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Tuesday November 2, 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.
- Appreciated the cohesiveness of this group throughout last season.
- Proud of the effort and success that occurred last season.

National Update and Report – Aitor Bidaburu

- Consecutive 99 days at PL 4 and 5; record setting year
- Experienced challenges with limited resource management; appreciate all the great coordination and communication with the Northern Rockies, including the strategic thinking that occurred over time.
- Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is being explored as an alternate pathway to qualification. Are in the final stages of developing a process that will be coming out in January of 2022. Process will provide RPL guidance. Does not circumvent requirements; however, provides an alternate pathway.
- Endorsements Project leverages a lot of the training and NIMS requirements. Would provide a pathway for many states, local and tribal resources. More to come at a later date. Planning phase has been extended through the end of the year.
- Incident Management Remote Response (IMRR) calls – provided a forum for IMTs to discuss challenges and concerns; largely centered around Covid mitigation efforts and protocols. One of the issues was providing this group an anchor point around information sharing. Will continue and be formally chartered so that it may be under a governance umbrella.
- Ongoing work with Incident Workforce Development Group (IWDG); formulated a phased action plan for Complex Incident Management concept. Available online on the NWCG website.

Northern Rockies Operations Fall Report – Corey Buhl

- Moving forward as the new operations officer; would like to cover a few items and give an opportunity for priority feedback.
- Intend on attending several agencies fall FMO meetings.
- **BIN ITEM:** AAR to review the MAC – would like to set a date for December.
- Need a deeper level of attention on our Northern Rockies and National dispatch systems. Was a critical shortage and the most UTF'd positions. Most expanded dispatches were staffed with ADs. Intend to work with Kathy Pipkin for a Northern Rockies Expanded Dispatch Plan.
- Intend on coordination with the Northern Rockies Fire Prioritization process.
- MAC Plan will need to be reviewed and updated this year.
- With NRCC being as short staffed as it is, feel that the Northern Rockies needs to identify a separate Team Coordinator from the Center Manager position. Is a significant workload.
 - Aaron Thompson – Interested in hearing more on this and it's potential.
 - Kathy Pipkin – Another approach would be to staff the overhead coordinator position.
 - Rich Cowger – Noted the significant off season work that is associated with the Team Coordinator.
 - Tate Fischer – Was the overhead coordinator position funded fully prior?
 - Kathy Pipkin – Lost a shared position with contracting approximately two years ago. Contracting then underwent organizational changes. Lost 13 pay periods of work.
- Aaron Thompson – Have proposed an IMT Coordinator position for GACCs to the national level.
- Intend to work on obtaining crew capacity for the Northern Rockies.

NRCC Fall Report – Kathy Pipkin

- Reviewed Volume of Business report out (*located in pre-reading materials*).
- This is what most of the cost shares utilize. “Other” is divided among the other agencies.
- Had two full time detailers for four months. Utilized four individuals, rotating, to keep the center staffed. Requires four individuals on the aircraft desk to keep that desk running at the higher PL levels.
- This year tracked hours – took 20 people working 70 hours a week to staff from June to the first part of August. 57 days at PL 4 and 5. NR IMTs had 20 assignments within the NR; all IMTs were out multiple times.
- The season started in February with North Dakota and the last large fire was late October with Crown Mountain on the HLF out of Great Falls Dispatch.
- The first team assignment was May 9th with NR Buying to the SW, and then Great Basin. The first IMT Assignment was NR IMT4 to Robertson Draw on June 16th and the last IMT Assignment was a NR IMT2 Volunteers (an ad hoc T2 organization with IC Connell from NR team 4) to Alder Creek, Trail Creek and Sand Lake on Sept 24th released Oct. 7th.
 - https://gacc.nifc.gov/nrcc/predictive/intelligence/ytd_historical/imt_assignments/2021_team_assignments.pdf
- Preparedness Levels - NRGAs were at PL-4/5 for 57 days. The earliest NRGAs have ever gone to PL 4 with July 8th and the earliest for PL 5 on July 11th.
 - https://gacc.nifc.gov/nrcc/predictive/intelligence/ytd_historical/preparedness_levels/PreparednessLevels.htm
- NRGAs Fires as of 11/2/2021 - 2021 – 3,842 fires for 1,038,667 acres and NRGAs are still having fires. For reference: 2017 – 3,900 fires for 1,55,275 acres; 10 year average – 3,146 fires for 597,634 acres
 - https://gacc.nifc.gov/nrcc/predictive/intelligence/ytd_historical/ytd_historical.htm
- Top 25 fires during the last 10 years - 2021 has 5 in the list; 2017 has 6
 - https://gacc.nifc.gov/nrcc/predictive/intelligence/ytd_historical/ytd-daily-large.htm
- Team Assignments - NRGAs had 43 IMT assignments in the GACC for 2021, with 20 of those being NR IMTs.
 - NR IMTs all had at least 3 assignments with some having 4 and a few having 5.
 - 5 of NR IMTs had out of GACC assignments.
- Season is not finished; still processing resource orders through on call staffing
- Still have to accomplish NRCC AAR
- Moved the mobilization guide to a “live” document and change request form is now online. Working on getting this document more in line with being a supplement to the national guide.
- Currently majority of staff is working virtual; three prefer to physically work in the office.
- One vacancy for predictive services, GS-12 meteorologist position. Only vacancy that have on the approved listing. Will continue to search for ways to fill the overhead coordinator position. Since losing the position, have brought in detailers every year on NTE details.

Northern Rockies Contracting Update – Ryan Patrick

- Hired contracting position (Dianne Sigler); position arose from the above referenced shared NRCC position due to contracting reorganization.
- Underwent multiple contracting processes changes in addition to the reorganization.
- No longer allowed to do pre-award inspections; required to do technical board evaluation.

- Went fairly well last year with heavy equipment solicitations.
- Soliciting for water handling equipment this year; challenging to do inspection during the winter; short window for this to occur
- Working on regional consistency regarding these post award inspections. Are looking at the possibility of random selection inspections.
- Chris Loraas has also been an asset supporting contracting.
- Open to attending other agency meetings upon request.
- Kathy Pipkin – Question regarding expectation on contractors meeting vaccine mandate?
 - Ryan Patrick – Latest direction - for simplified acquisition, do not have this requirement. The decision that needs to be made is if that language will be put into future contracting agreements. This is evolving and could change.

NRTC Update and Trainee Priorities – Melissa Wegner

- Core schedule will be 100% virtual with exception of leadership classes 380 and 381.
 - Those two were the only courses that were not delivered last year.
- Will accept all Northern Rockies candidates that meet pre-requisite. Virtual environment affords unlimited space and seating.
- Processed 1,094 nominations and 503 students.
- Feedback from training officers was positive.
- Reminder that administrative officer position was removed from the organizational chart. Did hire Lydia Faller into the front office position.
- BIA is filling behind their position; additionally have Billy Philips who works with multiple initiatives including RIST and IMRR. Also have Matt Gibson, who also works on long term additional projects.
- NRTC completes course development work in addition to accomplishing training courses.
- Priority Trainee Program – statistics will be forthcoming soon. Interesting this year in that there were so few individuals available and the need was so high, that every qualification that had an available qualification was supported as a priority. Will be discussing at the fall geographical training representatives meeting.
- Northern Rockies has accomplished recognition of prior learning previously and will be looking closely at the national initiative.
 - Aitor Bidaburu – Be aware as the process comes out in January; be thinking about how the GACC wants to address these moving forward. May need to set up a panel and establish internal controls.
 - Aaron Thompson – Is there an understanding from the workforce as to the effectiveness of the virtual learning? What is the long term plan?
 - Melissa Wegner – Feedback is good; however, some is antidotal. Will be assessing individual courses for virtual opportunities moving forward. Future may contain a mix of both.

NRK Fall Update – Anthony Krause

- Supported a massive need for supplies concurrently, at the beginning of the season.
- Upward demand for water-handling, especially pumps and sprinklers.

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- Vendors aren't as available and trucking capacity is limited. Brought in a National Guard trucking unit to supplement.
 - Challenge with large pre-orders, especially with out of region teams.
 - Provided a lot of support to Minnesota, California, Colorado and other regions.
 - Serious challenges with staffing seven days a week for such a long period of time.
 - Working to fill two critical vacancies.
 - Success working with the IMTs identifying who needed critical gear.
 - Many items are not available, parts shortages as well.
 - Going into next season, may not have the parts needed for repairs in time.
 - Working with national to obtain numbers for new items.
 - New contracting system has also taken a while to get in a rhythm.
 - Craig Glazier – Can you expound upon the parts shortages and impacts to readiness for next year?
 - Anthony Krause – May not meet the June 1st date for all repair items. With supply chains, timeline is difficult to predict.

Update BOD Zone, Committee & IMT Liaison Representation

- [NRCG Board to Committee and Zones document](#) updated.
- IMT Liaisons list updated. (*This item is found in the IMT plan.*)

NR Fire Prioritization Process – Corey Buhl

- Last year faced some challenges with the fire prioritization process. For example, the Zones not understanding how fires ended up in the overall priorities.
- Propose looking at reviewing and updating the fire prioritization process at the GACC and how that impacts the Zone levels.
- Are newer programs out there that could be looked at to inform those decisions.
- Need more consistency nationwide on this approach.
 - Aitor Bidaburu – NMAC prioritizes geographic areas, not individual fires. There is a lot of intelligence that factors into the individual incident priority listing; both metrics and the board validation. Managing expectations and communication are both key. These priority lists for NMAC are to provide that overall higher intent on a national level. Would be good to have intent conversations as a board regarding delegating decision making to individuals.
- Current process is in need of streamlining; workload was tremendous on the intelligence desk.
- Currently utilize decision criterium program. Stratton's model has the potential to inform those decisions as well. Kathy Pipkin asked if some of those parameters could be tweaked for Northern Rockies specifics.
- Dan Warthin – Criterium is a great way to start; believe if could validate with science what the ICs and Agency Administrators are seeing on the ground, should be able to review and allocate limited resources on a daily basis. Support a hybrid approach.
- Aaron Thompson – Support a hybrid model as well. Comes down to when can success be achieved, which may not be on the highest value fire. Need exists to support the coordination center. Support streamlining.

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- Can work with Kathy Pipkin to modify the process and compile a future proposal for decisional vote.
 - Aaron Thompson – Also suggest revisiting in the future a potential decisional delegation to individuals at the coordination center.
 - Darron Williams – Appreciate the concept and agree communication is key. One thing that has worked well in the Northwest is bringing in someone to assist with IMT prioritization. Would relive pressure on dispatch as well. Important for decisional legal ramifications perspective as well.
 - Avery Thompson – Do feel the Northern Rockies Operational position should have some say as well; however, important to have an objective based decision model. Needs to be well established prior to fire season.
 - Bob Jones – Theme seems to be less resources nationally. Would be good to review intent of National Fire Plan; specifically the workforce planning aspects. Analysis needs to be conducted.
 - Tate Fischer – Support reviewing and tasking.
 - Josh Harvey – Support taking a comprehensive and multi-agency look at this process and the changes occurring in the fire environment. Support empowering operational individuals as well. Also, these individuals need a clear understanding of each agencies mission to make those decisions.
 - Matt Hall – Support tasking for reviewing this process. Also supportive of framework for where operational decisions need to be made.
 - Patrick Lonergan – Support re-evaluation of process to something more objectives based and simpler.
 - Steve Holton – Support simplifying the process.
 - Dan Warthin – Important as develop this to ensure that the “how” and “why” intent are well communicated.
 - Craig Glazier – Would like to see several proposals brought forward for review and decisional vote.
 - Action Item: Verbal tasking to Corey Buhl to develop a proposal for streamlining and simplifying the process. Proposal ultimately to be submitted for board review and decisional vote. Corey Buhl and Kathy Pipkin will identify elements for this framework and present for discussion during the January NRCG meeting.

Supporting NR Operations Officer – Aaron Thompson

- Experienced that the specified agency Individuals identified previously in the delegation were mostly unavailable to provide this support during the past active season.
- Corey Buhl – Suggest the board accepts whoever is identified by either Corey Buhl or Kathy Pipkin as available at the time and insert that language into the delegation letter.
- Aaron Thompson – Individuals need to have specific skill sets, rather than specific qualifications. Individuals would be responsible for authorization and spending of federal funds as part of the duties by allocating resources.
- Craig Glazier – Would support Corey Buhl identifying those individuals in advance and formalizing with a short list going into the season.
- Action Item: Corey Buhl will compile a short list of individuals for the Board to revisit during the March meeting.

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- Corey Buhl – Would like the latitude to identify individuals outside the list, should the availability of individuals on the list be exhausted.

Contract Equipment Supervision – Ryan Patrick

- Several issues observed this year.
- Issue of not having enough equipment supervision for the equipment that is out there; (heavy equipment bosses, feller buncher rollover and Lessons Learned feller buncher module events.)
- Daylighting for awareness of this becoming the normal.
- Heavy Equipment Task Force is a complex resource with multiple pieces of equipment and transports. Solicited with Region 4 this year. Contracting officer's time was being monopolized with issues around this resource and how it is being utilized.
- Looking at developing some SOP's around this issue as a preventative measure.
- Did brief the Operations Committee around this issue as well.
- Corey Buhl – Would be willing to work on a task group to revisit alternatives and ways to accomplish this and find a workful solution.
- Sarah Lee – Discussed with the business committee as well. Much of this had to do with the contract administration piece of this as well. Issues include proper payment, and items being out of the scope of the agreement. Is very complex on both the administration and payment sides. Concerns over seeing these on pre-orders for team. Also, concerns over the aftermath of large timber components that arise with utilization of this resource.
- Issue is ensuring there is the correct directive for this resource; instead of sorting it out after the fact. Having a specific plan in place, for each incident, would assist.
- Dan Warthin – With RPL, recommend looking at if are there individuals out there with this skill set that could alleviate this shortage.
- Jordan Mcknight – Internal agency red card meeting daylighted the challenges associated with resource supervision shortage. Are part of a Forest Service tasking to address certain aspects of this process. Potential future opportunity to identify items for application across the Northern Rockies.

Dispatch & Cache Operations within the NR GACC – Rich Cowger

- Feedback from IMTs this season highlighted staffing shortages with both the dispatch and cache systems. Also, each dispatch and cache seemed to have it's own operating procedures. Is there a way to identify consistent operating procedures for all the dispatch centers and caches throughout the Northern Rockies?
- David Lee – Is common to hear this after large seasons. Beyond the mobilization guide, there are no specifics as to how business is accomplished for different offices. Are opportunities for standardization and have been working towards those. If have items that would like to see standardized, request those be put forth in a tasking to be reviewed by the dispatch committee to see if those could be addressed.
- Rich Cowger will re-check with individuals who brought this up to identify specific items.
- David Lee – Dispatch Committee is doing a complexity analysis and are working to develop some criteria that guides dispatch center staffing levels. More to come in the future.

Bin Items

MAC AAR Review Date Discussion – Corey Buhl

- Wednesday, January 5th – 0900 to 1200, Mountain Time
- Pam Jolly will distribute virtual calendar invites.
- Sarah Lee will facilitate.
- Corey Buhl will compile and distribute the agenda.
- Josh Harvey – For future planning, would like to tie the MAC AAR to the fall NRCG meeting.

NRCG Staffing Clarification – Kathy Pipkin

- Reviewed current approved organizational chart
- Aaron Thompson – With the potential for future funding, seeing this as a key shortage for the fire program. Would be open to shared funding position discussions.
- Tate Fischer – Would also entertain these discussions.
- Kathy Pipkin – Thank you all for your support.

Fire Prevention and Education Committee (FPEC) Items - Matt Hall

- Are looking for a tasking from the Board to re-establish a fire restrictions working group.
- Would like the NRCG Board to task the FPEC with reestablishing the Fire Restrictions working group to address the following:
 - Lots of room for improvement for the general Restrictions process. Some contradictory methods in the NR Fire Restriction Plan
 - Many counties went into Stage II, but some entities needed exemptions – even for emergency work
 - Would be valuable to have explicit instructions about things like exemptions.
 - Are the right things being restricted?
 - Are the Zones correct?
 - Are exemptions efficient?
 - Revise NRCG Fire Restrictions & Closure Plan to include more specific direction for Restriction Areas and necessary updates for MTFireInfo.org
- Matt will clarify if they are asking for a written tasking and report back.
- Aaron Thompson – Would request that they draft up this tasking for the boards review.
- Action Item: Matt Hall will follow up with the FPEC committee regarding the tasking format and, if needed, request a draft for a written tasking.

Wednesday November 3, 2021 General Session

Welcome & Introductions

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

NRCG Financial Plan – Jeni Jeresek, Sarah Lee

- Will review the current plan and what has been accomplished since last year and conclude with a discussion on moving forward.
- Results from survey daylighted that not all agencies' contributions had been completely accounted for historically.

- Hoping to stay ahead of the deadlines this year to avoid rushing to obtain signatures at the last minute, like what occurred last year.
- Reviewed the current plan (*see pre-reading materials*).
- Reviewed last years proposed plan that was voted down.
- Intent now is to verify, with each agency, that their contribution amounts are accurate. Updated costs will be applied once verified.
- Does anyone have any suggestions for moving forward?
- Aaron Thompson – Recommendation for Board to take the next month to review agreement proposal (that was previously voted down last year) and then revisit this proposal (once updated with accurate costs) at a separate February 2nd (0900-1100) meeting. (Pam will send calendar invite.
- Bryce Rogers - I support it as well let's get the actual cost included
- Have started updating the FY22 plan and will be reaching out to each agency for updated salary figures associated with identified positions.
- Matt Hall – Support the effort to address early, prior to deadlines.
- Action Item – Jeni Jeresek and Sarah Lee will reach out to NRCG BOD members to verify accurate contributions and then provide a revised proposal that the board will discuss during a separate February 2nd (0900 – 1100) meeting.

The Future of Remote Incident Support (RIS) in the NR – Morganne Lehr, Billy Phillips

- Jordan Mcknight – Intent of this presentation is to review options for the future.
- Billy Philips – Reviewed 2021 RIS in the NR and provided brief history of this program.
- In 2021, expanded to more of a RIS Team concept. Brought in additional planning capacity and other team positions that had not been included historically (*see graphic*).
- Two significant concepts
 - Ability to utilize one person to support multiple incidents - gains efficiency.
 - Provides for additional staffing and builds capacity in individuals that are not able to mobilize with teams but are available to provide remote support.
- Had 46 trainees come through the RIST between several GACCs.
- Had 6 individuals that participated in the RSU last year that were unwilling to commit to an IMT; however, were willing and available to provide support in this capacity.
- Had staff from 24 states; over 158 individuals from multiple agencies came through the RIST this year; including some from non-traditional agencies.
- Reviewed incidents that were supported in the Northern Rockies (*see table*).
- Incidents supported ranged from Type 3 to Type 1 IMTs and support duration often extended past two weeks (sometimes months).
- Morganne Lehr – Have built a program without a staff to accomplish what is required to stand up this highly utilized service each year (*see options table*).
- Reviewed options individually.
- Tasking has been issued at a national level to explore if this is something that needs to be pursued on a national level. However, there is no guarantee or commitment currently towards this effort.
- Continuing to function in an ad hoc capacity has the challenge of struggling with recruitment. Both Billy Phillips and Morganne Lehr continue to be involved and are unable to perform this as collateral duties anymore.

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- Strongly feel this is a full-time position that performs the off season work needed to get the program operational for the season.
 - Option number three provides for identifying small RIST rotating teams to accomplish this work.
 - Jordan Mcknight – Would like to discuss a short-term option and then discuss moving forward into the long term. Heard that this is not sustainable as a collateral duty moving forward for FY22. Question becomes is RIST something that there is a desire to support for FY22?
 - Craig Glazier – Program is clearly utilized and successful and would like to continue.
 - Josh Harvey – Would like to continue this program for the future. Can be critical for success for IMTs.
 - Aaron Thompson – Support some form of RIST moving forward into the future. Need to identify how to support it better.
 - Tate Fischer – Echo above support sentiments.
 - Jordan Mcknight – Hearing this support, have identified a modest short-term approach for one of the federal agencies to put a position on an organization chart that could be filled by a detailer and position would be funded off the NRCG Support Code. This would provide approximately 12 months for the Board to identify a long-term solution.
 - Dan Warthin – Costs associated with these position options would be helpful to have for those internal agency conversations.
 - Jordan Mcknight – Are looking into that; feeling is that it may fall into the GS-12 or above area.
 - Aaron Thompson – support the short-term concept; wonder if it should be 120 day detailers instead. Going through the NRCG support code would be preferable over utilizing the cost share.
 - Craig Glazier – Were the two detailers selected as an option over the 120 NTE for any specific reason?
 - Jordan Mcknight – Two detailers was an initial suggestion. If an agency is willing to pick up a 120 NTE, that would suffice as well.
 - Tate Fischer – Support and would entertain facilitating these conversations.
 - Bryce Rogers – Do have a position at the NRTC that could possibly be shared and provide this capacity.
 - Aaron Thompson – Will look at if could add a box to an organizational chart and if that is possible. Curious about national efforts and staffing possibilities there?
 - Billy Philips – National group efforts are just beginning and are trying to determine if this is beneficial nationally.
 - Aaron Thompson – BLM will be thinking of adding this position in the future as a GS-12 at the NRCC, should future additional funding manifest.
 - Jordan Mcknight – Could agencies report back on the status of checking with their agencies regarding adding a box to an organizational chart at the December meeting. (BIA, BLM, USFS) Information update only - Being funded by suppression cost share.
 - Sara Lee – Would need to dial into expectations and keep the lines clear on that suppression cost share requirements and away from the preparedness realm.
 - Craig Glazier – USFS will commit to looking at optional for adding a box on an organizational chart as well.

NRGA IMT Organization Proposal – Aaron Thompson

- Shrinking work force and fatigue are factors that necessitate a conversation around how many IMTs the Northern Rockies can sustainably host.
- Currently 2 T1, 4T2 and 1 WFMT
- Many IMTs are having a challenging time filling rosters. Many also have succession challenges as well.
- This is also being worked on by way of a variety of aspects at a national level.
- Additionally, observed need for more T3 IMTs and rapid deployment resources.
- Would like a discussion around retooling or reconfiguring the IMTs that Northern Rockies supports.
- Would like to re-tool the teams to 2 T1, 3T2, 3T3 standing IMT teams – would like to bring the WFMT into the T2 rotation. Could repurpose a few that propose to stand down into T3; would better support the ICs with rostering and the unit leaders could possibly consider job sharing. This would also support supervisors, regarding IMT members regular workloads.
- Would also provide successional pathways.
- Potential to move to Complex Incident Management in the future and this would align with that also.
- Additionally, would assist with future work force fatigue, both mental and physical.
- Craig Glazier – No guarantee that Team 1 will have an IC this coming season. Regarding T3 proposal, have several rostered T3 in R04 and has been successful; however, experience has shown that it may not be as beneficial for successional planning for T2 and T1 teams.
- Patrick Lonergan – Proposal has merit; agree with successional concerns. Would need to be clear on intent for scoping of T2 organizations. Discussion with WFAAs group is needed for expectations of IMTs and validation around capacities.
- Rich Cowger – Support thought process; however, regardless of the configuration of Northern Rockies teams, if cannot figure out how to systematically support those teams, then regardless of the numbers, that needed aspect of support remains. Potential to lose individuals simply due to change if that change is not managed appropriately. Communication with the field around this change would be critical as well.
- Aaron Thompson – Reality is that there are not enough resources. Some are no longer participating because they are burned out.
- Rick Connell – Echo expectations, concerns, and support that a discussion with the WFAAs is warranted. Particularly, discussion needs to include the conversation around the need to import out of area IMTs and fatigue management.
- Tate Fischer – Echo sentiment from Rick Connell. Support an Agency Administrator summit idea. Support this proposal.
- Aaron Thompson – Need exists to educate our Agency Administrators that Northern Rockies will never have enough teams to manage all of the area's fires. Things will be different in the future regarding IMT management and the level at which that occurs.
- Bryce Rogers – Support this thought process. Did identify a concern with the Delegation of Authority when had CAT Team supporting an incident. Specifically, the IC being an AD was a concern.
- Matt Hall – Support looking at this in a collective decision-making manor. Support continuing the conversation. Supportive of T3 IMTs as well, and identifying those expectations.

- Joe Sampson – Support this change; as change must occur, as this is not sustainable. Support WFMT moving into the T2 rotation. Important not to confuse WFAA expectations with Line Officer expectations regarding IMTs. Do have some standing T3 zone teams that could be folded into the mold. Limited number of resources available for all IMTs may still be a limiting factor with this proposal. Time is of the essence; next season is rapidly approaching.
- There is a need for every individual and every position. Individuals need not fear they are being restricted from accepting assignments. Attempting to provide for fatigue management and eliminate burn out.
- Decision needed on how to move forward.
- Tate Fischer – Prepared to make this decision during this meeting tomorrow.
- Craig Glazier – Agree that tomorrow would be supportive for a decision.
- Josh Harvey – Also support a decision tomorrow.
- Patrick Lonergan – Suggest tasking the IC Committee with option to provide input for discussion tomorrow afternoon.
 - Rick Connell – Unsure if obtaining this information is possible given the short time frame.
- Aaron Thompson – Board can decide on just the framework tomorrow.
- Kathy Pipkin – Would suggest re-do all teams if are looking at dropping teams.
- Joe Sampson – Board making a decision would be helpful and then the IC Committee will move forward and adjust accordingly.
- Scott Schuster – Agree if the framework is known, then ICs can compose a glidepath to arrive at that end goal.
- Aaron Thompson – Proposal for NR IMT Change Summary - 2T1, 3T2 (including the WFMT into the T2 rotation), and 3T3 IMTs
 - Action Item – Board will vote on this proposal (2T1, 3T2 (including the WFMT into the T2 rotation), and 3T3 IMTs) during tomorrow's IC Selection discussion.
- Kathy Pipkin – Would the T3 IC's then need to apply?
 - Aaron Thompson – Correct.
- Kathy Pipkin – Majority of Northern Rockies requests are for the Northern Rockies T2 IMTs. T1 IMTs take just as many out of area assignments as in area. Need exists to balance GACC needs with National needs.
- Corey Buhl – Have relied heavily on out of area T3 IMTs. Support this conversation. Do need to start communicating differently with the Line Officers and the WFAAs.
- Corey Buhl – Offer thought of potential for individuals to participate in the RIST group if are in danger of losing those individuals due to proposed IMT changes.

NR Surge Groups / Critical Mission Resource Taskforces – Corey Buhl

- Will be reviewing and improving the operations guide.
- Reviewed the history and utilization of this resource.
- Season feedback provided areas that could be improved upon.
- Once obtain feedback from all involved groups, will be convening a task force to review opportunities for future improvements.
- Suggestion to also apply this concept to other resources.
- Nomenclature is important, as NMAC also launched surge capacity resources alongside the time the Northern Rockies implemented the Critical Mission Resource Taskforce.

- Josh Harvey – IDL did have several incidents that received positive feedback regarding utilization of this resource. Was some concern over three to four day commitment and then long travel times impacting capacity.
- Rick Connell – At IC Committee meeting did request feedback and will send if received. Did already submit notes and comments from the middle of the season. Resource is useful; however, after they depart there is still a need for high level resources to be maintained on the ground. Need to address the long duration need and tradeoffs as well.
- Joe Sampson – Support the surge groups and they are useful if the incident receives them. It is an attempt to be the most efficient with a lack of resources. Operations group expressed frustrations with loss of windows by the time resource was obtained.
- Paul Roose – Need exists to establish more organized crew capacity within the GACC.
- Moving forward will be contacting Board members directly regarding accomplishing this work.

Bin Items

IT Update – Tara Dana

- Patrick Murphy has been able to acquire funding for enough IT equipment for 55 IMT teams nationally.
- This includes multiple pieces of basic equipment.
- Funding was acquired through DOI CARES Act.
- Also working on trying to develop a fire IT program nationally that is similar to the one Northern Rockies used to utilize.
- No plan as of yet on how to manage the equipment due to fourth quarter procurement deadlines.
- Did receive one Compact Rapid Deployment (CRD) communications resources and will be testing this year.

Fire Prevention and Education Committee – Follow Up - Potential Tasking – Matt Hall

- Follow up from yesterday – they are comfortable with a verbal tasking.
- **Action Item – Recommendation and consensus from board to move forward; Matt Hall will relay verbal tasking to FPEC.**