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DFWFM Conference Call Notes

Date: June 12, 2012

Central Office

Faline Havlin – Acting Chief Forester

- Compiling the findings from the National DFWFM Conference. The goal is to have final report complete in 8-9 weeks and then will send document to regions for review. The regions will prioritize recommendations and begin planning on how to incorporate long range goals, which will be discussed during the Fall Forestry meeting.
- Fire Protection Position, Erin Baldwin will start June 25.

BOFRP

Bill Yemma, Acting Branch Chief

- FBMS roll mapping continues.

Dave Wilson, Forester

- Funding and position analysis have gotten 98% return. One Reservation left to get data from.
 - Preliminary review from IFMAT shows concerns with the funding needs, which are on the increase.
 - The trend data from the past 5 surveys will be available for the reservations by end of summer.

ITC

Jim Ericksen

- The ITC Symposium results are in. Comments were extensive and showed a desire to have a regular fire-update component annually at the Symposium.
- Continuing to Review the Tribal Forest Protection Act and how to help tribes and their partners initiate and implement projects. Conducting eight site visits across various regions nationally.

NIFC

Bob Roberts, Assistant Fire Director

- Base 8 Memo clarification was sent out by David Peters last week. If there are any additional concerns regarding the Base 8 memo, please contact him.

Gini Broyles, Budget/Admin Officer

- Lyle will be signing the memo for the process for the Boot Stipend Memo for the Casual Payment Center. They will then process 1,200 stipends that are in process
- Looking for IBAs. Will go to NM as an early heads up. If there is availability, contact Gini.

Robyn Broyles, Fire Comm/Ed Specialist

- Attended Anthony Polk's Celebration of Life June 14 with Lyle Carlile, Bob Roberts, and Daryl Martinez. The 4.5 hour ceremony allowed Anthony's family to better understand his job and the lives he touched throughout his career. Traditional dancing, singing and ceremonies took place to honor Anthony's life and community contributions. The U.S Customs and Boarder Protection provided a full honor guard and honorary ceremony while the local Yuma Fire Department organized two vehicle processions throughout the three days services. Bryan Bowker, Western Regional Director presented letters from the Secretary of Interior, Ken Salazar, Acting Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs, Donald E. "Del" Laverdure and BIA Bureau Director, Mike Black. Lyle presented a memorial statue from the Wildland Fire Foundation, a blanket and pins to the family to express condolence on behalf of Western Region and the wildland fire community.
- Andrew Rosales, injured BIA firefighter on the Montezuma Fire, was admitted to University Medical Center on the evening of June 8, 2012 with neck and back injuries. Early in the morning of June 9th he was put into a "halo" (head/neck brace) to secure movement of his head related to his injuries. Members of his family have been present during Andrews stay in the hospital and have been being taken care of with help from the Wildland Firefighter Foundation. On June 11th doctors cleared his release and he was cleared to go home to Yuma. Andrew was in attendance at the Celebration of Life for Anthony and continues to heal.
- On June 16th, there was a Firefighter injury on Poco fire, Tonto National Forest 6 miles northeast of Young, Arizona. A firefighter from the Geronimo Interagency Hotshot Crew was injured when he was struck by a falling snag adjacent to the line his crew was constructing. The firefighter was evacuated by air to Phoenix. He was treated for a broken leg and related injuries.
- NIFC is leveraging the DFWFM Facebook page to post pictures and share stories of Anthony Polk. Currently, we have 744 followers and reaching over 4,000 people per week through updates. Use of twitter is minimal as followers tend to follow more localized info, which other agencies are providing.

Mark Jackson, Associate Director – Fuels

- Mary Taber is schedule to retire at the end of June. A GS-13 fire ecology position will be available.
- The Administrative Assistance for Fire Use and Fuels (GS-7) closes Tue. June 19th. Willing to pay relocation.
- Do not have an EMDS run, which are two items where were priority for OWF. This winter, working on the Fire Planning Units and size. Also investigating the crown fire issues, which have not been resolved as of yet. The process continues to evolve.
- Thanks go to the Regional Fuels Specialist and RFMOs on the data call that was conducted last June 8th with Price Waterhouse. They gave an excellent response and was much appreciated!!!

Sam Scranton, Deputy Fuels

- Completed reshuffle of the funding documents to move dollars to the field.

- Prevention- Issued supplemental funding and will be complete when the fuels documents are complete.

Myron Hotinger, Acting Operations

- The Poco Fire is now burning onto the west side of Fort Apache as of June 19th.
- The Dennebito Wash Fire, burning on Navajo Nation is 80% contained and looking good.
- The Whitewater-Baldy fires that burned onto Mescalero Reservation is transitioning back to the local unit June 19th.

Regions

Rocky Mountain - Once drying occurs, anticipating an active fire season. Partner agencies have gotten activity.

- Jeff Moyer, the new Regional Prevention Specialist is working with Sam Scranton to get spooled up to speed with Prevention.

Southwest– Have several overhead moved around to cover fire positions given the fire activity.

Western - Moved to PL4. Robert LaCapa is the lead for the SAI, which took place the Week of June 11.

Next Fire-only Conference Call:

Send agenda items to Robert.Carlife@bia.gov

Next DFWFM Conference Call Scheduled: July 10

Send agenda items to Bill.Downes@bia.gov