

Great Basin Coordinating Group Conference Call Notes

Date: 8/22/2016 **Time:** 0800 MDT / 0700 PDT

Facilitator: Dennis Terry

Agenda Items:

Predictive Services Update: Thunderstorms today further north into Nevada as far north as the Rock Hill fire – strong outflow winds, lightning and only light amounts of rainfall. Thunderstorms continue further south in NV/UT with better chances of rainfall, continued gusty outflow winds and lightning for Briggs/Porcupine/Sand Ledges/Motoqua fires. Stronger west winds 30-40 mph and low RH today across ID with Red Flag Warnings in effect. Breezy W-NW near 25 mph continue Tuesday over ID, northern NV/UT with wetter thunderstorms further south. Thunderstorms/some moisture possible in ID Wed/Thu.

GB Coordinating Center Update:

- GBCC at PL 4, NICC at PL 4
- 11 new fires in the GB for 911 acres
- New growth on large fires – 12,054 acres
- Pioneer Fire growth – 7,700 acres for a total of 96,469 acres
- Air tankers same as yesterday

NMAC:

- Uptick in fire activity nationally
- Northern Rockies have a Type 1 Team on fire up there
- Pac NW got busy with windy/dry conditions yesterday – put 4 teams on fires – mostly state fires/state teams
- Large air tankers, Type 1 crews and helicopters in short supply

Priorities from last night and IC Call:

- Pioneer
- Sand Ledges
- Henry’s Creek
- Rock Hill
- Briggs
- Stein
- Toponce Creek
- Rough
- Porcupine
- Strawberry
- Motoqua

USFS Region 4 suggests switching Toponce Creek and Rough since Toponce is meeting their objectives and still thinking to scale down to Type 4 and Rough is still growing – approved by group. New Priority list is as follows:

New Priority List:

- Pioneer
- Henry’s Creek

Gina McGuire

Ray Crowe

Dennis Terry

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sand Ledges • Rock Hill • Briggs • Stein • Rough • Toponce Creek • Porcupine • Strawberry • Motoqua <p>New priority list supported by GBCG.</p> <p>GB MAC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASAT – Arrived at Elko at 1900 last night, unable to make 1700 call due to lack of cell service. They visited Ely, Richfield, Strawberry Fire and Briggs Fire – Ops fine, help to 2 helitack crews to transport hazmet, but minor issue. Today the plan is to visit Elko, BAM and WMC. Will call tonight at 1700. • MAC recommendation with Roide’s team in Elko – Would like to keep them in Elko through shift today, then evaluate the lightning today. Even if they were extended, they would be off at 1800 PDT and they would still have time to travel home by 2200. Talking with Tim, and knowing what happened with Sand Ledges late in the day yesterday with dry cells/outflows and then growth on fires that were holding all day – MAC recommends evaluate tonight and possibly release Tuesday morning, so keep another night in Elko. • No objections from the GBCG – plan is to stay in Elko tonight. <p>Bin Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face to Face meeting this Thursday – Decided to move Thursday’s meeting to next Monday, 8/29 to time with the ASAT Closeout. New plan is ASAT Closeout at 1100 MDT Monday, 8/29 at GBCC, followed by GB MAC Face to Face meeting 1300-1500. GBCG supports. MAC will check with ASAT to make sure that time works and MAC will send confirmation to the GBCG. 	<p>Lee</p> <p>Dennis Terry</p>
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Name	Agency Update / Notes
Sue Stewart	<p>USFS Region 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conversation on Frequency on Pioneer Fire – FS FMO and 3 ICs conversation improved coordination between north/south side of fire – not perfect, but no further needs on frequency on communication side. • Did have a phone call from Forest Service FMO on the Boise – ID City Hotshots coming back from days off and told to spend a day in the stations to get them back into the rotation for hot shot days off. Their concern still is having a hot shot crew standing by in the station in ID

	<p>City where fire camp is during the Pioneer Fire while there is still a dire need for hot shot crews. For appearance sake, hard to explain to folks why local hotshot crew is standing by. Update from DT – crew is on fire today</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Started Rx burn on Uintah Wasatch Cache – conversation on whether to proceed or not. It’s tough to get a burn window in this high elevation spot (north facing slope, above 11,000 feet). They’ve been trying to for 6 years to get an Rx. They were able to burn 300 acres yesterday, and plan to burn the remainder 225 acres today – no resource needs, no issues anticipated. 4 people out to talk about pass through NF in Utah and head down to the Spring Mountains in Vegas later this week. Heard from Forest FMO on Caribou Targhee – new start – Black Fire, was 17 acres in rocks/cliffs above highway and very visible – don’t want to staff the fire due to risk management reasons. Their plan is to complex the Black Fire, Carrot Fire and Big Elk Fire all long duration into a type 3 and possibly name the South Fork Zone
	BIA Western Region: Nothing to report.
	<p>Utah BLM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No new fires to speak of, although Sand Ledges has burned into BLM land. The BLM West Desert dozer burned over yesterday, but no injuries to the operator and minimal dozer damage. Close call and lucky in such flashy/light fuels and fire went right over and didn’t cause any more damage or injuries. Cause was the wind shift on the fire and operator tried to get into the black and the dozer stalled. Coordinating with Matt on how to coordinate a review with some lessons learned about dozer operations/fire behavior in the area.
	<p>Idaho BLM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In a typical pattern with really light IA mixed with occasional large fires Henry’s Creek – new large fire (3 on – 1500+ acres, moving south in foothills out of ID Falls). Residents threatened. Unified command with Bonneville County. Started on unprotected land, which adds complexity. Mike wanted to make a case for this fire to move up the priority list. If it moves southeast at all it’s tough country and could go to a team fire. DT update – evacuation lifted and residents back in their homes. Cherry Creek in Vail District – really active yesterday and is about 5 miles from the Idaho border. Not sure how they are doing but looks like they are bringing in a team.
Paul Petersen / Karen Kufta	<p>Nevada BLM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Izzenhood Fire wrapping up Rock Hill – one more day, going to try to release some resources. It’s in rocky country, need today and part of tomorrow to wrap up.
	Arizona BLM: No report
	State of Utah: Nothing to report.
	State of Idaho: Nothing to report.

	State of Nevada: Nothing to report.
	FWS: Nothing to report.
	NPS Pacific West: No issues/concerns.
	NPS Intermountain Region: Nothing to report.
Date and Time of Next Call: 8/23 @ 0800 PDT / 0900 MDT	