

Operations Committee Meeting

February 16-17, 2011

Helena, Montana

Introductions

Chairman Greg Archie reviewed the agenda and introductions were done.

- **Agenda:** Team Selection, Team Business, Team Meetings, Team Plans, Team...
- NWCG Incident Management Organization Succession Planning
- Risk Analysis / Complexity
- Training Update
- All Hazard IMTs
- Updates from the Hotshots / Jumpers
- IC/AC meeting agenda
- Other NR Committee reports

Team Selection

Reviewed the applications for team commitments. Identified team position shortages. Discussed alternative plans for qualifying trainees. Recommended the list of trainees for 420/520 will be prioritized at the team meetings during the IC breakout. Paul Fieldhouse will be the lead in putting together the list for the breakout with Bob Gilman, Greg Poncin, Pam Okon and Rick Kusicko. Need to get updated team rosters to Pam Jolly as soon as possible for team plans. Schedules for teams were handed out. Recommended changes to team plans need to be sent in. Complexity analysis will be the new one. Bob Gilman will discuss this. The team evaluation for the team plan needs reviewed and finalized before the team meeting.

Team Meetings

Doug needs agenda items for IC portion of the team meetings. Current topics are: litigation, incident within an incident, smoke management, effective incident management with scarce resources, IC coverage with IC pools. Fire behavior with bug kill was suggested in coordination with the Operations session. Technology transfer of information was also suggested. Safety was also discussed as needing topics. I-w-I was recommended and also communications and technology. Operational risk management was also suggested. Dean Bitterman is doing the Air breakout and is requesting topics also.

Risk Analysis / Complexity

Bob Gilman led the discussion on the new Risk Analysis, Organizational Needs Assessment and Complexity chart. The chart and method has been adopted by NWCG. The methodology is posted on the Northern Rockies Coordination Center web site. The timing of the chart did not make it into the red book update. ICs need to be familiar with the chart. The state has a slightly different chart but it will be similar. It does not replace the Type 3 complexity checklist. Wally will have the states incident complexity document at the team meetings.

Team trailers

Jess Secrest led a discussion on the use of Incident Management team trailers. He passed out a letter outlining the cost and intangible benefits of using the trailers. Mark talked about finding vehicles to tow the trailers is difficult and there is also a challenge to find drivers qualified.

Incident Management Succession Planning

Bob Gilman started with a discussion on the Incident Management succession plan. Paul Fieldhouse led us through a powerpoint presentation on the process and the models being discussed. An exercise was facilitated by Steve Frye and breakouts were done to discuss the questions presented by Steve. The 3 questions: What are the top 5 things that make you uncomfortable? What are the top 5 things that are unclear or need further clarification? What are the top 5 things that you have a positive response to? The groups did presentations on what they collected and Wally, Paul, and Greg Poncin will capture the information. A subgroup will be put together to develop team configuration concepts for the NRCG Board. The subgroup will consist of NRCG Board-Gill, Type 2 IC rep-Fry, Type 1 rep-Poncin, WFIMT rep-Hutton, Zone rep-Hartjes, Dispatch rep-Heppler, and Ops committee chair-Archie, along with the current IM succession planning group.

Updates from the Hotshots / Jumpers

Mike Noel, hotshot chair, introduced himself and thanked the committee for the chance to be at the meeting. Timo Rova from the jump base gave an update on the mountain pine beetle affect on the forest. Briefed on jumper availability- call us, Ram air system; 30 people qualified on it, still have quite a bit of Fire Line Explosive, have standard complement of EMTs and equipment, have cabin wrap and sprinkler kits with gravity socks, discussed para-cargo costs and benefits; food, fuel, pallets, satellite capability for monitoring fires which will uplink information and video is available, looking at new ways to insert para-cargo from various altitudes

with much greater accuracy, microfly is available to fly packages to a GPS site. Hope to be able to do more night para-cargo with some of the new technology. Gave an update on qualifications within the jumpers.

End of the First Day

Training update

Paul Fieldhouse led the discussion on training. S-420 rosters were reviewed. Discussed the all hazard S-420 and issues surrounding the qualifications and issuing of NWCG certificates if students have attended before they met the qualifications. DNRC will be reviewing the process and make a recommendation for the Ops committee review. We discussed the field S-420 lead instructor and Jack Kirkendall's interest in being the lead. The Ops committee recommended Jack as the lead and it was approved. Prioritized the field S-420 applicants for the upcoming season. Steve Frye updated about the S-520/620 courses for next year. The course will be held in 2012 from 2/26-3/3. The candidates were prioritized and getting experience was discussed. Paul discussed the NRTC classes were offered more times yet there are less students this year.

All Hazard IMT update

Bob Fry updated the committee with regards to the status of the All Hazards IMTs. Discussed the transition of the IMT committee over under the State Emergency Response Commission as a sub-committee. DNRC now has an MOU with MT DES to be the lead state agency in coordinating all hazard IMT development and support. Discussed the status of the current all hazard teams and training available.

Business committee

Tracy Nimlos led the discussion of the Business committee update. Trying to identify potential finance candidates who are interested and available. Still doing presentations to educate various groups about updated finance information. Would like to have an Ops committee member present for both the S-460 & S-360 finance courses. Doug Turman is the Ops committee rep to the Business committee and will coordinate any information that needs to be a part of the finance presentation.

Aviation update

Maggie Dougherty provided an update about the progress of the committee. Gary Boyd is the new Aviation Safety officer. No huge issues other than public use aircraft and quality assurance issues. Started a process for currency updates.

IC/AC meeting

Greg Poncin discussed the agenda for the IC/AC meeting. Big topic is succession planning. NIMO will discuss operational risk management.

Next meeting date and location

The meeting will be on October 19th & 20th starting at 12pm. The location will be in the new training room at the Central Land Office at DNRC Helena.

FOR INFORMATION ON DOCUMENTS CONTACT CHAIRMAN GREG ARCHIE AT garchie@mt.gov.

A SPREADSHEET CONTAINING THE ATTENDEES ACCOMPANIES THESE MINUTES.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Fry

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Ops committee vice-chair

NORTHERN ROCKIES COORDINATING GROUP OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
MEETING DATES: FEBRUARY 16TH & 17TH, 2011 MEETING LOCATION: HELENA, MT

ATTENDEES	REPRESENTING	EMAIL	16-Feb	17-Feb
Greg Archie	Chair, Central Zone Rep	garchie@mt.gov	X	X
Doug Turman	NR IC	dturman@mt.gov	X	X
Greg Poncin	NR IC	gponcin@mt.gov	X	X
Gary Boyd	NRCC	gboyd@fs.fed.us	X	X
Tom Heintz	EMT IC	theintz@fs.fed.us	X	X
Jess Secrest	EMT IC	jsecrest@fs.fed.us	X	
Phil Gill	NRCG Board	pjgill@blm.gov	X	X
Bob Fry	SCZ Rep/NR WMT IC	bobfry@mcn.net	X	X
Diane Hutton	NR WFMT IC	dhutton@fs.fed.us	X	X
John Monzie	DNRC	jmonzie@mt.gov	X	X
Wally Bennett	DNRC	wbennett@mt.gov	X	X
Bob Gilman	NR Fire Ops	rgilman@blm.gov	X	X
Margaret Doherty	NR USFS Aviation officer	mdoherty@fs.fed.us	X	X
Paul Fieldhouse	NR Training Center	pfieldhouse@fs.fed.us	X	X
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