 - Contact Bill.Downes@bia.gov for information.

Asst. Director Resource Protection – Bryan Rice

- A member of the Cohesive Strategy oversight committee, Bryan is collecting feedback from BIA and public forums for the drafting of the 2010 National Cohesive Strategy. The oversight committee currently consists of 16 members responsible for collecting input and public comments. The committee will meet in June to combine and synthesize data from 14 public forums that have taken place over the past several months and submit comments by August.
 - To submit comments, contact Bryan.Rice@bia.gov
- Invitations will be coming for the next Wildland Fire Leadership Council meeting will be July 13.

Sr. Forester, Bernard Ryan

- The A – 123 questionnaire was due May 31 and will be certified by June 21. Bernie is reviewing and making contacts with those who do not have them completed.
- A scaling workshop training packing is under development. Testing in the Midwest and Rocky Mountain Regions will begin soon. For further information, contact Bernard.Ryan@bia.gov
- TAMS group has initiated a monthly conference call to organize and track progress of group. The next session involves 35 candidates.

BFRP

Sr. Forest Inventory Specialist, Karen DeBoard

- All BFRP staff is working on inventory analysis.
- Testing for a new data recorder is underway. Goal is to improve inventory data collection.
- The second round of students involved in The National Advanced Timber Program has finished their training. A third group will begin at Michigan State soon.
 - The training announcement for the next applicants will out soon. BIA has 4 available spots to sponsor students.
- Office is still scheduled move sometime between November and January.

Forester, Bill Yemma

- The new version of the web portal may be finished in the next couple of weeks
- Those interested in purchasing Fire and Forestry Centennial shirts for the can do so on the webportal.

NIFC

Fire Director, Lyle Carlile

- Critical needs request are compiled and in the reviewing process. Hope to get out next week.
- Responding to an OIG audit, the NIFC Budget section must standardize their on voicing procedures. Maggie is requesting all regions to submit on voicing procedures and any Tribal, Federal or commercial agreements they may have in place to create a standard template.

Administrative Officer, Nancy Hunt

- The Casual Payment Center is gathering statistics on the Youth Hiring Initiative. Agencies will be required to provide I-9 info on Ads ages 15-25.
 - Nancy will provide details to the Regional POCs to disseminate to the agencies.

Fire Comm/Edu. Specialist, Robyn Broyles

- The USDA Forest Service Press Office is organizing an Interagency 90 minute Press Conference for the 2010 Fire Season. Secretary Vilsack, USDA FS Chief Tidwell, and Rick Ochoa will present the 2010 Fire Season Outlook and cover the three points of Cohesive Wildfire Management Strategy: Restoration, Communities and Response and the Reads, Set, Go! campaign.
 - Tentative date is set for June 17, at 10 a.m. EDT. The broadcast will be in the USDA briefing room in DC. A link to view the telecast will be available on the NIFC website thereafter.
- BIA NIFC website is under development. Working with the BIA web development team to evaluate web structure and usability.
 - Working with program managers to develop new toolboxes and web content.

Assistant Director- Aviation, Joel Kerley

- Regional Aviation Specialists Mike Amicarella and Dave Underwood will be performing regional aviation reviews. Once completed, will provide report to the FMOs, Regional Directors and NIFC.
- The Aviation Management Systems will *not* be in place this year. As it is phased in, will be working with individual aviation programs to support the transition.

Assistant Director, Fire/ Fuels, Dennis Dupuis

- The Fuels Management Committee completed Stage 2 and 3 of HFPAS.
- The EMDS/ TPS model will be used for decision scores with results displayed within the FPU.

Deputy Director, Fire/ Fuels, Sam Scranton

- Prevention has funded its supplementals and various Prevention positions.

Assistant Director, Training, Dave Koch

- IFPM Consequence Memo from DOI Asst. Secretary Rhea Suh and Acting Director Human Resources Office Rosemary Downing was sent out.

Assistant Director, Operations, Dalan Romero

- Checking to ensure agreements are in place and current before distributing RFA funding.
- Blue Books are out and being distributed. If not received, contact Dalan_Romero@nifc.gov
- Jacque is working on updating the Type 2 Crew Management Guide. To submit updates or suggested changes, contact Jacqueline.Hawley@bia.gov.

National BAER Coordinator, Myron Hotinger

- There are no formal requests to support efforts in the gulf as of yet.

Vacancy Announcements:

- San Carlos has a vacant Tribal Forester position open.
- Midwest Regions will announce forester posting June 14.
- NIFC will have the Oklahoma City Coordinator position vacancy announcement out by early July. Contact Dalan_Romero@bia.gov for further info.
- Yakama Agency has a vacancy out for Forester. Duty location is Toppenish, Wa. Contact Donmo@teleport.com for further information or visit: <http://jobview.usajobs.gov/GetJob.aspx?JobID=88320468&where=yakima&brd=3876&vw=b&FedEmp>
- Navajo Regional Forester position interest announcement will be out soon. Contact Jason.Greenlee@bia.gov for additional info.

Next DFWFM Conference Call Scheduled:

July 13, 1000 MDT.