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Tuesday April 6, 2021 General Session

Welcome and Introductions – Josh Harvey

- Welcome and a reminder that this is a public meeting for the purpose of conducting government business.

National Update and Report – Aitor Bidaburu

- NMAC last week moved to PL 2.
- NICC will begin issuing daily SIT reports Monday through Friday.
- Are still seeing quite a few ESF4 response orders for Covid Support.
- IMRR Group is forming its recommendations. Should be delivering some of those to NMAC here shortly.
 - Effort began as a need to keep IMTs and functional areas informed.
- Long Term Detail positions for NMAC members have ended. Will have one retirement approaching at the end of June.
- Plans are going forward regarding surge aircraft this year. Includes both fixed wing and helicopters.
 - Type 2 helicopters will be reverting to pre-surge numbers.

Northern Rockies Operations Spring Report – Corey Buhl

- May have up to 20 of surge aircraft in the Northern Rockies this year.
- Will have six IHC USFS crews that will do staggered starts.
- Other agency IHCs will also have staggered starts.
- Smokejumpers should have a load available by mid-May.
- Each base will conduct rookie training separately.
- For Missoula Smokejumper base, the goal is to have 70 jumpers and a couple of aircraft by June 11th.
- Grangeville is planning on having 28 jumpers for this season.
- Proposal for providing support to the NR Operations position – Recommendation to bring operations individuals from each agency into a pool to pull from when needed.
 - Greg Morris – A Delegation of Authority (DoA) would be needed for this to occur. Also, are there any primary qualifications that are needed?
 - Corey Buhl – Could add a statement to the existing DoA and attach the list of names.
 - Ralph Rau – Appreciate the approach to build depth within each agency.
- **Action Item: Corey Buhl will draft a modification to the existing NR Operations position Delegation of Authority and include an attached list of pool names comprised of submitted agency individuals for BOD review prior to the May meeting.**

NRCC Spring Report – Kathy Pipkin

- Year to Date Fire Statistics for the Northern Rockies – 635 fires 70,062 acres.
 - Are seeing the effects of the drought in the eastern portions.
 - For reference (at this time) in years past:
 - 2019 - 98 fires for 2,201 acres.
 - 2020 – 300 fires for 9,741 acres.

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- Horse Pasture – 5000 acres 45% contained; fire behavior remains active. May be looking at night burnout operations. No critical resource needs currently. Currently no Red Flag warnings in effect right now.
 - Attempting to formalize the mobilization guide update process.
 - Working on a form to request changes. Would then ensure it goes through the appropriate NRCG committee for vetting. Hope to submit for the May meeting.
 - Dispatch Steering Committee NRCG Liaison needs to be identified.
 - Steve Holton – Will be happy to serve in this capacity and would request some guidance and direction regarding expectations and needs.
 - Kathy Pipkin will contact Steve Holton direct.
 - Will have the Dispatcher’s Workshop virtual this year.
 - Dispatch Review Committee continues to meet weekly. Will be beginning interviews and then compiling recommendations.
 - Staffing:
 - Meteorologist position – recommending panel has met and put forth names.
 - Assistant Aircraft Coordinator – tentative offer accepted.
 - Assistant Center Manager – announcement has closed and are awaiting a referral list.
 - Advertised for a temporary from FWS; however, have not had any success. Are looking for solutions.
 - Will be down three positions. Currently do not have enough staff to cover all of the desks seven days a week. Almost every dispatch office in the GACC is in the same situation. May have a difficult time bringing in dispatchers during critical times.
 - Barriers to staffing exist within each agency.
 - Also, there are challenges in establishing interagency agreements for staffing support.
 - Availability of qualified individuals is also a challenge.
 - Working on a Year End Report and hope to share at the May meeting.

Northern Rockies Contracting Update – Ryan Patrick

- Have hired a Contract Specialist; appreciated the interagency support with the hiring panel.
- Continuing to work with approximately 40 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) training providers to get information and updates distributed.
 - Does seem to be a lack of training providers in Northwestern Montana. Are looking for solutions currently.
 - Have had two successful contractor meetings conducted so far. Were able to record these meetings.
 - Worked with the new Equipment Acquisition Group within the Forest Service. They put on four vendor engagement meetings as well.
 - Are starting the technical evaluation process for solicitations that are out there this year.
 - Appreciate agreement with DNRC to bring on short term workers to assist with this process.

NRTC Update and Trainee Priorities – Melissa Wegner

- Have presented courses to 604 students; are not through the training season yet. 420 was very successful.
- Delivered these on multiple platforms.
- Completed ATGS refresher in a semi-in person.
- Very appreciative of all the work and effort that the staff put in to accomplish these results.
- Needs Analysis is not out yet. Unable to accomplish this item with current staffing as of yet. Has not changed much in the last few years.
- Will continue IMT support with a focus on finance this year.
- Priority Trainee applications are open until April 23rd.
- S-520 nominations are due April 30th.
- Will be assisting with the MAC simulation effort.

NRK Spring Update – Anthony Krause

- Are well supplied currently.
- Resupply and deliveries may be an issue in the near future.
 - Hose and pump parts may be particularly challenging.
- Issues with national contracting support and the implications.
 - Transition to National Contracting support has been challenging.
 - Are working on delivery contracts; however, nothing in place as of yet.
 - Nothing in place for phone batteries or oil. Solutions are being explored.
- Are well stocked for Covid equipment and supplies.
- Did hire two new individuals this year; will be fully staffed on the floor for this season.

NRCG Financial Plan – Ryan Patrick

- Are looking to streamline and improve efficiency of this plan.
- Haley Hodge will present revision options.
- (See Presentation)
- Options are fairly broad.
- Did reach out to other Coordinating Groups to see what was working for them as well.
- Mike DeGrosky – Do not support Option #5. Do like the Fair Share approach and open to exploring multiple drivers and metrics.
- Mike Granger – Propose discussion on these options during an Executive Session with only contributing participants present.
- Ralph Rau – Would like to see more information on all options and on how other GACCs operate as well. Appreciate the quality presentation.
- Aaron Thompson – Not in favor of Option #5; like the Hybrid model as well. Support the concept of an executive session discussion.
- Ryan Melin – Disagree with excluding non-contributing agencies.
- Darron Williams – Northwest Coordination center does have significant differences. There are legislative differences with Oregon Department of Forestry. No differentiation on how resources are moved.
- Mike DeGrosky – Think Mike Granger was specifying association members versus agencies that may not have been able to pay their fair share.

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- Josh Harvey – Proposal to have a joint meeting with the WFAAs to discuss these options. Also, think the BOD should make recommendations to the WFAAs.
 - Ralph Rau – Do think there is more work that needs to be accomplished prior to approaching the WFAAs.
 - Aaron Thompson – Agree.
 - Jeni Jeresek - Getting the details for every alternative is a massive workload so it is going to take a while to accomplish.
 - Ralph Rau – Important to take time and ensure this is accomplished accurately.
 - Patrick Lonergan – Support all BOD participation. “Association” designation versus agency does not determine who is part of the cost share.
 - Josh Harvey – Proposal to have a decision regarding associated timeframes at the next BOD meeting.
 - Mike Granger – Agency could not agree to Option #5.
 - Dan Warthin – May be good to provide WFAAs with this situational awareness during Thursday’s session and they may be able to provide some perspective.
 - Haley Hodge – Do have some rough calculations (based on old data) that could provide associated with each option. No changes were made to the “Fair Share”.
 - Josh Harvey – Propose making WFAAs aware of this topic during Thursday’s session and then discussing in depth at May meeting.
 - Ryan Patrick – Feel emphasis needs to be made to identify included positions. (i.e. – safety, IT, smoke monitor).
 - Jordan McKnight – Believe more input from the BOD is needed for this group to proceed further. Task Group could possibly make further proposals to the BOD to flesh out the concepts.
 - Sarah Lee – Task Group needs to know from the BOD which way to go and how to look at the fair share split; then can move out to what is and what is not included.
 - Greg Morris – BOD needs to identify the framework prior to group crunching numbers.
 - Jeni Jeresek – Need BOD to agree to what positions should be included and which options the BOD is more interested in receiving further information.
 - Aaron Thompson – Could the group put forth a survey to each BOD for positions that need to be included in the fair share and opinions on how to identify volume of work?
 - Jeni Jeresek – Could put forth drafts once this data was gathered.
 - Sarah Lee – Willing to construct this survey.
 - Action Item: NRCG Financial Plan Task Group will construct and distribute a survey to each BOD that will identify needed positions and option preferences. Sarah Lee will take the lead on this survey. NRCG will put a placeholder on the May meeting agenda to discuss the results, if results are available by then.

NR IMT Evaluation Form Update – Josh Harvey

- Did solicit feedback from the WFAA group; however, only received minimal feedback.
- Were no suggestions or edits.
- Vote Conducted:
 - BIA GP – Support
 - BIA RM – Support
 - BLM – Support
 - FWS – Support

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- IDL – Support
 - MT DES – Support
 - MT DNRC – Support
 - MT SFCA – Support
 - MT S&POA – Support
 - ND FS – Support
 - NPS – Support
 - USFS – Support
 - Vote Approved – unanimous consent.
 - Action Item: Kathy Pipkin will finalize the updated NR IMT Evaluation form and it will be posted to the NRCC website.

Hand Crew Proposal – Andy Schell

- See proposal in the pre-reading materials.
- Proposal to reduce minimal staffing of hand crews for dispatching within the Northern Rockies from 18 to 15 in the Northern Rockies.
- Aaron Thompson – Support this proposal. BLM is an agency that is allowing this nationwide.
- Kathy Pipkin – Did work direct last year with individual dispatch centers to mobilize less individuals as suppression modules last year. This would be for mobilization within the GACC.
- Vote Conducted:
 - BIA GP – Support
 - BIA RM – Support
 - BLM – Support
 - FWS – Support
 - IDL – Support
 - MT DES – Support
 - MT DNRC – Support
 - MT SFCA – Support
 - MT S&POA – Support
 - ND FS – Support
 - NPS – Support; although, noted that NPS is one of the agencies that has not lowered the standards on this item.
 - USFS - Support
- Vote Approved – unanimous consent.
 - Action Item: Josh Harvey will draft a NRCG memo reflecting the allowance of 15-person hand crew mobilization within the Northern Rockies Geographic Area per the specifications put forth in the proposal.

NR IC Vetting Process – Ralph Rau and Rick Connell

- Had the IC committee review and prepare a recommendation on this process.
- Rick Connell – Understanding from the IC committee is that ICs are approached by individuals interested in becoming ICs and then provide appropriate counsel.
- IC Committee agrees that there is a process - home unit issues a task book, assignments and evaluations occur, and the qualification is obtained. Task book process is outside the purview of the NRCG Board to address.

- Also recommended that individuals in the training phase receive an evaluation from the agency administrator they are working for each time.
- IC Committee would then review all these evaluations and make a recommendation on each individual to the Board.
- Staying withing the identified timeline is critical to successful accomplishment of this process.
- Mike DeGrosky – Have run into situations where individual’s agency does not support the individual pursuing the IC position.
- Ralph Rau – Would like to have internal agency conversations with line officers prior to initiating IC task book. Also would like to see current IC for that individual’s team involved in these conversations.
- Rick Connell – Emphasized importance of educating local government entities about the reality of this commitment.
- Mike Granger – Should be having these conversations with perspective ICs and agencies both early and often. Did not see in this proposal if individuals are approached by either an existing IC or their agency to pursue becoming an IC. This avenue needs to be open and provide for this opportunity. Overall feel the process is working; however, needs time to mature.
- Ralph Rau – Did the ICs have a sense of bench depth that was desired?
 - Rick Connell – There were a couple of individuals that were identified as potential applicants in the future. Do have more individuals that are self-identifying lately.
- Aaron Thompson – Felt the process worked very well last year. Concerned that several trainees were approved last year that were not prioritized for a particular team.
 - Rick Connell – Do want to ensure all are provided with a broad spectrum of opportunity. Last year two were not supported by the board; however, they do have a task book and could possibly go out as a trainee. That part did not work well from the process last year.
- Mike Granger – Is the responsibility of the board to consider all aspects of an IC applicant to ensure they represent the GACC at the highest standards.
- Ralph Rau – Important to also recognize that individuals do change. Believe that there is an opportunity to incorporate the ICs into some role in this process. Support the suggestion of the trainee obtaining an evaluation from the agency administrator.
- Mike DeGrosky – Appreciate the feedback regarding incorporating the ICs into this process. Support this incorporation for the future.
- Ralph Rau – Propose incorporating this into the current process. Would like to see any changes in place by the fall.
- Mike Granger – Support incorporating this into the current process. Would like to see a draft for review by the BOD prior to vote.
- Aaron Thompson – Support modifying language for review.
- **Action Item: Ralph Rau will work with Rick Connell to produce revised language incorporating the IC role into the NR IC vetting process for BOD review prior to the May Meeting.**

Action Items Review – Josh Harvey

- Reviewed Action Item listing line by line and made and updates.
- (See Updated Action Item Listing)

Wednesday April 7, 2021 General Session

Operationalizing the Severe Fire Danger Index – Dave Williams and Matt Jolly

- Ralph Rau – Opportunity to increase our situational awareness. Last year, this group agreed to try and implement a new tool; however, that did not occur. Are going to be exploring this opportunity for this year.
- Dave Williams – Please refer to the one-page briefing paper that was distributed in the pre-reading materials.
- Severe Fire Danger Index (SFDI) is a valuable tool that research has developed which will be implemented with a few units within the Northern Rockies this year.
- Matt Jolly – Severe Fire Index Overview
 - (See PowerPoint Presentation)
 - Are Identifying ways to leverage the SFDI and incorporate into situational awareness.
 - Wildfire Safe Application has been in active development over the last year and a half.
 - Application is fully functional and can provide SFDI for the Northern Rockies.
 - <https://wildfiresafe.technosylva.com/>
 - Focus here is on the Unit level – Have set up a series of tables for several units in the Northern Rockies.
 - This information is important because these items tell us about the potential for extreme events.
 - 62% of all entrapments and fatalities occurred on 3% of all the days with similar conditions.
 - To successfully implement this forecasted information, will be necessary to change the culture.
 - Need a new process to inform operational decisions. Must be a partnership between operations and research.
- Dave Williams – Index that was just presented is highly valuable. Approached with the intent to pilot with units that had fire danger plans set up to receive this data. Wanted to ensure steps were taken to ensure all were informed on days that are “severe.” ICs in the field will be notified and requested to take a pause at 1200 hours to process the information. There is a link in the one-page briefing paper to the research paper describing SFDI in depth.
- Kevin Pfister – How far in advance is this data available?
 - Matt Jolly – Lead time is generally the day before, after 1430. Do have a seven-day forecast in WIMS now as well. Also, the National Weather Service does have the ability to update the forecast on the night shift, so that would be captured early that morning.
- Mike Granger – Culture needs to understand that this is an item that can identify days that are “different”.
- Greg Morris – Suggestion to begin this process at the “very high” level, rather than the “severe” due to the infrequency of occurrence. Do not wish to see this as a tool that is never taken out of the drawer. Do feel that it is useful at the lower level.
- Rick Connell – Data for NFDRS plan is limited to the last 10 years. Will that influence those peak days being identified as more prevalent?
 - Matt Jolly – Would produce the opposite; would have less days identified as severe. It is actually better to utilize the 10-year data set.
- Aaron Thompson – Are any of the Dispatch centers east of Helena identified as test centers?

- Dave Williams – Furthest east currently is Bozeman. Not all units are in a place where they can produce this product yet.
- Matt Jolly – Spatial forecast is available for all units. Are attempting with this to anchored back to real planning documents with the RAWs station and implement with the Fire Danger Operating Plans.
- Mike Granger – Would like to see a pilot on the east side as well.
- Matt Jolly – Are attempting to avoid “Fire Danger Fatigue”. Challenge is how to take “good information” and make it part of business.

Covid Coordination – Ralph Rau

- Need to have a discussion on this for this year.
- Last year each of the zones had a coordinator.
- Also last year, the NR Operations Position set up a COVID Support Group.
- What needs to be done in terms of coordination for this year?
- Kathy Pipkin – Can assist Corey with resurrecting what was done last year and check availability of team members from last year.
- Corey Buhl – Question if what was done last year was valuable and how was it utilized by the zones?
- Kathy Pipkin – Can adjust the number of individuals associated with this year as well.
- Greg Morris - It was not clear to me what they were working on, as few updates went out. Think its valuable; but, need a better communications plan and to know what they are actually doing.
- Aaron Thompson – Having Dr. Harry Sibold available to support the IMTs was truly valuable. Also, there was value in the “masks” memo that was distributed.
- Kathy Pipkin – Felt there was value provided from the group throughout the whole duration. Agree the communications need to be improved.
- Action Item: Corey Buhl will reach out to the former Covid Support group members and the units within the GACC in an effort to ready stand up of this group, if needed. He will provide an update on this effort at the May meeting. Goal of June 1st to have all the information in place.
- Greg Morris – Request clarification on how these individuals were paid?
 - Kathy Pipkin – They were paid off the NRCG Cost Share Support.
- Action Item: Corey Buhl will provide Ralph Rau with a written paragraph on this topic for the Out of Area Team Briefing letter.

Clarification – Incoming Crews to GACC – Minimum Staffing Question – Kathy Pipkin

- Kathy Pipkin - Will yesterday’s vote also be a blanket acceptance of 15 for incoming crews into the GACC?
- Mike Granger – Support this for consistency purposes.
- Aaron Thompson – Also support.
- Josh Harvey – Is there a concern that this will cause ICs to order additional crews, due to the reduced number of individuals?
- Mike Granger – Believe this would be minimal.
- Josh Harvey – Are there any objections to amending the vote language from yesterday?
 - No objections.
 - Action Item: Josh Harvey will amend the forthcoming memo language to reflect a 15-person staffing minimum for both crews mobilized within and incoming to the GACC.

Awards – Kathy Pipkin

- Reviewed Award presented for Tim Murphy at IMT meeting.
- Reviewed Award presented for Mike Granger at the IMT meeting.

Story Map of Complex Incident Management Teams - Jesse Bender

- Incident Workforce Development Group Website:
 - <https://www.nwcg.gov/partners/iwdg>
- Incident Workforce Development Group story map:
 - <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/9d3aea07bbdb4e23a734ba3fcacc6217>
- Reviewed history and charters of Incident Workforce Development Group.
- Reviewed story map.
- Data shows that both the Type 1 and 2 IMTs are facing numerous challenges, including burnout resulting in work and life balance issues.
- Covid-19 pushed all to accomplish business differently. This has increased the amount of successful remote support positions.
- Major changes are needed to address these issues.
- Need for change is at the heart of all recommendations.
- Memo was issued under the Fire Management Board (FMB) and signed by all three parent organizations.
- Draft Action plan is in place and will be presented to parent groups in the next few weeks.
- Both story map and websites will be updated as this process progresses.
- Aaron Thompson – Believe that if the lukewarm reception to the pool concept is the biggest push back, then that is something that can be overcome.
- Mike Granger – Believe this is a good move in the right direction.
- Greg Morris – A piece of this acceptance will come from addressing what the qualifications look like in the future.
- Jesse Bender – Pacific Northwest is at the forefront regarding piloting training adaptations.
- Mike DeGrosky – What is the current status of this effort?
 - Jesse Bender – This is occurring and will continue to evolve over the next few years. It may look slightly different upon completion; however, it is happening. That is one of the reasons that the FMB memo was issued.
- Rick Connell – Confirmed that are not discussing changing incident complexities one through five. Is it accurate to say that this group is not having conversations around significantly reducing IMT roster size?
 - Jesse Bender – Correct; would move to a pool concept to fill out the Remainder of the roster positions other than the Command and General Staff.
- Jesse Bender – Emphasized importance of leadership providing guidance throughout this process.
- Rich Cowger – Does this mean a GACC will retain the same number of teams?
 - Jesse Bender – Yes; however, it does offer the opportunity for GACCs to re-evaluate a sustainable number of area teams.
- Jesse Bender – In ten years, the pool concept will be the normal for team participation.
- Mike DeGrosky – Are concerns around loss of team cohesion being addressed?

- Jesse Bender – Yes; in ten years, the pool concept will be the normal for team participation.
- Mike DeGrosky – Rapid “team development” will then need to become a standard practice for all teams.
- Patrick Lonergan - Agree that this seems to largely be a distribution of the existing. Think all are missing opportunity by not focusing efforts on accessing other agencies (at all levels). I also think may need to re-evaluate reliance on participation on teams being a side duty. Are probably in a place where certain primary positions on teams need to be full time jobs to support keeping the team whole, and to work on all these side projects that never are finished. Additionally, may need to look at hiring seasonal employees to fill mission critical team positions. A lot of this has roots in funding and that should be re-evaluated. By all practical measures, there are endless funds for suppression costs on incidents. Would argue that making sure teams have full rosters and the equipment is just as important and should be viewed as a suppression costs being pre-paid.
 - Jesse Bender – Discussions around cost and composition of interagency teams are always complex. Success in these discussion areas currently remains limited.

Complex Incident Management Teams Discussion – Mike DeGrosky

- Mike Granger – Important to all be on the same page as to how this is presented to the WFAA group during the Executive Session.
- Josh Harvey – Only plan on introducing this effort to the WFAAs tomorrow.
- Mike DeGrosky – One other GACC is moving ahead pro-actively. Would recommend that Northern Rockies GACC be proactive as well.
- Rick Connell – IC Group desires to wait the process it out this year and possibly move forward next year, with the lessons learned from those piloting this effort.
- Greg Morris – Encourage movement forward in a proactive capacity. Would provide an opportunity to provide initial input during development of the process. Would like to see the GACC come up with some type of transition plan as well.
- Aaron Thompson – Am a new member of this national effort. Recommend that concept is socialized to the WFAAs on Thursday. As a coordinating group, need to be proactive towards this effort in this GACC. Need to evaluate the IMTs in number and amount of sustainability and re-address sharing of resources across GACC boundaries.
- Mike DeGrosky – Support this as an awareness item for the WFAAs on Thursday. Also support addressing as a board in a proactive capacity. Concerns around NWCG training unit aspect of implementation.
- Patrick Lonergan – Also support approaching in a proactive manor. Important to include the IC Committee in these discussions.
- Aaron Thompson – The training aspect is currently being pursued by the Pacific Northwest through re-assessing the S-420/520 courses.
- Dan Warthin - The AWFCG attempted to use a pool concept six years ago in Alaska. A mistake occurred in not getting good involvement from all parties affected by the new direction. The tough issue encountered was "team cohesion". Think having the IC Committee provide what "right" looks to them will help.
- Mike DeGrosky - Concern is, as Melissa pointed out the other day, the NWCG Training Unit has training packages that they have not revised in 20 years.

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- Greg Morris – Would encourage group to ask Melissa Wegner to become involved in this training aspect, in an effort to be pro-active for this GACC.
 - Josh Harvey – In favor of tasking the IC Committee with taking a look at the pool concept. Also, group may want to consider a new future committee.
 - Patrick Lonergan – Encourage direction to the IC Committee to begin discussions around this concept.
 - Rick Connell – Will be important to identify what is and is not within purview in any tasking to the IC Committee. Reality is that ICs will be discussing this whether there is a board tasking or not.
 - Action Item: IC Committee Chair, Rick Connell, will bring an update to the Board regarding discussions around this topic for a standalone BOD meeting to be held on Tuesday May 27th at 0900 hours, Mountain Time for a one hour block. Pam Jolly will send a Team Meeting invitation to the BOD.

Best Value Contracting Inspectors and Inspections – Mike DeGrosky and Ryan Patrick

- Up until this point, the DNRC has been hiring the majority of the equipment inspectors.
- Over time, managing this system has become more and more of a supervisory and administrative burden. Was a good work around at the time; however, lacked some on business practices.
- DNRC approach Ryan Patrick regarding revised business practices.
- Have met once and discussed with both Ryan Patrick and Tracey Nimlos.
- Item needs to be resolved between DNRC and contracting.
- Item added to the agenda to ensure transparency.
- Ryan Patrick – are working to produce a larger piece for review by the Board. Are under a separate, related tasking from the NRCG Board.
- Greg Morris – Appreciate the consensus that pre-use inspections are needed. Appreciate the DNRC's contribution to these efforts. Also feel that the USFS has taken on a significant portion of the contracting workload.
- Mike DeGrosky - DNRC feels that the pre-use area is a logical opportunity for cost sharing.
- Andy Schell - Have asked the task group to add as a recommendation the need for inspectors to be made known to Agency Administrators and to pass that information down. Was not aware previously of how short this resource is and there are many employees in the respective workforce that can fit that bill and want to help out with fire; but, don't know of the need or how their services could be used.
- Ryan Patrick – One of the issues with the inspectors is the difference in pay rates between the inspector positions. Agency participation is a key element in moving forward.

Consideration of New Tools and Applications to Enhance MAC Prioritization Process – Mike DeGrosky

- Last year received a presentation on a triage tool from Matt Jolly that had intended to implement withing the Northern Rockies. However, that did not occur.
- DNRC will be utilizing this in Severity applications soon.
- Think this has the potential to become a resource for MAC prioritization setting.
- Proposal for Matt Jolly to present again with a focus on piloting as a prioritization setting resource.

- Dan Warthin – Suggestion to utilize during the MAC exercise.
- Action Item: Corey Buhl will follow up with both Matt Gibson and Matt Jolly on this proposal.
- Action Item: Corey Buhl will distribute a poll to BOD members regarding a date for the MAC Exercise.

Annual IMT Team Funding Inquiry – Rick Connell

- Request update for this year on this annual item.
- Group discussion around each agency providing this for its respective team per liaison representation.
- Greg Morris – USFS can no longer move money between personnel and operations.
- Aaron Thompson – Clarified that this is not part of the current NRCG Financial Plan.
- Dan Warthin – Do have a question on the mechanics of how that is accomplished?
 - Group Discussion – Varies depending on the agency; not handled in a consistent manor across the teams.
- Liaison Representation for funding will be as follows:
 - Team 1 – USFS
 - Team 2 – FWS
 - Team 3 – IDL; needs confirmation with agency from liaison.
 - Team 4 - Liaison for team is MT DES and that agency advised they were not able to help out last year.
 - Bob Jones – BIA will cover this item if any other agency cannot contribute.
 - Team 5 – NPS
 - Team 6 – DNRC
 - Team 7 – BLM
- Action Item: Kathy Pipkin will capture this information and reflect as a new item in either the Team Plan or the Handbook.
- Action Item: Rick Connell will advise the ICs and each will work with their designated funding source direct.
- **(Addendum:** After this meeting was adjourned, the Chair advised in an email that clarification around this topic was needed and an agenda item for further discussion on this topic was added to the upcoming May meeting agenda. Per the Chair’s email – “At this point it needs to be clear there has not been a commitment made by all the participating agencies for annual ongoing funding.”)

Attendees

Northern Rockies Coordinating Group Board of Directors

Josh Harvey – Chair, Rich Cowger – Vice Chair, Darron Williams, Ray Hart, Bryce Rogers, Aaron Thompson, Mike Granger, Jim “James” Forsythe, Jake Ganieany, Mike DeGrosky, Patrick Lonergan, Steve Holton, Dan Warthin, Ralph Rau

Wildland Fire Agency Administrators

Paul Santavy – Chair, Diane Mann-Klager, Jodi Camrud, Bryan Mercier, John Mehlhoff, Michael Archer, Keith Lannom, Craig Foss, Sonya Germann, Thomas Claeys

Alternates and Additional Participants

Jeff Moyer, Greg Morris, Kurt Steele, Corey Buhl, Ryan Patrick, Kathy Pipkin, Pam Jolly, Aitor Bidaburu, Jordan McKnight, Coleen Haskell, Jeni Jeresek, Melissa Wegner, Dave Williams, Bob Jones, Sara Lee, Amber Honsaker, Laurence Thomson, John Houston, Kendal Wilson, Haley Hodge, Cody Griffie, Rick Connell