Bureau of Indian Affairs U.S. Department of Interior



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Fire Conference Call Notes

Date: January 24, 2012

NIFC

Bob Roberts, Assistant Fire Director

- An FMO conference call with the Regional FMOs to discuss P.L. 638 Fire Agreements and other miscellaneous items otherwise covered at the annual NIFC FMO meeting is still desirable. A date is yet to be set.
- BIA-NIFC is looking for a detailer to assist with budget for the next few months. If staff is available, contact Bob Roberts.
- A Budget Analyst vacancy announcement is open and on the street. For current BIA Fire Job listings, visit: BIA Fire Management Job Listing's Page on our website

Gini Broyles, Budget/Admin Officer

- Funding has not been determined yet. When they have, NIFC will get the documents down as soon as possible.
- 2012 AD Pay Plan is in final approval stages. The Incident Business Management committee will present it next week to the Fire Directors, then forward onto OWF for approval.

Robyn Broyles, Fire Comm/Ed Specialist

Is there any interest in becoming an Administrator for the DFWFM FB page? NIFC is looking for ways to provide more localized information/ pictures and other facts about Indian Country's Fire Management. Contact Robyn if so.

Joel Kerley, Aviation Manager

As of Feb 1, AMD will move back to OAS and will NOT work for NBC any longer. This move is not expected to make significant impacts to the field. The formal announcement will be released via an information bulletin.

Dave Koch, Associate Director, Training

- Forestry was requested by the Deputy Assistant Secretary's Office to conduct a more thorough cost/benefit analysis of the national meeting. This was completed and as of now, the Division is awaiting approval.
- IFEC is meeting this week to discuss the 301 and 401 professional Job series to classify fire positions. BLM will use the 301 series, where applicable. The BIA will continue to use the 401 job series for Fire Management Officers, Operations Specialists, and Fuels Specialists.
- C-Faller training is occurring at the Winnebago Agency in Nebraska Feb 5-7 and Feb 8-10. Contact Brian Billie for more information. Brian.billie@bia.gov

• Working with the solicitor to discuss the OIG audit and how a cooperative agreement can be used as the instrument allowing off-reservation fire assignments for tribal employees.

Scott Bradshaw, Associate Director, Planning

- FPA 35 of the 135 FPU's are currently calibrated. The target date to finish calibrating all FPUs is January 31.
- Unit Pocket Cards- per the Blue Book, every unit should have a current, representative Pocket Card. In some cases, Pocket Cards may be developed for a larger fire danger area in conjunction with neighboring partners, eliminating the need for a specific local unit Pocket Card. The Planning Section is available for assistance.
- Data Workshops –The Planning Section is soliciting input from Regions if there is a desire or need to provide a data workshop or virtual seminar(s) this year? Contact Scott at 208.387.5373 with suggestions or topics.

Dalan Romero, Associate Director, Operations

- Nationally, fire activity is still taking place in pockets of the Nation. Indian Country is quiet.
- DOI reduced Severity funding levels across the Department. The Regions will receive memo's designating their portion shortly.
 - As a reminder, the severity short-term request process begins at the NIFC
 Operations Director. If fire codes need to be re-opened, documentation needs to be submitted to reflect justification.
- Look for a BIA radio tech vacancy announcement in the next 2-3 weeks. Duty location will be in at the National Incident Radio Support Cache (NIRSC) on the NIFC campus.
- Funding for the Rural Fire Assistance Program is no longer available. If you have not expended funding yet, do so now.
- Safety The BIA memo outlining the Boots guidance is almost ready. We are working to ensure consistent guidance across the DOI agencies.
- If the National DFWFM Meeting takes place, The Wilderness First Responder course will also occur. At this point, the meeting is pending approval.

Regions

Navajo

- Navajo will have a new Fuels Specialist after HR finalizes the selection paperwork.
- Seasonal hires that do not use computers to perform their job are required to complete annual computer training (such as IT security Awareness). Due to job duties and access to computers, they are unable to perform the standard agency training. Can NIFC assist with the process? (*Rocky Mountain also voiced same request for assistance*.)

Southwest

- Small fire in Mescalero last week and are receiving rain in central part of state. The southeast portion of the state is beginning to dry out. Anticipating early fires at end of month and Feb.
- The Santa Clara Pueblo agency contact person resigned this week. Working at establishing another contact to continue to BAER stabilization efforts.

Western

- Has an AFMO vacancy announcement. It can be found on the <u>BIA Fire Management Job Listing's Page</u>
- John Lee is Looking for IC4 resources
- Will be standing up an IMT3 organization this summer and are in the process of putting the team together.

Rocky Mountain

• Working on invoices for last FY

Eastern OK

• Expecting rain to assist with conditions

Next Fire-only Conference Call: Feb. 21

• Send agenda items to Robert.Carlile@bia.gov