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**Division of Forestry and Wildland Fire**  
3833 S. Development Ave.  
Boise, ID. 83705  
208-387-5575 Work  
[www.bia.gov/nifc/](http://www.bia.gov/nifc/)



## DFWFM Conference Call Notes

Date: September 10, 2013

### Central Office

#### ***Aaron Baldwin, Resource Protection***

- FY15 Budget submitted, set at FY13 Sequester Level.
- Expect to see a six – eight week CR for FY14 Budget
- Forest Development Project account levels remain the same as FY13
- In the event Sequester needs to go into effect, DC requested a contingency plan be developed by the Bureaus.
- Hiring Freeze: Mike Black and Bryan Rice will discuss with the Department the cumbersome hiring process, priority to fill vacancies and other issues to help BIA fill vacancies.
- Forest Health Projects – due dates are uploaded on the Forest Managers folder on the cloud. When submitting accomplishment reports, please send to Aaron *and* Faline.
- Year-end funding is distributed. OSG funding is delayed.
- 30-60-day detail opportunities to DC are available. Individuals will help with projects and expose individuals with what's going on in DC. Contact Aaron and Faline if interested.

#### ***Dave Koch – Detail with OBM***

- Some Regions have not obligated the 12/13 Forestry Funding yet and need to do so. Give Dave a call if you have questions.

### BOFRP

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

- The memo from the Director about the year-end annual reports is out. We will continue to do the FMIP annual reports through Infodat. We are working towards doing the Forest Development and Timber Sales annual reports through Infodat this year. More will come out in the next few weeks as we pull it all together.
- Sept. 27 – IAMPMS Opens for Data Entry and Closes Oct. 7
- Refresh data deadline is November 15th

#### ***Karen Deboard***

- National Advanced Silviculture Program – Training announcement was sent out. Applications due at the Regions Oct. 25

### Regions

- **Alaska** – Waiting to fill Forestry Position
- **Northwest** – Conducted first Silviculture Certification Panel. Went well

- **Pacific** – Good job to Jerold for filling two fill key coop positions! Billings is hosting a Forestry TAMS training the week of Sept. 16. Bob Ford is working as a contractor for the Collections and Distribution handbook. Draft is due this month. The Corral Complex is in the rehab stage and is transitioning to a Type 3 Organization.
- **Western** – Council meeting took place at White Mtn. September 11 to look at timelines to open saw mill.
- **Southwest** – Sponsored Coop student returned to school and is anticipated to graduate May 2015. CFI projects went well with his help. Closeout reports also going well.
- **Navajo** – No report for Forestry.
- **Southern Plains** – No report
- **Eastern OK** – Working on last Forest Management Plan. No fire activity.
- **Midwest** – Quiet. Taking care of year end business and working towards accomplishing forest management plans.
- **Rocky Mtn** – Wind River agency is looking for a person to fill a detail
- **Great Plains** – No report for Forestry
- **Eastern** – Timber sales taking place and a couple forest management plans and trespass cases almost ready for signature.
- **OK City** – No report.

## **NIFC**

### ***Lyle Carlile, Fire Director***

- PL 5 dropped to PL2 in less than two weeks, one of the most rapid declines in history thanks to moisture across the west. BIA will continue to have a few fires, but it will be concentrated to California most likely.
- Suppression – DOI ran out of suppression money. To compensate, the Department borrowed from regular Bureau Program funds. The Department did not borrow from BIA.
- Currently, 97.5% of the BIA Preparedness fund is committed or obligated. This is very good as it will prevent BIA from carrying over money to next year.
- Participated on an OWF call with Jim Douglas to discuss tribal consultation and how to help the Department move forward with integrating it into their decisions. Aaron and Mark will be crafting an outline/ proposed process to help the Department develop a routine consultation process.
- Completed the Recommendation for the Wildland Fire OIG Suppression Audit. The final closure package contained policy and cooperative agreement template to go forward for regional implementation.

### ***Paula Landon – Budget Analyst***

- In the process of closing FBMS and balancing the Preparedness, Suppression, ES and other accounts.

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

- Working with DOI to establish HFP budgets.
- OMB and FS will continue to work together to closely aligned Fuels Program. This effort has resulted in a Program Work Plan that involves five tasking groups. One BIA and one Tribal

representative will be on point. ITC and non-ITC tribes will also develop a list of representatives and advisors. Once identified, those advisors will coordinate working groups, which will support those two reps to integrate info to/from field.

***Jonathan Whitefoot, Special Agent - OJS***

- Developing the Arson Hot spotting Tool with field specialists to help move the project forward.

***Joel Kerley, Aviation Manager***

- All FED/State Fire Bosses have been released for the season.

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

- GPRA Report – Steve Larrabee will be sending a detailed quarterly WFMI fire occurrence report card to each Regional FMO illustrating the current data entry status, by Region and field-level Unit. The final FY2013 fire occurrence data pull from WFMI will occur at the end of the first week in October. This is the most critical data pull as the GPRA statistics derived from this extraction will become the permanent statistics for reporting purposes. Obviously, fire occurrence can still be entered/edited at any time, it just will not be reflected in the final GPRA reported statistics for FY2013. If a field-level Unit is backlogged with entering their fire occurrence into WFMI, data entry priority should be focused to those wildfires occurring on their local tribal Trust land first. Other fire reports, such as false alarms or support fires, have no bearing on GPRA statistics and therefore should be a lower priority for WFMI data entry.
- NFDRS Guide – The Planners are developing a draft NFDRS Handbook over the next several weeks. The purpose is to provide guidelines in developing NFDRS Pocket Cards, severity requests, readiness plans, etc. The Handbook will be distributed to the Regions and the Operations Section for comments. If you have any input in the early development of this document, contact Steve Larrabee (208) 387-5586 or Pat Phillips (303) 4843204. Otherwise, comments will be solicited when the draft Handbook is developed and distributed.

***Tony Beita, National Safety Specialist***

- Medical Exams – get the most current HSQ and the WFSR training for refreshers at: <http://www.nifc.gov/wfstar/>
- The new IRPG will be rolled out through the cache system in 2014
- 2013 Blue Book Posted, please review and provide comments. Will be working on the 2014 Bluebook.
- Job Hazard Analysis is almost ready to roll out. Would like to receive/ evaluate site-specific risk assessments using the new JHA when it's ready.

***Myron Hotinger, BAER Coordinator***

- Recent rains have increased BAER activity in Colorado, Utah and California. Have folks working on two projects.
- Funding Letters and BAER plans are signed.

## **Regions**

- **Alaska** – Down to PL1, getting rain in interior. Corporations and tribes working on mechanical fuels projects.
- **Northwest** – working on closing books for FBMS

- **Eastern** – Still wet, no fire season yet. Working on budgets and trying to establish a plan for fuels.
- **Navajo** – Moisture in the 4-corners area. IHC were done Friday, Sept.13. Engine section now supporting other programs. An individual was burned on the Rim Fire and is the process of getting a second opinion at another burn center. Reconciling year-end books.
- **Southern Plains** – Fuels are dry and ready to burn. Small fires are occurring, but have been able to keep small due to minimal wind.
- **Pacific** – Corral Fire moving to a Type 3 organization
- **Rocky Mountain** – A bus demobing with a camp crew got rear ended the week of Sept 2. No serious injuries. Fire activity slowing.
- **Southwest** – ABQ is quiet. Receiving rain.
- **Western** – Working reconciling budgets. Received flooding in Patch Springs. Eastern and Western GACCs combined, which will affect two employees.
- **OK City** – No rain, which may lead to a fall fire season.
- **Midwest** – Activity picking up. Moisture received was not enough to mitigate fire danger.
- **Great Plains** – Burning windows coming up. Precipitation received and SEATs are being released.

**Next Fire-only Conference Call: Sept. 24**

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

**Next DFWFM Conference Call Scheduled: Oct. 08**

Send agenda items to [Faline.Haven@bia.gov](mailto:Faline.Haven@bia.gov)