

Northern Rockies Dispatcher Workshop

March 6th 2012

Welcome, Introductions

Dispatcher of the Year: Joy Williamson, Assistant Aircraft Dispatcher, Missoula Interagency Dispatch

I. NAC Update

- 35 crews +/- for BIA
 - N Cheyenne within MCC Dispatch this season. The change is primarily due to aviation safety
- All agencies can field at least one type 2 IA crew. Type 2 IA crew requests are negatively affecting the NAC program.
- 2012 NAC Plan is in the final stages of review.

II. Smokejumper Updates (powerpoint)

- 450 smokejumpers in the US
- 9 bases nationwide -3 in R1
- Jumpers are available for IA, overhead, blasting, Search and Rescue, etc.
- Blasting/FLE ordering cheat sheet available soon
- Modular to configure as helitack, vehicles, hiking-not necessarily jump restricted
- ICT3, EMT's available on every load; self-sufficient for 3 days food/water
- Canadian jumpers; driving down most efficient transport. Were dispersed throughout the Region into fairly seamless integration/augmentation of resources. Extended for a total of two 14 day boosts.
- Smokejumper User Guide is available

III. Mobilization Guide Updates

- Comments for all chapters except chapter 50 are due April 1
- Chapter 50 updates are due April 15th
- Email updates to Alyssa Stewart- astewart@mt.gov
- Language changes submit to Alyssa
- SOP changes to Alyssa to forward to managers for discussion
- Headers and footers with page numbers and date will be added; everything except appendices

IV. NRCG Committee Reps.

- Carol Bienhold- Training
 - Paul Fieldhouse ret. Job is being flown.
 - Support dispatcher is a requirement for IFPM
 - Which 'D' courses are needed, where and when. Center Managers will discuss D course needs during the breakout today

- Reduce instructors' per diem by utilizing the AFD dormitory (\$10/night)
- Plan ahead for staffing-review the Synopsis, we have several vacancies in the gacc.
- D510 is only hosting 1 class... numbers are down this year
- Kim Thomas- Aviation
 - Gary Weber, CDC, is taking over for Kim as the dispatch rep on the aviation committee.
- Ann Speer-Equipment
 - No report
- Chris Accetturo –Prevention
 - Shannon Bonney is taking over as the dispatch rep on prevention committee.
 - Conference call coming up, any input - sbonney@blm.gov
- Raymond Nelson – Native American Crews (NAC)
 - Robert mentioned 35 crews/ Type 2 IA crews from all agencies are available
 - When order is placed, a CREP usually came with 2 crews. **Ask for a CREP**
 - IARR is taking over CREP role
 - If boots are no longer covered, does the commissary come back into play? Should be handled at the home unit. Shouldn't leave home unit without proper PPE.
 - Suppression or project funds for boots? Home unit should cover boots, home unit suppression dollars, not the incident's budget
 - Haven't had a NAC meeting in several years-long overdue, a meeting needs to be scheduled.
 - Open orders for crews, IC's are overlooking Type 2 crews in favor of Type 2 IA crews
 - Crews can be broken up into modules to meet the needs of the incident
 - T2 IA crews are being used by the teams incorrectly-should be kept for IA, not just mopup
 - Order up IA MODULES to facilitate proper use; red carded IC, self-sufficient, etc.
 - ROSS - resource items – the agencies should list IA modules for availability
 - We need good contact numbers for sending unit, CRWB, CREP and for the receiving.
 - Disciplinary actions were 3 levels, now changed to 2 levels
 - Send needs, concerns, feedback to the crew desk at NRCC and to the NAC Rep.
 - **Crews need to come prepared we no longer have commissary.**
- Tony Lubke – Incident Business
 - New Incident Business Management handbooks are at the printers
 - Buying team applications are re-open until Friday March 9th
 - S-260 online good for firefighters; S260 and S261 in person are better for finance positions
 - Online S260 training should be done soon before the handbook changes
- Mark Heppler – Operations
 - New electronic application process; 1 type 1 team and 1 wildland fire management team had to reapply

- The R1-R3 agreement; isn't applicable to the teams
- No major changes to the operating plan
- Judy, NRCC, Send copies of the team rosters to each dispatch center
- Team meeting & travel – who needs to attend the meeting(s). C&GS and ultimately the ICs call.
- AD travel comes out a national code
- Team meetings – command and general staff
 - ▲ AD's fill a role on the team – if the team wants them at the meeting, there are no restrictions
- S420 in the field will happen in 2012 (fire season dependent) nominations are out, if there are additional nominees please advise Kitty Ortman.
- Kitty will coordinate instructors for S420 and get lists of students and instructors out to the zones, students will need THSP on their red cards.

V. Jet Transport/Loadmaster/Contract Aircraft

- Jesse Johnson – TSA, Ramp Safety & Security (1-866-GA-Secure)
 - 8 personnel; police/EMS/aircraft firefighting
 - FAA, TSA compliant
 - Contact Public Safety **(406) 329-8661**, law enforcement and **9-1-1** about questionable activity
- NIC Jet
 - Sierra Pacific contract ended; July 1st contract will be awarded for 1 jet minimum 60 passengers. It will be a FS contract.
 - ▲ Amount of people transported has gone down due to the lack of use of type 2 crews
 - 60 person jet might be most efficient method determined by usage
 - Still possible to charter a larger aircraft if needed, though charter contractors are less available
 - Contractors are less available due to other obligations
 - Flexibility is key – cost analysis vs. prudence
 - Crew weights – 5300 lbs per crew some crews are over; newer jets may handle heavier crews. Density altitude plays into takeoff performance
 - Reminder to keep drivers at the load point until crews take off in case the order is cancelled or personnel or gear are off loaded due to weight

VI. Center Manager General Session

- D course needs were discussed. The CM agreed to conduct **D-311**, Initial Attack Dispatcher, in March or April next spring. Kitty recommended April due to the Dispatcher Workshop, Training Committee meeting and the IMT meeting in March. Note: the IMT meeting may be pushed back until April. **We need to determine dates as soon as possible.**
- GVC offered an instructor
- Promote VTC or “Go To Meeting” in future. Review pros and cons of this session
- CMs would like more information flow between NRCG and NRCC and the Dispatch

Center. No NRCC rep was present so there wasn't an opportunity to discuss specific issues.

- Judy had just been on a national conference call. The SWA, RM and Great Basin will use the new naming convention for frequencies.
- IDOP/IDIP are still being used to address workload for FIREORG. FIREORG is weak in supporting our dispatch functions because it is fire only.
- Rental vehicles for ADs is still an issue as well as Agency employees without travel cards. Rentals must be acquired through DNRC agreement locally or SATO for out-of-areas for coverage purposes.
- The SWA is considering 2 supercenters, 1 in New Mexico and 1 in Arizona. They will include law enforcement. Centers are categorized by service no longer by the number of levels away from NICC.
- ROSS Practice on Wednesday is still desirable. We need to practice inter-gacc, train new militia, and address complex orders for aviation and competitive solicitation equipment. May wait until mid- late- April for seasonal workforce.

VII. IHC Update

- Chris Smith
 - 2011 season – Great help coordinating dispatches
 - Days assembled -156 days
 - Days assigned - 91
 - Average 14 day tours – 5
 - IHC Superintendents
 - ▲ Bitterroot – Jay Wood
 - ▲ Chief Mountain – Lyle Goddard
 - ▲ Flathead – Harvey Carr retired – no replacement selected yet
 - ▲ Helena – Fred Thompson
 - ▲ Idaho Panhandle – Chris Smith
 - ▲ L&C – Vacant
 - ▲ Lolo - Tim Laroche
 - Most crews were running with 22 – tightening back to 20
 - Vehicle standardization among IHC's
 - Great Northern; Mike King (BRF) will detail as Crew Boss

VIII. DNRC Radio/Communications/ A/G Frequencies (powerpoint)

- DNRC only has 3 state-wide TAC frequencies. The frequencies can not be assigned to a zone single function. Use Zone frequencies or resource ordered frequencies for ongoing incident air-to-ground.
- **Exclusion zones** separate out where A/G cannot be used (see power point map). DNRC radio techs manage for this on a local level.
- DNRC needs to send out their **repeater site map**

IX. NRCC Updates

- March 19th, NRCC Center Manager closes in Avue. GS-12/13
- Aircraft (misc. handouts)

- Frequency guides should be done by end of March
- SEAT's **can** reload in Missoula for 2012
- ROSS CWN aircraft orders. In documentation, identify which contract (AMD or FS) the vendor was hired under (the parent agency).
- New commit / un-commit message directions including mailing list will be out this spring
- FAO meeting – TFR in your zone, check in with military training zone scheduler daily
- Retardant drops not allowed in certain areas – more direction on the way
- DOI direction on hiring best value aircraft – plan ahead and accordingly
- DNRC Appendix S were all submitted, good job – please continue to submit Appendix S to NRCC via email or fax as needed
- Tickler list updated for air attack orders to be more specific – pressurized? TCAS? High wing? Etc.
- R1 will issue a letter stating that COE can agine reload lg airtanks.
- Crew Desk
 - ▲ shortage of IARR's possibly put on a course by June, NRCC will keep the CMs posted.
 - The home unit dispatch centers can assist crews with meals and lodging while enroute to incidents to increase the number of crews available (help meet sufficiency) - call ahead
 - NICC will require a copy of a crew manifest for crews on the NIC jet. ROSS roster is not sufficient. NRCC will forward the manifest to NICC.
 - Confirm crew weight prior to mobilization or someone may be left on the ramp.
 - If utilizing the NICC jet have the drivers remain on the ramp until the jet is loaded and off the ground. If the crew is overweight or there is a change we want the drivers to be available.
 - IARR's – more than just supporting NAC crews
 - Policy of Northern Rockies is not to extend Type 2 IA crews, language in the mob guide will be updated to say both Type 2 and Type 2 IA crews
- Equipment
 - Heavy equipment/water and water handling DPL's are complete
 - Issues with multiple centers having access to resources. Contract resources were mistakenly assigned by another dispatch zone which impacts DPL use. Make sure dispatchers click on “Local” tab in ROSS.
 - There was a recommendation that NRCC enters the shared contracts. They would log in as the Zone Dispatch Center and enter the contract and vendor information. The Zone Dispatch Center will enter the resource items. **This thought was not finalized.**
 - Resource item page add the community / town of the resource.

X. ROSS Production & Supplies

- Cache
 - ICBS and ROSS interface worked really well

- ROSS owns its database and can assign numbers, ICBS doesn't.
- Numbering blocks should be the same GACC wide – **this was not finalized.**
- The fire issues the replacement number in the 100,000's block
- Try to support an incident with 1 cache
- Replacement items. Prefer to have it done at the incident. If resources aren't available at the incident – put the order in at the incident, the requests can be forwarded to the local cache, or resources can take the order (requisition) home and submit to their own cache. If a resource leaves a fire with a piece of paper for a replacement order, it has to have a 100,000 series number on it.
- UTF closes a request in ICBS but remains open in ROSS, does add auto-documentation
- Memo from NRK will be sent out addressing numbering issues
- Encourage you IMT SPUL and ORDMs to come into their dispatch centers and become familiar with the process.
- If need assign an EDS to the IMT.

XI. Intelligence & ROSS reports/updates

- Beth Greycloud plans to conduct ROSS historical reports training –Lakewood, CO Apr 24-26 Sacramento, CA May 9-11.
- A lot is happening in the Community Reports area. Many reports are being consolidated. Must go in and rebuild any current scheduled reports.
- Roster engines/helicopters in ROSS rather than listing overhead in documentation for improved statistics for FIREORG and IQCS/IQS updates
- SIT/209
 - May-Oct **SIT is due daily by 1900**; reminder: enter updates in year-to-date, not current date
 - 209's
 - ▲ Strategies have changed. Check the National Mobilization Guide
 - monitor
 - confine
 - point/zone
 - full suppression
 - ▲ WFDSS can populate about 12 fields in a 209 now
 - ▲ Review chart on when to report wildland fires (IMT, NSR, significant change or event, large fire, full suppression)
 - ▲ Teams and FMO's can request a username/password pre-season on the FAMWEB page, contact Julie to reset passwords
 - ▲ June rollout for online FAMWEB SIT209
- Intel training held off until 2013 to incorporate SIT209