

RMCG Winter Meeting
January 20, 2010

In Attendance at RMCC

Rich Homann
Bob Jones
Joe Lowe
Mark Boche
Bill Ott
Ray Weidenhaft
Ken Kerr
Mike Davin

Jim Fletcher-Facilitator
Wendy Hall-Note taker

On Line

Dave Hall
Cal Pino
Ross Hauck

Dave Carter-sick
Don Westover-Not Available
Jeff Fedrizzi -Not Available

Introduction- Mark Boche

His expectations during the meeting; hope that we operate on three core values. First and foremost Safety, Integrity, and Mutual Respect.

What he is looking for as bench marks or building blocks:

1. Alignment
2. Strong Healthy Working Relationships
3. Integrated Planning
4. Coordinated Execution

Alignment can be defined as consensus not just as we sit at the table but as we implement the actions we agree to take on.

Consensus Model-Mark Boche

Discussion on Consensus Model verses Roberts Rule of Order.

- Whatever the process it allows us to capture decisions, document agreements, and document the meetings.
- Down side to consensus is the example of the most recent letter. If we were to have required consensus, we would have never moved forward. As we take up a question, we need to agree amongst ourselves, which we are going to use.
- This model allows for a person to dissent. In the past this group has gotten bogged down on issues.
- How we deal with blocking that stops a proposal and how to resolve is addressed by this model.
- Could fall back to Roberts's rules or elevate the issue up to execs.

- If a consensus group, can't vote.
- By using the reservation, or stand aside parts of the model, there is an opportunity to look at the proposal and adjust so we can make it work for everyone. In most cases, we will be using the "declare" or "stand aside" options to get to a better proposal. Rarely are we going to do a block, maybe 5 to 10 percent of what we do.
- Block is an extreme measure and we have the option of going back and reexamining the issue or send it to the execs.
- The execs were pretty clear that they wanted use a consensus model.

Decisions:

- ◆ Group agreed to re-work the "block" wording (before the end of the meeting).
- ◆ Group agreed to use the model the next couple of days and refine if needed.
- ◆ Group agreed by consensus to keep Jim as facilitator for RMCG.

Election of Vice Chair-Mark Boche

- Wyoming is next in line to serve as Vice Chair. However, they are not able to meet the obligation.
- Old charter, after State of Wyoming, the Park Service would be next in order. The new charter has the States all lumped together after FS.
- One commented that there is some value having a Federal person as a chair/vice chair then a State person as chair or vice chair.
- Different models with lumping and splitting
- New charter, 6 bullets, every 6th year one of the States is in a chair role, every 6th year one of the BIA members is in the chair role, every 6th year then one of the BLM states is in the chair role.
- Current signed charter states that a State will be in position as Vice Chair after the USFS.
- Rich Homann developed a rotation schematic based on the new charter that calls for the six entities to rotate each year. No member blocked this approach.

Decisions:

- ◆ Group agreed to follow rotation in new charter.
- ◆ Joe and Rich will discuss which of the two of them will be the next Vice Chair. They agreed that Joe would serve as the vice-chair for 2010.

Bin Items:

1. Spring Meeting: Roles and Responsibilities of Chair, Vice Chair, and Business Manager
 2. Who is going to be Vice Chair? (see above)
- In reoccurring action log, in October's meeting can reaffirm who is going to be Vice Chair.

Pre-Executive Session-Closed

Operations Committee Report-Chuck Russell

Issue Paper: RMCG support for Type I and II IMT trainees within the Geographic Area.

- ICs feel that getting trainees out has greatly improved candidates for teams.
- Getting better and more applicants.
- Ops committee requests that each RMCG member send out a thank you letter to agency administrators.

Tasking:

1. Wendy will look in files for past thank you letter.
2. Chuck will acquire data on gains in the number of applicants for teams.

- May want to mention NWCG memo dated Jan 15, 2010 National Interagency Incident Management Teams succession planning.
- May want to remind our execs, as they tasked us a couple of years ago to have a succession strategy, that they have affirmed a succession strategy that we need to continue to implement.

3. Letter from RMCG asking the Execs to write a letter of appreciation to Agency Administrators thanking them for employee participation in teams, tied into the national succession plan and to quantifying success within the geographic area and reminding them that we have a strategy. Letter would be from RMCG chair to execs.

- Some things the Ops committee is doing for their succession and recruitment task group is by the meeting in October have ideas to bring to Ops and Training Committee to discuss on how to find recruit on how to address shortages. One idea is sending letters to students that attend the training courses.
- In the RMCG Succession Strategy Plan, attached was 10 strategic action items. Could have Ops Committee help to make that actionable.

4. Task- Written Tasking for Ops group concerning recruitment strategy (needs follow-up)

- Get Action log from Ops committee to see what they are working on.
- Draft Agenda from ICs for Spring Meeting.
- The Type 1 team had an evaluation form for the last Spring Meeting; may benefit from and evaluation form at this meeting. (Tasking?)
- Naming convention of team's long team vs. short team.

Jim: will check the records for paper sent to NWCG-Bin item

- NWCG combined some of their committees at national level including training and operations committee. Concerned if group was chartered the number of members would hinder progress.

The Operations Committee feels it gets a lot more done with a smaller group. Ops committee will make a concerted effort to outreach and get input from other committees.

- Ops committee requests that RMCG keeps the Ops and Training committees separate. (there was no opposition to this request... meaning, group deferred to the current arrangement and number of committees noted in the new RMCG charter).
- People going to training without prerequisites. Process in place is not being followed to screen applicants to make sure prerequisites are met.
- Process in place we need to re-visit.
- Ops committee is working on improving some of their process in their operations guide.
- An agency needs to keep track of their candidates. Over the last 8 years, when there is a problem, it often relates back to how the agency is keeping tabs on who is coming up.
- Ops Committee is going to review the course selection process.
- Ross and Ken are going to review the selection process and give feedback to Ops Committee.
- Ops Committee will come up with a proposal to correct issues. Ken and Ross will review. The Ops Committee will then submit an issue paper to RMCG.

Issue Paper: RMA IHC crew rotation- proposal. Will implement on a trial bases in 2010. The hotshot committee has been working with Jim and Glenn through the process on the rotation for out of Geographic Area Assignments.

- Caveats, IHCs should be only making two contacts; one for availability should be strictly going to their hosting dispatch center; second for any policy issues should be going through their agency point of contact.
- The rotation is a guide, not cast in stone and rotation is a "test" for the 2010 fire season. Not a done deal.
- For assignments, IHC should not call us, we'll call them.

Rosters for Incident Management Teams:

- In Region Applicants are give priority.
- Team Succession: Last year there was a major shakeup. Took everybody they could and put them in different jobs.
- ICs try to follow the limit of two rotations (six years) in a position on a team. It is the Ops committees' job to oversee the process and make sure the teams are following it.

Team by team:

1. Summerfelt: Roster approved with one individual suspended.
 2. Hahnenberg Team A: Roster approved.
 3. Pechota Team B: Roster approved.
 4. Lowe Team C: Roster approved.
- Need to be sure that our succession strategy will allow us to continue to field 4 teams within the Geographic Area. Have a lot of positions being filled out of region.

Ops Committee Charter

- Role of the Geographic Area Training Representative (GATR) is as a technical advisor and not a member of the Training Committee.
- Clarify role of GATR in mob guide vs. the Training Committee.
- Put footer with revised date on the page.
- RMCG charter uses terminology of consensus; Ops Charter talks about having one voting member; need to change language. (I don't think there was agreement on this.. see next bullet)
- No matter how they make their decisions still has to go through RMCG.
- Mob Guide: RMCG made motion that the following verbiage be put in every sub-committee charter: The vice-chair will make sure that minutes of meetings are taken, edited, filed, and distributed to each member of the standing committee and each member of RMCG. Language is missing from sub-committee charters. See Page 348 of Mob Guide.
- Taskings need to be clear and written in a tasking order.
- Task Ops Committee on Spring Agenda; put on reoccurring action log
- Current Vice-Chair, the Liaison to the Ops Committee, the Ops Committee Chair and the RMCG Business Manager start to get the Spring Meeting agenda and meeting place put together in October.

Tasking: In annual recurring action logs for both groups (RMCG and Ops), what the standard planning group looks like for Spring Meeting. Sometime after the fall meeting, have most done by January meeting.

520/420 Recommendations

- 420: List was approved.
- 520: First year we've had 5 slots. We are really being aggressive to fill all 5 slots. List was approved.
- Every agency needs to have some representation at the Ops Committee to be an advocate for their folks.

Spring Meeting: Bill

- Proposed draft agenda: Handout.
- Template for putting together from last year: Handout.
- Planning group for Spring Meeting: Representation from each of the IMTs, Vice Chair RMCG, Liaison for Ops Committee, Chair of the Ops Committee, and the RMCG Business Manager. Ad hoc: those who are located where the meeting is to take place for the venue.
- Have dates attached to items.
- Capture in RMCG Operating Plan.
- Get feedback and reviews from meeting: AAR of Meeting

Taskings: Bill will clean up planning template and bring to February 4th Conference Call.

- Plan will be posted on the web.
- Develop an Org Chart of RMCG and Committees

- For Zone Committees almost need a separate meeting for the 10 to 11 Zone Dispatch Boards.
- There is a disconnect between Dispatch Boards and RMCG.
- Incoming vice chair is responsible for the following year's spring meeting. Whoever becomes vice chair today is responsible for initiating planning for 2011 spring meeting.
- Outgoing Vice Chair and the Incoming Vice Chair, working together... Meaning the vice-Chair in 2010 hands –off responsibility for the 2011 spring meeting to the incoming vice Chair for 2011.
- Once have a matrix put together, incorporate into a Operating Plan so not reinventing the wheel
- Joe Lowe will become the Vice Chair for 2010.
- Awards: Due February 15th

FPA Committee Report- Gwenan Poirier

Handout

- Analysis cycle will be complete April 15th
- New Committee Chair will be Reeve Armstrong (BIA)
- Interagency Guidance was released by EOG (Executive Oversight Group) for FPA.
- Changes in guidance includes: April 15th due date, review requirement, keep cooperator resources at current level, even in plus options, at minus options required to consider reducing cooperator resources. Two new performance metrics; now 7. Last change; model keeps leadership consistent so that model is moved by producers.
- FPA isn't going to show significant results by adding the 20% to the producer budget (the line resources) following the current rules.
- Changing the dollar amount to line resources isn't going to show changes in IA success in the model. The model isn't sensitive to that.
- EOG met in November with a couple of FPUs in Nevada. Was the first time that EOG had talked directly to an FPU. They heard huge work load for something that is not applied to the field level.
- EOG met with the GA leads for the first time in October. They heard about the additional work load.
- DOI Fire Directors have tasked the Interagency Fire Planning Committee with coming up with recommendation of putting additional fire planners in the field. Will help field and geographic area with the model. Currently planers are collateral.
- They didn't realize there weren't planners in every FPU.
- Line officers have disengaged because of the continual changes in models used.
- To get change to happen, need to get the line officers involved at geographic and local level. Hard to get them involved if they do not know how the model is going to be used.
- Over 100 million has been spent on FPA.
- Utility at national level, or bureau or agency level. Not a useful model for the field. Did create collaboration at the field level.

New Block wording:

Block: Any group member may “block” a proposal. In most models, a single block is sufficient to stop a proposal, although some measures of consensus may require more than one block (see following section). Blocks are generally considered to be an extreme measure, only used when a member feels a proposal “endanger(s)” the organization or its participants, or violate(s) the mission of the organization (i.e., a principled objection). Should a block occur, the group will move the item back to the floor for reconsideration. If the item cannot be resolved after reconsideration, it may be moved to the Executive Coordination Group.

BIN ITEMS

1. Capture decisions in notes in coordination with Business Manager. Summary section of the decisions in one spot.
2. Improve “Block” verbiage. (Completed) Is everyone okay? Yes
3. Review roles and responsibilities of Vice Chair regarding Spring Meeting.
4. Determine whether team terminology was submitted to NMAC (long vs. standard).

TASK ITEMS

1. Letters to Agency Administrators with thanks, tie-in with national succession effort, quantify success, RMCG→Execs→AA's. (Mark)
- 1a. Task Ops Group with quantifying success of recruitment strategy (for letter) (Chuck).
2. Distribute Ops Group Action Log (Jim has will distribute)
3. Need other committees do the same thing. (Liaisons)
4. Clarify GATR role in Mob Guide (Jim)
5. Ensure each charter includes page 348 verbiage for Vice Chair to distribute.
6. Task Ops Group to complete item 5 (above).
7. Both Ops and RMCG to include Spring Meeting in recurring Action Log.(Debbie and Wendy)
8. Formalize Spring Meeting Protocol (Bill)
9. IC letter of expectation (Dave Carter).
10. Task Ops Group to clean up Team rosters (Chuck)
11. Develop Operating Plan

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Bin Items- Jim

Fire Business Management Committee-Janell Ray (on phone)

- 2010 Action Plan submitted to Bill Ott for signature.
- New Buying Team Coordinator- Tom Underwood R4 USFS.
- Finance Committee will also have a letter of expectations to ICs (after February meeting).
- Will have Finance Section Chiefs conference calls throughout the season.
- Working on standard operating guidelines; from chair to chair etc.
- Finance update and refresher for teams in the GACs.
- Working on improving communications between committees.
- Did review charter in October and still valid.

Shade Hill Fire Exercise- Joe Lowe

- Live fire exercise at Lemon South Dakota; collaborative event.
- Looking for additional funding or in kind items.
- Looking for some additional instructors or resources.
- Possibly look at interagency fire cache.
- Goal is to put the class room knowledge on the ground.
- Look at putting various interagency training exercises on RMCG web site.

Information/Education Committee/ Geographic Wide Agreement-Sheryl Page and Ron Gram

- Ron is the incoming chair.
- Had three conference calls and one face to face meeting. Decided to go quarterly because it worked best for everyone's schedules.

- Lynn Barkly sitting in on Ops Committee as point of contact to help with PIO selections for 420/520.
- Working on area wide PSA; Learn Before You Burn.
- Over \$8,000 have gone into the project from multiple agencies.
- First installment is a 15, 30 and 60 second radio PSA in multiple formats.
- Video PSA is taking more time and funding.
- Biggest cost is getting it into different media formats.
- RMA Prevention/Education Teams: Had one ordered in March did a lot of good contacts in southern CO. Sent a Team to Washington State to work on some arson issues.
- Working on ways to get trainees experience on teams.
- Fire Prevention Team Member course at the Nebraska Wildland Fire Academy April 12th through the 16th.
- Revised charter with minor changes.
- Have vacancies on committee. No participation from SD and CO State. Joe will talk to Beth. Rich will look into getting someone. FWS, Lori Iverson from Wyoming.
- Lynn Barkly will be Vice Chair.
- RMCG is requesting constant language on distribution of minutes.
- Learn Before You Burn; debris burning has come up quite a bit. Besides misc category, debris burning comes up the most. Have had fatalities with debris burning.
- Committees to tie into is the Fire and Fuels and the Bark Beetle.
- Master Agreements; speak to interagency cooperation

Task: Future interface issues will be put in task form.

Issue Paper: looking for RMCG to go with standard use of Smokey image in ad campaigns. Action would be a letter from RMCG to the National Prevention Coordinator (not NASF or the Ad Council). Another route would be going through NASF via the Western State Fire Managers to Western State Foresters. A multi prod attack.

- Change the wording "These recommendation would be provided to the Ad Council and NASF through the National Prevention Coordinator" to the other entities.
- Will be in a formal letter and a draft will be provided to RMCG.
- Update on Colorado Statewide Agreement Process. No change in format but a lot of changes in wording. Will go through legal review before back to folks to sign.
- For Colorado Agreement going to fill in the draft format where they can and leave blank where there is going to be standardized national language.
- Area Wide Agreement: Template came out with a Geographic Area Agreement and everything was tier off of that.
- Put the topic of Area Wide Agreements on Spring Agenda.
- RMCG requested a briefing paper on these issues.
- Have three levels of agreements, may need to look at side by side.
- Each State agreement is with a Federal Agency, not a State to State.
- Be sure to get appropriate documentation well in advance of Spring Meeting so RMCG members can review.
- Get word out that current template is a draft. Continue as is with operating plans.

Training Committee-Bill Waln (on phone)

- Update on normal business of managing the nomination process within the RMA working with Kim Bang and the RM training center setting up courses and developing training needs analysis in the fall.
- Continue to see a decline in the number of 300 and to 500 nominations for training courses within the Region.
- Training Committee continued to work on the MOUs that RMCG has in place with non-member agency training providers. What prompted this was a change in the language of the field manager's course guide. If you are a non-NWCG member agency you can not issue a certificate of completion with the NWCG logo on it.
- Looked at several of the MOUs and developed some recommendations for RMCG to go. In the mean time a new iteration of the field manager's course guide came out with change of language basically back to where we were previously. Non-NWCG member agency can issue a certificate with the NWCG logo on it as long as there is a MOU in place.
- Now identifying all the MOUs in place and standardize the language and coming out with a template.
- Finding a lot of folks are providing training and issuing certificates with the NWCG logo and not having an MOU with RMCG.
- Chair of RMCG signs MOU. May have to have a sponsoring agency sign. Chair only has authority for their agency.
- Carries more weight with a specific agency.
- Update language in Charter with regards to 420/520 candidates. Need to include wording on reviewing charter annually.

Fuels & Fire Use Committee-Paul Langowski (on phone)

- Overview of 2009, 2010 and few items that are extra outside the committee.
- 2009 primary activity was the three day burn boss workshop; emphasis was on fire policy and fire behavior.
- Second major activity was the tasking from RMCG along with Ops and Geospatial Committee to work out some decision support protocol. Agreed on training and experience for WFDSS and point of contacts for agencies. Worked with RMACC on dispatching protocol for the decision support group. Intended for local level type 3 incidents. Not type 1 or 2.
- Don't have any recommended changes to the protocols since they really didn't get tested in 2009.
- 2010 looking at Area Wide Workshop in Denver. Have teleconference capabilities this year to allow remote delivery of workshop.
- Starting this spring will be working on a charter revision. Looking at changing of leadership language. Also see changes in terminology from the National Fire Policy. Will bring revision to RMCG sometime this year.
- Need to add language with regards to reviewing charter annually and recommendation to RMCG for consideration and approval.
- Outside items related to WFDSS. Currently working with agency points of contact to come up with an interagency training schedule. With a concentration on decision making.

- Scheduled sometime between April to June.
- Collaborating with EGB to put on a WFDSS fire behavior training. One session in Salt Lake one in Denver. For fire behavior specialist.
- Concern that Burn Boss workshop this year was heavy on the science side and light on the operational aspects. Asked to look at that next year and have more of a balance.

Bark Beetle Update-Steve Gage

- Overview of strategic plan; branch directors have been identified and working on organizational chart.
- Did a data download with current IMT.
- Have accepted delegation of authority.
- Assumptions: Region is coming up with funding source and budget. Forest would continue to do the NEPA work. Existing IMT would be blended into the IM organization. When people are assigned to the IMO that is their primary function.
- Looked at dispatch protocols and resource ordering.
- Have an internal web site and a Google earth application to see where they are assigned.
- Used Theater of Operation concept. Put a dome over the forests and removed boundaries. Just looked at functional areas i.e. a roads branch, a recreation branch, community protection branch, hazardous fuels branch,
- Have an IMO where have the flexibility the same as an IMT.
- Have management objectives. Wanted to develop 5 task forces: 1. Fire management protocols, 2. Operational risk management group 3. Communications group 4. Training opportunities 5. Finance/Admin group.
- Timelines: Branches come together first part of February to populate work plans.
- Working on first draft of IAP.
- Developed a Bin Item list.
- How do we get the word out to the other non-fire players.
- Any of the people tasked to Bark Beetle incident on any of our teams? Don't believe any of them have red card qualifications.
- Discussion on engagement with State Agencies and previous lack thereof.
- Once strategic plan is in place, turn it back over to the Region.
- Original time line was to turn this back over to the Region in February. More likely March or April.

Geospatial Technology Committee-Elise Bowne

- Got charter approved. Have new representative from BLM Wyoming. Still looking for representative from BIA.
- Been concentrating on geospatial enabling the MAC group meetings.
- Got things up and running smoothly but not much exercise this year.
- Did do some hard ware and soft ware upgrades and some procedural runs. Plus wrote a manual for a GIS person.
- Did schedule some training to increase depth of folks with capabilities.
- Did some minimal support for Wildland Fire Decision Support System.
- Continue to facilitate the flow of information from this group to the GAC and between GACs.
- Did get extension approved through the BLM

- Working on developing a web site for RM with location of fires and get incident information. Help facilitate briefings.
- Goal for next year is get a representative from BIA on the committee. Ideally would like to get someone with a geospatial background but at least someone with an understanding of the interworking of the BIA.
- Working on getting the Rocky Mountain Incident Reporting System web site finished. Goal is to have it up and running by April.
- Working on distributing minutes and posting on RM web site.
- Have quite a bit of GAC level geospatial data on an external hard drive. Thinking about posting them so that others will have access.

Tasking for Geospatial Committee: May try to contact NIMO group to see if can share data.

Executives Perspectives/Leader's Intent-Jeff Jahnke

- Here for dialog and discourse. Want to share his impression of Executive Committee effort over the last three years. What he thinks the execs expect.
- History: Fall of 2007, several of the Executives began to worry about the number of overhead teams and the ability to staff them. With the discussion of overhead teams and the size of teams, the Executives tasked RMCG to come up with a succession strategy.
- After much discussion amongst the Executives, they agreed there would not be a chartered executive group. Agreed that there needed to be someone as a connection between the Executives and RMCG. That was formalized in the RMCG charter. There is not a chartered Executive group or a RMCG Executive Leadership charter or board.
- First expectation of the Executives is safety. The expectation is that we have the safest operation in Region 2 or anywhere in the country.
- One of the biggest realizations we had at the Fall Meeting; communication, communications, communications. The drive to develop a chartered execs group was because some of the execs felt they were not in the loop internally (between the Executives and their RMCG representative). The Executives realize that when the ball stops rolling it's going to be on their desk. They just want to be engaged enough to have some confidence in what's going on.
- Don't want decisions pushed upward to where (they) the people asked to make the decision don't have enough or as good of information to make the decision as you do (RMCG).
- Executives are not asking for a lot of decision making. But are asked to be in the loop. If asked to make the decision they are going to ask for the staff work why should we make this decision and what is it based on. The Executives do expect to be in the loop and asked about the really big decisions. Risk decisions need to be made at the right level. For everyone, around the table, the right level is going to be different. Everyone should have a discussion with their Executive on what kind of decisions they are comfortable with you making and what kind of decisions they expect to be making. Really need to have a sense of when to engage the next level up.
- Another thing the Executives felt strongly about is that this group (RMCG) is not a voting group. The reason being everyone in the group has a different set of authorities they are operating under and no one comes here empowered to negotiate those authorities. Everybody (of the Executives) is comfortable with the makeup of RMCG as long as it not a voting body. My (Jeff's) take is more fundamental. I don't have the authority to give up my authorities by a vote. Nothing wrong with taking straw polls, but decisions have to be either consensus decision or they have to decide on something that is consistent with the authorities.

- Sent around a request for everybody (of the Execs) to give him some feedback and only got one. I accept that that represents some of the problems you all have with engaging with your execs in your efforts and I'm frustrated with it. Did get some feedback that said "be sure we learn from our mistakes". It wasn't specific. They were clear to say both operationally and organizationally. Be adaptive to the changing wildland fire business.
- The Executives are not looking for monumental changes except when it comes to adapting and learning from mistakes. The Executives are happy with how RMCG is working. He sought out complaints and didn't hear any. There was some concern that RMCG wasn't looking at staffing overhead teams. You will probably see Executives talking more (amongst themselves) but not in a formalized way.
- The Executives are committed to providing the support you all need. The exercise (the consideration of an Executive charter) did make them aware that they need to be engaged.
- Safety; that's what is driving the interest of the execs.
- Two of the big ones: Aviation is always a safety concern. With both extent and condition of the Mountain Pine Beetle killed timber; snags and falling trees are going to be a huge hazard. I expect they will influence everything from the initial dispatch to the time the fire is unstaffed.
- Been engaged in some safety reviews. We have great tools but always have to be using them.
- NASF: several things are going to work their way down to the GAC level. Have not resolved this constant tension that came out of OIG, GAO, OMB, and the previous administration about who is responsible for what both in terms of action and the dollar. We haven't solved that yet. The question about who has what authorities on a going incident still hasn't been resolved. At the national level the Flame Act, which set up the Flame Fund, called for cohesive strategy by the end of this year. There are a lot of people that have come together to try and identify some national framework on how we can all work together.
- What NASF, at the leadership level, believes is that you set up a frame work to resolve issues at the state or geographic level. There won't be a national solution.
- Not going to get a single solution for everything. Need to set up a framework with some themes and some guidance. It's going to be multi agency including local government and agencies.
- Location of National Air Tanker base is on the horizon.
- Engaging partners earlier on in the planning has got to happen. Two types of fire and the use of WFDSS is an elegant one but can't work in a vacuum. Learning how to plan together at a much earlier time is critical.
- All Hazard Incidents for IMTs are we going to get more roped into the all hazard arena? We need to sit down with the Fire Administration, with FEMA, and DHS to figure that out. How do we pay for resources, what authorities to use these resources needs to be determined.
- Going to have to figure out how to interface with the Type 3 Teams All Hazard incidents.

AAR on Federal Fire Policy-Kelly Kane

- Implementation Strategy for the Federal Wildland Fire Policy After Action Review
- Group was brought together to identify with some of the strength and weakness of the Strategy
- Hand out: the recommendations compiled in an action plan.
- One of the biggest items was getting common terminology.
- One of the good things that came out was that land management plans into our fire management strategies
- Recognized the need for training for WFDSS.
- Clarifying the role of IMTs in the WFDSS process.

- Determining fire complexity. Just because a fire is being managed for multiple objectives does not mean it is a lower complexity fire.
- See greater utilization of Type 3 Teams.
- Meeting with cooperators and partners pre-season to have an understanding on how to work out with them how to manage fires for multiple objectives.
- Tasking Memorandum to the chair of the fire policy committee with regards to consistent terminology.

Dispatch Committee Update-Jim Fletcher

- Date for MAC exercise, first week of May. May 5th.
- Front Range Exercise; NIMO team May 26th
- Make sure that staffers in the Secretaries Office know about our MAC exercise so they understand how we are going to handle issues in the dead forest.
- Coordinate with NIFC DOI on MAC exercise. (Jim) May be a better fit for May 26th exercise.
- Dispatch Committee not chartered under RMCG. Jim handed out the Northern Rockies Dispatch Committee charter. The model in which we are attempting to follow. Jim will be the liaison to the RMCG, RMCC and the dispatch center managers.
- There is a group tasked to modify the Northern Rockies Charter to fit Rocky Mountain.
- Zone board and how does RMCG interact with them. Currently have a liaison to each of the boards.
- All of the boards would appreciate more guidance. In particular what service RMCG expects them to deliver and work load analysis.
- Zone boards: topic for Spring Meeting for RMCG to define expectations.
- Interim Fire Reporting: there is direction out. There is going to be a workload involved.
- Snapshot on reporting requirements.
- Unit Ids; Need help getting the message to NWCG that this needs to be coordinated.
- Will frame the issue through Dan Smith.
- Look at bring John Steel for presentation at Spring Meeting for RMCG.

RMCG General Business- Wendy Hall

- Posting of notes: 1 week after conference call to get out; 1 week for review. For Regular Meetings out in 10 days/review for 10 days.
- Look at Joyce's model for note taking.
- Summary of actions, and decisions.
- Getting issue papers out in a timely matter; put email out reminding that issue papers need to be in 2 weeks prior to meeting.