

# Arizona Interagency Coordinating Group

May 28, 2009 – Conference Call @ 0930 MST  
Notes

## Present

Jeff Hickerson, NPS (Chair); Clay Templin, FS; Ron Sherron, FS; Leon Ben, Jr., BIA; and McKinley-Ben Miller, BLM.

## Purpose

To discuss the status of the BIA Smoke Coordinator position, where we are heading with agreements/MOUs in the future, and to finalize the FY10 AOP.

## Action Items

Topic	Action Needed	Responsibility	Date
AOP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Finalize 2010 AOP and work plan – will break out the budget into three sections (Interagency, FS, and DOI).</li><li>Confirm contact list is updated, finalize and add to 2010 AOP.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Sherron</li><li>Smith/Hickerson</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>June 15</li><li>ASAP</li></ul>
AZ Interagency Smoke Management Agreement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Provide BIA with draft comments of the next AZ Interagency Smoke Management Program Agreement.</li><li>Develop a draft new DOI Interagency Agreement to exchange funds.</li><li>Develop a draft MOU to document the partnership/working relationships, activities and operations of the smoke coordinator positions.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Smith</li><li>Ben</li><li>Templin</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>ASAP</li><li>June 30</li><li>June 30</li></ul>

*The following is a summarization of the key points discussed.*

## Status of BIA Smoke Coordinator Position

BIA plans to advertise the vacant BIA Smoke Coordinator position at the GS-07/09 level, with the intent of having the position filled prior to the end of FY09 (Sept. 30, 2009). BLM has offered to assist with getting the advertisement moving forward, if the BIA has HR issues.

## AZ Interagency Smoke Management Program Agreement/MOU

The FS has agreed to solely fund their Smoke Coordinator position, and thus the DOI agencies will be responsible for exchanging funds to cover the BIA's Smoke Coordinator position. Although the funding mechanism will be shifting in FY10, the working relationship will continue. This partnership and shared services will be documented in an MOU (to be developed), and a new Interagency Agreement is needed for the DOI agencies to exchange funds.

## 2010 AOP

BIA has agreed to waive any administrative fees. Ron will update and finalize the 2010 AOP.

## Smoke Management Program Update

Ron reminded us all that both smoke coordinator positions are needed and focusing on smoke is their priority. The workload is also difficult to forecast (especially with a new administration); EPA is requesting an emissions inventory data for every wildland fires and prescribed fires in 2008. Ron will let the agency leads know if he needs additional wildland fire data, not previously reported on ICS 209's.

BLM has recently hired a new position that has some air quality responsibilities, which may be able to focus on Air Quality related issues and lessen that burden on the Smoke Coordinators.

## Next Conference Call

July 9th at 08:00 MST. Jeff will send out conference call instructions prior to the call.