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## DFWFM Conference Call Notes

Date: January 8, 2013

### Central Office

#### ***Bill Downes – Chief Forester***

- Funding through March 21 was sent down.
- FBMS –Forest project funding is in Regional accounts. It represents a half-year of funding, which will allow some operations to be complete.
- Thur. Jan 10, Regional and Central office will have a conference call to discuss the first quarter performance management data. This data needs to be entered into the IA-PMS system before Thursday to allow review prior to call.
- Faline is on 120-day detail and is half-way complete.
- Bev. Swab retired just prior to Christmas, and is no longer in the office. Issues involving timbers sales and trespass can be directed to Bill for assistance.
- Mike Benedict is the new Branch Chief for BoFRP. He is on payroll Jan. 27 and will report to work Feb. 4.
- The Regional Foresters meeting scheduled for January was canceled. Until the budget situation is clarified, no additional Regional Forester meetings will be scheduled.
- There is a possibility for Bureau employees to accept buyouts. The last details are being worked out with leadership before the package is approved by HR for announcement. It will be a very short window of opportunity to take advantage of it.

### BOFRP

#### ***Karen DeBord, Forester***

- Three positions are vacant at BoFRP.
- CFI Application Program is stable, which will allow forward movement with processing forest inventories.

#### ***Dave Wilson, Forester***

- Working on the IFMAT Report and may be touching bases with the Regions for assistance.
- Drafting the Planning and Analysis Report
- LANDFIRE & CFI Report – The form that authorizes the tribes to release GIS data is in draft form and will soon be complete. Data is being prepared in advance of sending the form to the Tribes.

### ITC

#### ***Don Motanic***

- Earl Wilcox award nominations are due Jan. 18

- The IFMAT Team will meet Jan. 14 & 15 to draft the initial Report, which will be submitted to ITC Jan. 30
- The Next Board Meeting is Feb. 26-27 in Palm Springs

## **Regions**

- FY12 Carryover- any special guidance/ limitation on how it should be spent? – No guidance provided. Should be same as in previous years.
- The Sawmill at San Carlos is operating off of salvage timber harvested from the Wallow Fire. There is a bit of stain in it, but the Tribe is happy about the market values they are receiving from the wood.
- In some regions, all vacancy announcements are being held by the Regional Directors until the fiscal situation is in hand.
- Supervisor Forester Position has been selected at Navajo. When formally accepted, will announce name.
- Southern Plains Region filled NEPA/GIS position with Nathan Lilly. Currently negotiating start date.

## **NIFC**

### ***Bob Roberts, Assistant Fire Director***

- The National FMO meeting has been delayed. A new meeting date is in the process of being selected. Bob will send an email to the regions to request dates that work best for the Regions.
- Working on Agreements. If you have comments, please provide to Bob.

### ***David Peters, Budget Officer***

- Paula Landon sent emails to Regions to verify receipt of Preparedness, HFR and Prevention funds. Due to limited access to FBMS, FMOs may not be able to confirm yet.
- Sandy paperwork is due Jan 11. It is very important Regions go through provided instructions. The proper WBS numbers to use for Sandy, Funding Entry Document *must* be used. If questions remain after going through the list of required documents, contact [Daniel.Sine@bia.gov](mailto:Daniel.Sine@bia.gov) for assistance.

### ***Robyn Broyles, Fire Comm/Ed Specialist***

- Will be sending an email to the FMOs/ Foresters to query their knowledge regarding social media questions and the guidance we need to have clarified before finalizing social media guidance that will go to the Bureau Director for approval.

### ***Mark Jackson, Associate Director – Fuels***

- BIA-NIFC will be funding its first Wildland Fire Module this year, which will be stationed at the Southern Ute Agency. Fire modules are a seven to ten person team of specially trained firefighters highly qualified to perform monitoring, ignition, suppression, prescribed fire preparation and implementation support, hazardous fuels reduction and fire effects monitoring tasks. Positions will be advertised mid-January.
- A request to hold a BIA National Fuels meeting was submitted to Central Office, which if approved, will take place in early February in Albuquerque, NM. The fuels staff is preparing LANDFIRE Data and other material needed for the meeting.

- Proposals to review and improve the Fuels data represented in LANDFIRE have been submitted. Once reviewed, a contract will be established to help move LANDFIRE forward.
- BIA-NIFC is developing an effectiveness report to document the success of wildfires intentionally managed to benefit multiple resources. The report looks at successes that took place at San Carlos Agency during the 2012 fire season.

***Joel Kerley, Aviation Manager***

- National Aviation Training will be held Feb. 28-March 1 in San Diego. The course will count towards as SEAT Managers and HECM refreshers.
- A-courses leaning towards FMOs will be offered and credit will be provided

***Scott Bradshaw, Associate Director, Planning***

- Planners are back from leave and will be working on the MEL starting Jan 9. Once initial setting is complete, they will query the field to begin to populate data.

***Dalan Romero, Associate Director, Operations***

- Hot Springs Interagency Dispatch Center Dispatcher position is open for another 3 weeks. It is a developmental position (5/7/9). The announcement is online at: <http://www.bia.gov/nifc/jobs/jobannouncelist/index.htm>
- Craig Cook is conducting his first round of Prescribe Fire Mentorship Training in Florida

***Jacqueline Hawley, Deputy of Operations***

- All SMES need to have a complete draft of their prospective Blue Book Chapters to Jacque by March 15. If the field would like to comment, please talk with the appropriate SME or contact Jacque for follow-up.

**Regions:**

- Navajo is starting the AD/EFF workforce paperwork
- NW FMO meeting is scheduled March 4
- Southwest – May be doing a prescribed burn in Mescalero this week. It's been dry in the SW so far this winter.
- Western – Along the Co. River, usually have a bit of fire season during winter, but quiet there and elsewhere.

**Next Fire-only Conference Call: January 22**

Send agenda items to [Robert.Carlile@bia.gov](mailto:Robert.Carlile@bia.gov)

**Next DFWFM Conference Call Scheduled: Feb. 12**

Send agenda items to [Bill.Downes@bia.gov](mailto:Bill.Downes@bia.gov)