



Bureau of Indian Affairs
U.S. Department of Interior
Find us on [Facebook](#)
Tweet us @BIA_DFWFM

Division of Forestry and Wildland Fire
3833 S. Development Ave.
Boise, ID. 83705
208-387-5575 Work
www.bia.gov/nifc/



DFWFM Conference Call Notes

Date: February 26, 2013

NIFC

Lyle Carlile, Fire Director

- **Sequestration** – At this time, there is a great deal of information changing and in flux as several conference calls are taking place between the Bureau and Office of Wildland Fire. NIFC is refining the sequestration plan. After Monday, March 4 when more is known, further details will be communicated.
 - Keeping in mind primary missions, fire managers need to maintain initial attack capability as a priority. To understand what the regions need and how they will handle this for sequestration, NIFC will conduct a data call to the regions for details in the future.
 - We are currently working to accomplish a 5% cut across the board. This will affect the Preparedness, BAR, Facilities and Fuels programs. NIFC is trying to absorb as much as possible to minimize cuts to regional programs.
 - Preliminary cuts will take place in reducing expenditures in the Mod. 52 Program, Reducing IHC amounts to minimum levels and reducing Exclusive Use Aviation Contracts.
 - Sequestration plans will be rolled up to bureau contacts. For BIA-NIFC, Bryan Rice and Tommy Thompson are the Bureau POCs. They are engaged with regional planning activities so as to avoid duplication from BIA-NIFC and regional activities.
 - A hiring freeze will take place (memo to be released soon), but there will be exemptions and exceptions from the freeze. An exemption to hire a PFT will require NIFC, the Bureau Director and the Office of Wildland Fire approval, which then goes to the Department for final authorization. There is an exception process also, which NIFC is currently drafting. To accomplish this, NIFC sent a data call spreadsheet to the regions to assess current status of seasonal hiring.
- **Reg. FMO Meeting** – if Sequestration happens, there will not be a Regional FMO meeting in April.
- The FS Chief released a message regarding the need for agencies to collaborate prior to fire season to determine management strategy if a fire on the Forest lands runs onto other jurisdictions. Fires are managed differently on reservations; therefore it's highly encouraged to have discussions with neighbors as part of preparedness planning to determine how fires will be managed across jurisdictions.

Dalan Romero, Associate Director, Operations

- **FireCode** – If a Firecode does not work properly, contact Daniel Sine who will open the code manually. For prior year codes, a formal request to Dalan will need to be made. A memo outlining this process is forthcoming.
- A memo to define the hiring authority and guidance for the AD Program is also forthcoming.

- Updating 2011 WFDSS Guidance

Myron Hotinger, National BAER Coordinator

- I-BEAR teams will be meeting in Boise this week to discuss how teams will be configured this year.

Tony Beitia, Fire and Aviation Safety Specialists

- This is the last year the WFSTAR DVD will be available to order. Training is being offered online at: <http://www.nifc.gov/wfstar/index.html>
- There will NOT be a new IRPG until 2014.
- BIA Fitness Challenge is spooling up. Tony is encouraging the field to engage with the program. Information can be downloaded at: <http://www.bia.gov/nifc/training/fitness/index.htm>
- The Wilderness First Aid Class will continue as scheduled until there is direction to do otherwise.

Bob Roberts, Deputy Fire Director

- NW Regional Review will still take place in April.

David Peters, Budget Officer

- There was good participation on the Regional Budget Conference Call last week. FMO's are encouraged to join with their budget leads to discuss current issues, receive training and solve problems.

Regions

- **Northwest** –HFPAS Consultation is mission critical. The date for the Consultation is March 28 in Portland.

Next Fire-only Conference Call: March. 26

Send agenda items to Robert.Carlile@bia.gov

Next DFWFM Conference Call Scheduled: March 12

Send agenda items to Bill.Downes@bia.gov