



ROCKY MOUNTAIN COORDINATING GROUP

Bureau of Indian Affairs (Southwest, Rocky Mountain and Great Plains Regions)

Bureau of Land Management (Colorado and Wyoming)

Fish and Wildlife Service (Mountain/Prairie Region)

Forest Service (Rocky Mountain Region)

National Park Service (Intermountain and Midwest Regions)

State Agencies in Colorado, Wyoming, South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas

Topic: Rocky Mountain Area Coordinating Group Effectiveness

Background: An independent review of the Northern Great Plains, Fort Collins, and Pueblo Interagency Dispatch Centers was completed in January 2008. While conducting site visits and interviews the review team was told by most local agencies that the RMCG is not meeting their expectations and has lost credibility.

Key Points: Examples of issues raised by local agencies included:

- Lack of active involvement and liaison to local oversight boards (with the exception of involvement with the board for the GPC);
- Poor communications flow to the field. As an example, the postings on the internet for the RMCG (meeting notes, liaison assignments, etc.) are two years out of date;
- Lack of direction on scope of work, especially on support to all-risk incidents;
- Voting power is viewed as not equitable;
- Inability of some RMCG members to make commitments (especially financial) on behalf of their agency;
- Lack of coordination with state agencies responsible for all-risk management;
- Untimely resolution of some strategic issues.

Recommendation: RMCG has an opportunity to implement a series of actions to improve efficiency, effectiveness, and credibility with local agencies. Following are some recommended actions which have as their objective the improvement of communications, coordination, and support to local agencies and jurisdictions:

1. Conduct an independently facilitated review of the RMCG mission, charter, and operating procedures, including agency representation and voting procedures.
RMCG RESPONSE: [See response to Dispatch Study Report.](#)
2. Review and revise as appropriate the RMCG liaison assignments to external groups and document the roles and responsibilities of liaisons.
RMCG RESPONSE: [Part of normal business practice.](#)
3. Develop and implement a plan for communicating meeting notes, meeting schedules, reports, liaison assignments, and other pertinent information to local agency personnel.
RMCG RESPONSE: [See response to Dispatch Report.](#)
4. Petition agency executives to delegate executive authority to RMCG representatives, including the ability to make financial commitments.
RMCG RESPONSE: [Agency execs already delegate the authority they choose to delegate.](#)
5. Provide strategic direction to the member agencies regarding the appropriate response to non-wildfire, all risk incidents.
RMCG RESPONSE: [Ongoing \(matrix development tasked to incident business specialists\).](#)
6. Develop and implement an action plan for the recommendations included in the January 23, 2008 Interagency Dispatch Review Report for the GPC, FTC, and PBC dispatch centers.
RMCG RESPONSE: [RMCG evaluated and forward recommendations to Center Managers.](#)
7. Conduct a review of previous RMCG sanctioned studies and reviews to identify unresolved issues. Develop and implement an action plan to bring closure to issues which are still relevant.
RMCG RESPONSE: [Part of normal business practice, an ongoing process.](#)

Decisional/Informational: A decision to accept and implement all, some, or none of these recommendations is expected. Some recommendations may be outside the scope of RMCG's charter. They may need to be elevated to the Agency Executives. Depending on any course of action chosen, revision of the charter may be indicated.

Pre-work required: No pre-work required

Time Requested:	Presentation	5 minutes
	Questions & answers	10 minutes
	Discussion	15 minutes

Audio/visual needs: None needed

Presenter: Bill Ott, USFS representative to RMCG, 303-275-5749