



Agenda and Meeting Notes

Welcome and Introductions	1000-1010	All
Review and Approve Last Meeting Minutes	1010-1020	Jake Nuttall
Reserved Treaty Rights Lands National Implementation	1020-1100	Enos Herkshan
NMFMC Charter Update	1100-1115	Jake Nuttall
Ventilation Guidance and Rollout	1115-1130	Josh Hall
Smoke Communications Plan Update	1130-1140	Claudia Standish
Prescribed Fire Council Update	1140-1150	Don Kearney (call-in)
Agency Updates and Schedule Next Meeting	1150-1200	All

Action Items:

- Jake to send last meeting notes to group for final feedback/concurrence
- Jake to make recommended edits to Draft NMFMC Charter and send to the group. **Deadline for feedback will be June 25, 2015 – COMPLETED**
- Enos to provide wildfire risk rating shape files or map for RTRL program – **COMPLETED**
- Agencies/units to provide letters of support **prior to June 29, 2015** for BIA RTRL program (to William Walker) as appropriate - **COMPLETED**
- Share New Mexico Prescribed Fire Council flyer with interested landowners - **COMPLETED**

Participants:

Pam Bostwick, USFS, Chair
Lisa Bye, BLM
Jake Nuttall, FWS
Claudia Standish, BLM
Carmen Melendez, USFS
Dan Meza, USFS
Donald Griego, NMSF, Co-Chair
Todd Howell, NMSF
Jeff Hickerson, NPS
Enos Herkshan, BIA
Rita Bates, NMED (Call-in)



Meeting Notes:

Reserved Treaty Rights Lands (RTRL) National Implementation –

This FY15 initiative has been funded at the national level with \$10M. \$1.2M is earmarked for the BIA Southwestern Region to do work on non-trust lands. Non-trust tribally owned lands (fee lands) would also be eligible to submit proposals. A proposal and letter of commitment from the collaborator are required for each project. Criteria for project selection includes aboriginal lands; primarily “high” and “very high” wildfire risk (Enos will send out wildfire risk shape files); letter of support from land management entity/agency; emphasis that the majority of funds will be allocated to tribes. There must be at least one collaborator for each project, but a higher number of collaborators will add strength to the proposals. Projects should be ready for implementation.

- DOI agencies might be able to use a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) as the appropriate instrument if no funds are being exchanged
- FS would not be able to use MOU for this
- There are 55 tribes within the BIA Southwestern Region including AZ, NM, OK and TX
- NEPA work by the collaborator could be considered an in-kind contribution
- There is carryover capacity for these funds
- This program could continue with an anticipated flat budget of \$10M from year to year
- Letters of support requested by June 29, 2015
- Last call for proposals is August 7, 2015

Charter Update -

Jake will make recommended edits to Draft NMFMC Charter and send to the group. Deadline for feedback will be June 25, 2015.

- Operations-related items were removed
- Name of the committee was changed from NMICG to New Mexico Fuels Management Committee (NMFMC)
- Section III 6th bullet: remove “by maintaining a Memo of Understanding for cooperation, collaboration, and coordination of.”
- Section VI: add BIA to end of Chair rotation after BLM
- Consider addressing prescribed fire training cadre coordination

Ventilation Guidance and Rollout –

This item will be deferred to the next meeting’s agenda.

Smoke Communications Plan Update –

Claudia provided copies of the final *2014 Interagency Smoke Coordination and Communication Plan for wildland Fire Smoke Impacts in New Mexico*. This document has been in development for several years and is now final. It provides a framework for coordination and communication to address smoke impacts among various agencies. It will be helpful as a reference as key participants change due to



changes in personnel. It is to be used as a reference and guidance document rather than an official instrument with agency signatures. There was a suggestion to remove “Interagency” from the title of the document.

New Mexico Prescribed Fire Council Update –

The New Mexico Prescribed Fire Council will be hosting a prescribed fire workshop in Wagon Mound, NM on Thursday, July 16 from 1000-1600. The council considered having this workshop on a weekend day but decided that the day of the week wouldn’t make any difference in the amount of target audience participation. The target audience includes private landowners with an interest in prescribed fire. A dry run of the workshop will occur on July 9 at 0900 in Socorro. Don Kearney asks that the group forward the flyer about this workshop to interested landowners.

Agency Updates –

BLM:

- The BLM in New Mexico submitted a proposal (Pinos Altos) for the DOI Resilient Landscapes initiative but it was not selected, primarily because of Sage Grouse priorities.
- The next WUI Summit will be from March 31 – April 1, 2016 in Silver City but it will be held at a different venue due to renovations that will be taking place at the previous one.
- A group consisting of Joy Esparsen, Lisa Bye, Eytan Krasilovsky and Susan Rich is working on potential additions to CWPPs as they are in revision. These include things such as clean air shelters and contacts for finding out what to do after a fire.

FWS

- Submitted a proposal for the DOI Resilient Landscapes initiative but it was not selected due to Sage Grouse priorities.
- They are working on a comprehensive burn plan for every acre of the Weaver Ranch. The owners are proactive in terms of addressing concerns of the lesser prairie chicken in this effort.
- The agency is identifying emphasis areas that cross jurisdictional boundaries to include the Rio Grande cutthroat trout and other species such as the lesser prairie chicken.

NMSF

- Governor Martinez is expected to sign a bill that includes \$3M to treat at risk watersheds, similar to the bill passed last year.

NPS

- Two DOI Resilient Landscapes initiative proposals were submitted and selected for the Valles Caldera and Saguaro NM. Both scored very high during the selection process.



New Mexico Fuels Management Committee
Thursday, June 11, 2015 1000-1200
BIA Southwest Regional Office, Albuquerque, 1001 Indian School Road

- There is a Fire Planner vacancy in the Denver office
- Brent Woffinden will now be covering the Northern Rockies
- This will be a good year to manage wildfires for resource benefit objectives if they don't all get rained out
- There is an expectation of a flat budget in the next fiscal year

BIA

- The RTRL initiative is a priority right now
- There are various positions to fill but the 401 series presents challenges, as those meeting education requirements tend to not have the qualifications requirements and those with qualifications requirements tend to not meet the education requirements.

Next Meeting:

Date and Time: Thursday, September 17 from 1000-1200

Location: New Mexico State Forestry Division office in Santa Fe

Bin Items:

Ventilation Guidance and Rollout discussion tabled until next meeting – Josh Hall

New Mexico Wildland Fire Management Joint Powers Master Agreement update – Donald Griego

Website Updates