



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

Conference Call September 02, 2010

On Call:

Mark Boche
Dan Smith
Dave Hall
Jeff Fedrizzi
Jim McMahill
Ken Kerr
Mike Davin
Ray Weidenhaft
Beth Hermanson (Spring Meeting Info)
Rich Homann
Joe Lowe
Ross Hauck
Jim Fletcher (Advisor)
Wendy Hall (Business Man.)

Not Available:

Bob Jones
Don Westover
Dave Carter
Bill Ott
Cal Pino

I. Dan Smith-Update from NWCG

- Recent fire activity in the Great Basin would have been interesting if it had come a month earlier. However, things are looking good.
- Wildfire Management Cohesive Strategy: Hopefully everyone has seen a copy of it. Strongly encourages putting in comments. We do have a forum and opportunity to submit your comments to the contractors who are receiving them. Address local, state and federal issues.
- Dan will not be able to make the fall meeting but hoping to make the Spring Meeting.
- Dan suggested that during the Spring Meeting to schedule sometime for discussing the Succession Strategy. Dan mentioned that there are some contractors that may be available for questions or workshops.
- Third week in May, Dan is hosting an NWCG Quarterly Meeting. It is a 3 day meeting and plans to hold it somewhere near Denver. Dan would like to work out some kind of meeting with RMCG. Maybe incorporate a half a day field trip to look at the fire projects or mitigation work. Would like to get as many of the coordinating group as possible together to meet with the NWCG Executive Board.

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Questions for Dan Cohesive Strategy-Mark

- Mark asked for the status of engagement from the DOI and State folks on the Cohesive Strategy. The USFS has had a limited involvement to date. USFS has just received the first product, the review draft last week.
- Mark mentioned the concern about lack of assignment for the RMA Type 1 Team Summerfelt and the potential loss of credentials. May need some help addressing this issue.
- Dan: The issue has surfaced and brought to the attention to NMAC. It is an issue in a lot of areas. The issue came to NMAC from the dispatch community where it is a 3 year rather than a 5 year requirement. Dan will make note of this and bring it up on the NMAC call today.
- Mark: It is very important that NMAC and NWCG engage on this especially if it impacts two or more geographic areas.
- Dan: When looking at this Succession Strategy we are already struggling with some of the teams already. This certainly isn't helping that situation.
- Dan: The Cohesive Strategy didn't go out until later last week. So USFS isn't behind anymore than the rest of us. It is a draft and a long ways from being perfect. The deadline is September 10th for comments back to the contractor.
- Dan will get the most recent version of the Draft Cohesive Strategy to the rest of the RMCG members.
- Mark is concerned about the fast turnaround time.
- There is an official invite list for comments to filter feedback through.

2. RMCG Business Operating Plan-Boche

- Tasking the drafting of the Business Operating Plan
- Have a draft by the Fall Meeting.
- Mark asked for volunteers

3. Fall Meeting-Hauck

- Ross has been in contact with the Clarion Motel in Manhattan KS.
- Got 20 rooms secured at US Gov per dim rates and has a meeting place lined out close
- He is working on video teleconference capability.
- Bill Crapser will attend on behalf of the Execs.
- Mark asked the Group to come up with topics or questions for Bill and send them to Wendy.

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4. Spring Meeting-Lowe/Hermanson

- Have the contract written with Embassy Suites.
- All of the charges would be run through the State of South Dakota then the BIA is going to reimburse the State of South Dakota.
- Embassy Suites did agree to keep the individual room rates at last year's costs.
- Joe is looking into getting a speaker on the Rules of Engagement Structures in the Wildland.
- Mark asked for questions or comments about having Todd Conklin be the key note speaker for the Spring Meeting and having the R2 line officers attend Todd's presentation.
- Todd's presentation is highly interactive. May look at having Todd's presentation during the first morning to allow for work groups in the afternoon.

5. Operations Chair for 2011-Kerr

- Concerns that the chair for next year be able to engage full in what is going on. The current vice Chair is in supervisory primary fire line position. The concern lies with the individual be able to be available to do Operations Committee tasks.
- The agency reps for RMCG will look into finding a solution.

6. Lack of Assignments for Teams-Kerr

- Issue of Team members losing qualifications due to the lack of assignments.
- Looking into getting those individuals to go out with other teams to get those individuals the needed assignments.
- Ken will call Paul to let him know that the topic has been forward to NWCG through Dan Smith.

7. RMA Team Mobilization-Kerr

- Had a situation in which a Team was being requested for an assignment and circumstances, at the same time, prevented the Team from taking the national assignment.
- NICC wasn't willing to consider taking another one of the RMA Teams.
- Ken tasked the Ops Committee in finding the facts and prevent rumors. They are working on putting together the information.

8. Platte Canyon Crew-Kerr

- Crew was sent out with two together peer IHC crew but did not get signed off on the Type 1 certification.
- Ken is looking into getting information on why that happened.
- Crew has been working for several years to get their certification.
- Ken will get back to the group after he gets the information.

Executive Session

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