



## **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**

### **Minutes of Conference Call May 3, 2012 – 09:30**

**In Attendance:**

**Members**

**Chair** Bob Jones

**Vice Chair** Ken Kerr

**Unavailable**

**Guests**

Chad Ray

Dwight Henninger

**Facilitator**

Jim Fletcher

**Business Manager**

Brooke Malcolm

1. **All-Hazard IMTs & Colorado DEM Involvement with RMCG** **Fletcher/Henninger/Ray**
  - Spring Meeting decision (in absence of quorum) to invite Colorado All-Hazard/DEM leadership to participate with RMCG on conference calls and meetings until RMCG can reach a consensus about how to incorporate representation into membership.
  - RMCG tasked itself to write and submit an issue paper to consider proposal for voting/non-voting members of RMCG and amendments to RMCG charter if necessary.
    - Need to incorporate pros/cons of new arrangement and recommendation to the Executive Group.
    - Tasking will be coordinated by Fletcher.
  
2. **Colorado State Forest Service Restructuring** **Homann**
  - Three separate, related events that led to current state of affairs.
    - Lower North Fork Prescribed Fire
      - Independent investigation will result in good lessons learned.
      - Suspension of prescribed fire on all state lands or by CSFS until Governor lifts.
    - Lower North Fork Wildfire
      - Resulted in tragic events that had far-reaching implications.
      - Fire investigation will result in recommendations, and is likely headed toward congressional review.
      - Potential for civil lawsuits for fatalities and property loss/damage.
    - Restructuring of the Colorado State Forest Service
      - Legislation in progress now to move wildland fire functions from Colorado State University to Department of Public Safety (Executive Branch).

- Legislation available on Colorado General Assembly Website:  
[http://www.leg.state.co.us/clics/clics2012a/csl.nsf/fsbillcont/94F59E2AF3B48FA387257981007F4449?Open&file=1283\\_enr.pdf](http://www.leg.state.co.us/clics/clics2012a/csl.nsf/fsbillcont/94F59E2AF3B48FA387257981007F4449?Open&file=1283_enr.pdf).
- Also calls for transfer of Division of Emergency Management from Department of Local Affairs to Department of Public Safety.
- Slated to go into effect July 1.
- Transition task groups will be looking at role of State of Colorado in wildland fire between now and time of passage of new Act.
- CSFS will continue to operate under all authorities still in force until new configuration takes effect.
  - Potential for changes to authorities to enter into agreements, but no intent to disrupt normal service in coordinated fire response.
- Not yet clear who will assume role of RMCG representative from Colorado State.

**3. Approval of Operating Plan for Signature**

**All**

- Operating Plan completed; need consensus to sign & finalize.
- No objections raised. Plan will be signed by Chair and entered to RMCG files and website.

**4. RMCG Involvement/Support in NFDRS Review for RMA  
(Lower North Fork Fire Recommendations)**

**Fletcher**

- Follow-up to SafeNet issued for issues in NFDRS system.
- Kerr & Boche reviewed issue and developed a response to Kevin Kline from Colorado State on behalf of USFS and BLM (Phase I).
- Now moving into Phase II: Self-assessment of program. Letter ready for distribution.
  - Proposal is to involve approximately 10 SMEs at operations level from various agencies to review system and provide recommendations.

**5. Operations Committee**

**Fedrizzi**

- Priority Trainee Process
  - Need RMCG approval for priority trainee process as presented by Operations Committee.
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- Requested change to team roster
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**6.**