



Bureau of Indian Affairs
U.S. Department of Interior

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Fire Conference Call Notes

Date: February 29, 2012

NIFC

Lyle Carlile, Fire Director

- Three Studies are taking place to evaluate the National Fire Program:
 - **OWF Efficiency Study** - The Department is directed to complete an assessment of all Department Wildland Fire programs to determine the most cost effective and efficient means of providing comprehensive fire management services in support of Department and bureau missions and to better direct scarce resources from duplicative administrative management organizations. As provided in the House Report, the Department is directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations no later than 180 days after enactment of this Act.” It is planned to start sometime in Fall/Early winter of 2012.
 - **Cost Benefit Study** - “...The purpose of this analysis is to improve the understanding of the benefits and costs of DOI’s Wildland Fire Management Program (Program) activities.

To better understand the benefits and costs, the analysis will also address Program cost trends and the composition of costs. The study will also examine the ability of existing performance measures to reflect Program benefits and costs...” The study is expected to begin Late Summer/ Early Fall 2012

- **Efficacy of Hazardous Fuel Reduction Investments** - “...What are the net economic benefits and costs of hazardous fuel reduction appropriations? Have hazardous fuel reduction treatments reduced fire risk to communities? How can and should treatments effectiveness be measured? Are hazardous fuel reduction treatments achieving benefits greater than fuel reduction outside the WUI? What is the framework of the analysis? What information is available to help answer these questions? How can we answer these questions?...” Expected to begin summer of 2012.

Bob Roberts, Assistant Fire Director

- A BIA-NIFC Memos will be outlining what each regional carry over will be. Expect to see the memos out shortly.
- Agreements Group continues to work on the Standardized Templates and will cover it at the DFWFM Conference.

Mark Jackson:

- Central office is processing 2012 Distributions. It will be about 2 weeks before regions see funding.

- Prevention/Wildland Urban Interface Specialist Job Announcement can be found at: <http://1.usa.gov/yxdBmp>

Dalan Romero, Associate Director, Operations

- Firefighters who have computer needs while on fires will not be required to provide background checks for employees who work 180 days or less.

Tony Beita, Safety Specialist

- Annual Refresher video is [online](#) and DVD will be available March 15. Will be downloadable. Next year, website will be the only way to get refresher material.
- Wilderness First Responder Class will take place next week, in conjuncture with DFWFM Conference.
- A workshop with NIFC, Fort Apache and San Carlos to place to develop generic risk assessment templates that will be replaced with the old Job Hazard Analysis. The Risk Assessments will be rolled out on the BIA-NIFC website. A breakout session will occur at the DFWFM Conference to talk about it in depth.

Myron Hotinger, BAER Coordinator

- Nat'l BAER team got approval to the National BAER team meeting in Northern NM Looking at hosting a webinar to provide further information regarding travel restrictions and AAR for Las Conchas incident.
- Cat-X that deal with BAER policies for May need to redo the 2010/2011 projects
- Invasive species committee got funded to do a guidebook. Will probably look very similarly like the R3 book.
- There is funding available to redo the READ guides. BIA will look at hosting a course that is beneficial to Indian Country.

Regions

Next Fire-only Conference Call: March 27

- Send agenda items to Robert.Carfile@bia.gov

Next DFWFM Conference Call Scheduled: March 13

- Send agenda items to Bill.Downes@bia.gov