



Northern Rockies Coordinating Group

Federal, State, and Local Government Agencies Working Together in Emergency Response Management

Board of Directors Conference Call – Meeting Notes

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Participants

Board Members: Rich Cowger (Chair), Bryce Rogers (Vice Chair), Paul Cerda, Tate Fischer, Ryan Melin, Darron Williams, Josh Harvey, Craig Glazier

Deputies and Others: Kyrsten Brinkley (Facilitator), Karly DeMars (Co-Facilitator), Corey Buhl, Cory Calnan, Tara Dana, Charlie Gorman, Jeni Jeresek, Jordan McKnight, Chad Pickering, Melissa Wegner, Martin Adell, Heath Estey, Kate Holsapple, Chris Johnson, Dan Rose, Dan O'Brien, Shawn Pearson

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

Standing Reports

- NWCG/NMAC Update (Aitor Bidaburu) – No report
- CGAC Report Out (Craig Glazier)
 - Establishing standardized preparedness levels
 - Standardized alignment between priority training programs , sent to and out to all CGAC for final review; due 01 April
- NRCG Operations (Corey Buhl)
 - OPS Committee meeting this week, discussing national proposal for rapid extraction modules
 - Heavy Equipment Task Force Supervision
 - Invitation to review National Forest/Pre-Season Readiness- happy to meet
- NRCC Update (Kate Holsapple) –
 - Aircraft Dispatch Policy Rescinded; back to 2022 Policy
 - Smoke forecasts have started
 - IMT Rosters, Beau will send summary when last two rosters received
 - MOB Guide out
 - Finalize RIST OPS Plan, out around 01-05 April

Committee Updates

- Mitigation/Education (Cory Calnan)
 - Committee meeting in April and will report put at Spring Meeting
- IC Committee (Paul Cerda)
 - IMT/OPS standards for MAC and call out sent out, comments due back 27 March
 - IC expectations letter drafted
 - Review and approved charter
 - Include T-3 teams in the rotation
 - Needs analysis
 - Supports the awards and recognition
 - Discussed ordering teams for prescribed burns

Old Business

- *Decisional* | NRCG Communication Updates (Cory Glazier)
 - *Each agency has its own OPS/Duty Officer (DO)*
 - *Tier 3/IA centers work through agency OPS/DO to reduce the number of phone calls/communication when busy*
 - *Parallel the system with NRCC and NR OPS*



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- *Go through local DO then to Cory*
- *Consensus: Passed*
- *Decisional | NRCG Dispatch Communications Plan*
 - *Looking at staffing organizations and position descriptions at agencies*
 - *Researching what a dispatch center looks like to develop baseline specifications for an interagency center*
 - *Looking at hardware and software specifications for an interagency center to address IT infrastructure needs and meet capabilities*
 - *Possible to have desktop support shifting from an admin space to an EOC*
 - *Will share a one-pager and FAQ's*
 - *Consensus: Passed*
- *Decisional | NRCG Charter Review (Tate Fischer)*
 - *Move forward based on Agency Administrators admin. changes*
- *Informational | IMT Recognition Tasking Update (Karly DeMars/Aaron Thompson)*
 - *Nothing further, continue to use established process*
- *Informational | NRCG Financial Plan (Jeni Jeresek)*
 - *Same amount of funds as last year*
 - *Full representation to approve moving forward*
- *Decisional | Recommendation for Dispatch Study (Craig Glazier)*
 - *Craig addressed the board and asked they make decisions on the following items:*
 - 1) *Propose to consolidate two low complexity dispatch centers (Bitterroot and Kootenai).*
 - a. *Decision: All board members are in favor of this consolidation.*
 - 2) *Consolidation of centers in North Idaho (Grangeville and Coeur d'Alene).*
 - a. *No decision at this time; more analysis requested from the Task Group*
 - 3) *Consolidation of Great Falls / Helena centers*
 - a. *No decision at this time; more analysis requested from the Task Group*
 - *The Board would like the Dispatch Improvement Task Group to have proposals for item #2 and #3 prior to the April NRCG BOD meeting – (Deadline: April 1, 2024).*

New Business –

- *Request for agenda items for the April meeting in Missoula, due NLT Friday, 29 March*
- *Committee Report Out forms have been sent out, due back NLT Tuesday, 02 April*

Review of Action Items

- #3- NRCG Charter Update: Complete*
- #5- IMT Recognition: Complete*
- #13- Agency Inputs to NRCG Financial Plan: Complete*

*The next NRCG Meeting will be **during the spring meeting, time/location TBD***