Northern Rockies Coordinating Group  

Board of Directors Conference Call Agenda
Tuesday, January 19, 2021

Participants:
Board Members: Darron Williams, Ray Hart, Bryce Rogers, Aaron Thompson, Mike Granger, Josh Harvey – Chair, Jake Ganieany, Mike DeGrosky, Rich Cowger – Vice Chair, Patrick Lonergan, Steve Holton, Ryan Melin, Dan Warthin, Ralph Rau
Deputies and Others: Craig Goodell, Ryan Patrick, Kathy Pipkin, Aitor Bidaburu, Coleen Haskell, Jeni Jeresek, Patrick Murphy, Dave Williams, Jordan McKnight, Sarah Lee, Pam Jolly

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

NWCG/NMAC Update: (Aitor Bidaburu)
- Last week was the annual meeting of NMAC/CGAC. NMAC will be meeting this week to address some topics that came out of that meeting.
- Two primary members of NMAC have taken extended details. Will be talking about rotating the positions those individuals hold.
- Pacific Northwest has activated a team through the state of Washington to assist with vaccine distribution.
- Workforce management will also be a topic of discussion soon.
- NWCG will be having a monthly meeting tomorrow. Training will be a discussion topic.

Northern Rockies GACC and Operational Updates:

NRCG Operations (Craig Goodell)
- Attended NMAC/CGAC meeting last week. Discussed the Covid-19 Wildland Fire Response plans that were completed last year. Discussed path forward to maintain these plans and update those with lessons learned.
- IWDG will be meeting with parent group tomorrow. Primary issue will be moving to a three-tier incident response system. If move this way, there will be a big lift to support.
- Will be attending the IMRR AAR on Thursday.
- Did share the contractor 300 level class request with CGAC and it generated much discussion. NMAC requested a detailed briefing paper from the NRCC.
  - Action Item: Craig Goodell will work with Ryan Patrick and others on this request.

NRCC Update (Kathy Pipkin)
- Activity did increase last week with the wind event. Had seven fires for 21,685 acres in two-day period; five large fires resulted.
- There was a brief with ICAP at NMAC/CGAC meeting last week. Did a final user testing last week and was recommended to go ahead and accept the product; is based on Microsoft Forms.
- FEMA Region 3 has also requested assistance with the inauguration in the form of a T2 short IMT. Eastern Area will fill.

OLD BUSINESS

Update of the NR IMT Evaluation Form – Decisional - Kathy Pipkin
- Please reference both versions in the prereading materials.
Did not receive a lot of response or feedback.
Patrick Lonergan – Recommend that line officers provide feedback on this as well.
Mike Granger – Would be good to distribute through the WFAAs.
Action Item: Josh Harvey – Will take forward to the WFAA group.

BLM Contracts - NR Solicitation Plan – Informational - Aaron Thompson

- Did not receive a lot of response or feedback.
- Patrick Lonergan – Recommend that line officers provide feedback on this as well.
- Mike Granger – Would be good to distribute through the WFAAs.
- Action Item: Josh Harvey – Will take forward to the WFAA group.

BLM Contracts - NR Solicitation Plan – Informational - Aaron Thompson

- Did not receive a lot of response or feedback.
- Patrick Lonergan – Recommend that line officers provide feedback on this as well.
- Mike Granger – Would be good to distribute through the WFAAs.
- Action Item: Josh Harvey – Will take forward to the WFAA group.

- Did not receive a lot of response or feedback.
- Patrick Lonergan – Recommend that line officers provide feedback on this as well.
- Mike Granger – Would be good to distribute through the WFAAs.
- Action Item: Josh Harvey – Will take forward to the WFAA group.
Final Solicitation Plan – Decisional - Ryan Patrick
- Unable to vote on Final Solicitation Plan as it currently stands.
- (See previous topic for associated Action Item.)

NRCG Firenet365 Training Virtual Delivery Updates – Informational - Melissa Wegner
- Postponed until the February meeting.

HRSP Coordinator Needs – Review – Informational – Ralph Rau
- Debby Hassel has agreed to keep this for now; however, did retire.
- Need exists to build depth in this capacity across the region.
- Suggestion to connect to the IC group regarding this need and associated structure that is needed.
- Will make contact with Debby to initiate this effort.
- All should be aware that if Debby is not available, will not have a coordinator in the Northern Rockies.
- **Action Item:** Kathy Pipkin will pull a report out of IROC to see how many qualified individuals exist in the region and will share with the BOD.
- Willing to let the issue go if it is not identified as a need by the Board.
- Mike DeGrosky – Kathy Pipkin’s suggestion is a good first step.

Delegation of Authority for Operations and NRCC Manager – Decisional – Mike Granger
- **DOA for Operations** - No changes from previous memo, except date.
  - Vote conducted.
  - **Approved – unanimous consent.**
- **DoA for Center Manager** – Edits are noted on draft.
  - Felt that bullets #11 and #14 are duplicated with the Operations officer.
  - Ralph Rau – Agree with comments on draft.
  - Aaron Thompson – Agree with comments also.
  - Craig Goodell – Feel there is value in the cross over and overlap.
  - Kathy Pipkin – Agree with Craig Goodell; value in being able to allocate resources as part of job duties.
  - Mike Granger – Perhaps should state as “in the absence of”.
  - Mike DeGrosky – Could also utilize verbiage of “working closely with”.
  - **Action Item:** Mike Granger will compose a revised draft for BOD review and will conduct a vote on the February meeting.

Structure Protection Guidelines – Decisional – Rich Cowger
- No changes from previous memo, except date.
  - Vote conducted.
  - **Approved – unanimous consent.**

NEW BUSINESS
BOD member attendance at T3 IMT close outs – Informational – Ralph Rau
- Postponed until February meeting.
Filling of NRCC Meteorologist Position – Informational – Mike Granger

- HR has the position and are currently evaluating. Expect this position to be advertised shortly.
  - There will be changes regarding supervision - Mike Granger will be listed as the official supervisor, with input from Kathy Pipkin and Craig Goodell.

Announcements

- Mike Granger will be retiring in April.

Review of Action Items: (Josh Harvey)

- Postponed in the interest of time.

The next scheduled NRCG Monthly Team Meeting is February 16, 2021 at 10:00 Hours Mountain Time