

NRCG OPS COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES

January 12, 2004

Ruby's Conference Center

Present:

Committee Members:

North Idaho – Mark Grant
Northwest Montana – Mark Romey (Chair.)
Southwest Montana – Jack Kirkendall
Central Montana – Bret Ruby
South Central Montana – Phil Perkins
Eastern Montana – Phil Gill
North Dakota –
AFD Rep. Jeff Kinderman
FUMT Rep. Wayne Cook

Technical Specialists

Kathy Elzig - NRCC
John Specht – NR Operation
Mike Plattes - NRCC
Bob Cunningham - Aviation
Colleen Finneman – Scribe

Liaisons:

Kevin Erickson – Equip. Comm.

Attendees: IMT Members: Wally Bennett, Bob Sandman, Stan Benes, Tom Clifford, Allen Chrisman, Roger Kechter, Paul Mock, Doug Turman, Steve Frye, Dave Larsen, Jeff Scussel, Tom Heintz, Mike Kopitzke, Bob Gilman (Area Command)
MDC/ West Zone Team Coord.: Sandy Evenson, NIZ Team Coord.: Sally Estes, East Zone Team Coord.: Chris Shelton

Team Selections

- ❖ **Tom Clifford** will replace Bill Swope as IC2, **Howard Carlson** will Replace Bob Sandman as IC2 and **Bob Sandman** will become DIC on Frye's IMT1.
- ❖ Met the agreement with the Eastern Area for IMT participation.
- ❖ Non-selectees: A concern was raised regarding an obligation to these people that have expressed an interest in being on a Team. Can we put them on the alternate list and be the first people we call on? **NRCG BOD** will send out a letter to each non-selectee notifying them they were not selected and that they will be placed on a **Northern Rockies Pool** list. Being on this list by no means obligates them to the Teams – they can go out as individual overhead. Teams will go to this pool list first before ADs and out of Area people. Each Team has an obligation to provide meaningful assignments and performance evaluations. Sandy Evenson will draft the letter and send to Tracey Nimlos. Teams will invite the non-selectees to the Teams meeting.
- ❖ Type 2 team rotation – western MT teams off rotation from Oct. thru April 1 – if national emergency they could be available – Type 2 team rotation is for NR use – under no obligation to field type 2 teams year round – between the 2 IMT teams, they can field a team.

Committee Chair

Recommended and agreed that Mark Romey continue on for another year as Operations Committee chair.

Committee Membership Changes as approved by NRCG BOD

- ❖ **John Specht** will be the Fire Operations Specialist for both USDI and USFS
- ❖ IMT will have one Type 1 and one Type 2 representative
- ❖ **Jim Kelton** is the NRCG BOD liaison

Added members:

- ❖ Fire Use representative – **Wayne Cook**
- ❖ Smokejumper representative – **Jeff Kinderman**
- ❖ IHC Hot Shot Crew representative
 - **NEED NAME OF REPS. FOR IC'S, IMC HOT SHOT CREWS**

Incident Aviation Advisor

Suggested this be a topic at the aviation breakout at the Teams meeting to find a replacement for Paul Linse.

Contractor Questions

Contractor questions were sorted out and given to the appropriate committee. The NRCG committee chairs met yesterday to bring all the responses back together and finalize answers. Tracey Nimlos will post to web when final (possibly by end of week). Tracey has been designated the central recipient for additional questions and will send out to the appropriate committee.

Northern Rockies IMT Recruitment Process

The NRCG BOD said to go back and look at this process and make recommendations, point by point, based on what is in this paper. A committee was established to develop recommendations: **Alan Chrisman (chair) - Steve Frye, Brett Ruby, Bob Cunningham, Mike Plattes, Wayne Cook**, and if anyone else is interested, contact Chrisman. Needs to report back to Ops committee before NRCG BOD meeting April 13.

NIMO Proposal

NRCG BOD asked Ops committee to look at study and make a recommendation to the BOD that best fits the Northern Rockies. A committee was established to tackle this: **John Specht (chair) – Jack Kirkendall, Tom Clifford, Mark Grant, Steve Frye, and Zone Reps.**

Priorities

Mark Romey will send out an update on where the Operations Committee is at with regards to priorities established at the fall meeting.

Use of ADs on Teams

Ops Committee was charged to write a paper. Mark Romey will send out an e-mail requesting thoughts and issues. Ops Committee will review the paper before sending to the NRCG BOD.

Additional Topics

Kevin Erickson -- NWCG wants to back down the number of people on engines from 3 people to 2 people – reply back to Alice Forbes.

Mike Plattes -- Heads up – ADs hired last summer in R-2 of FS were required to go thru all the defensive driving, take tests, etc. This caused a problem with the cache in Denver.

Next meeting – May 11 & 12, 2004 – Helena; Tom Clifford will make arrangements.