

## ***SW Prevention and Information Meeting***

### ***Minutes***

***Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> - ABQ, New Mexico***

#### **Tuesday, November 1<sup>st</sup>**

- **Introductions of attendees (List of attendees will be attached)**
- **Wallow Fire PPT Presentation – Karen Takai (presentation attached)**

Karen presented a ppt presentation from the Wallow Fire that showed FS fuel treatments around communities. Dolores Garcia helped with detailed information since she was part of those treatments.

- **2011 Fire Season AAR**

Input from the group to the pre-arranged questions:

- What did we (YOU) set out to do during the 2011 fire season in prevention/education/mitigation/information?
  - Plan to collaborate on implementation of fire restrictions
  - Interagency fire prevention meeting in Jan. (NM)
  - Better outreach to the Spanish-speaking communities
  - Career fairs turned into fire education awareness due to high/extreme fire danger on the Lincoln NF.
  - WX update to the public for awareness...PSA Fire danger
  - SWCC Predicted Services very helpful
- What actually happened during the fire season?
  - Behind the power curve since the fire season started with a bang and early (NM)
  - Proactive counties instead of Reactive
  - Preseason meeting with the media
  - Public pressure to go into forest or area closures
- Why did it happen that way and was it successful? Unsuccessful?
  - Some decisions were driven @ the zone board (fire restrictions)
  - Disconnect between the fire restrictions group and the zone board
  - Homes destroyed this fire season

- What are we going to do next season – 2012?
  - Start earlier to be well ahead of another potentially busy fire season
  - Review Fire Restriction Toolbox and strive to coordinate
- **Social Media – Michelle Fidler – NPS and Stephen Baker – BLM (presentations attached)**
  - Stephen’s presentation showcased the things that BLM-NM is using in the social media world.
  - Michelle showed the different social media tools that were used on fires this summer (Wallow, Las Conchas, etc.)
- **Smoke/RX FAQs: Claudia Standish – BLM-NM (Smoke Specialist and Coordinator) and Josh Hall – USFS (Air & Water Quality Specialist)**
  - Claudia reviewed the different tools that produced this summer by the Air Quality Bureau and the SWCC Predicted Services shop to help aid the public during the very smoky times. If you are interested in these tools please contact Claudia.
  - Claudia and Josh had the group participate in an activity “Frequently asked questions about wildfire smoke”.
  - Smoke Management and Air Quality For Land Managers- this is an on-line tutorial at your own pace and convenience:
    - <http://www.cnr.uidaho.edu/smoc>
- **“We-Tip” Anonymous Rewards Program – Susan Mandell, National Director**

Susan explained to the group about the We-Tip program and how it is working with the BIA with arson fires. For more information please contact Sue Mandell:

[suemandell@wetip.com](mailto:suemandell@wetip.com) or (909) 987-5005 ext. 250 or visit: [www.wetip.com](http://www.wetip.com)

### **Wednesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>**

- **Discuss theme for the 2012 Wildfire Awareness Week: Dolores Garcia – BLM-AZ & Jennifer Myslivy – BLM-NM**
  - Overview of 2011 activities
    - Prevention messages
    - School presentations
    - News conferences
  - 2012
    - Date: March 25<sup>th</sup> thru April 7<sup>th</sup> (trying 2 weeks this year and maybe an entire month for 2013 like what the structural world does)

- Theme: Where We Live, How We Live, Living with Wildfire in the SW
- Activities/Events
  - Fun/Run Walk with Interagency partners, Albuquerque FD and Wildland Firefighters Foundation – March 31<sup>st</sup> in ABQ
  - 2012 NM WUI Summit in Ruidoso – April 3 & 4
  - Tips for the Day...Cut your grass, trim your trees or clean out gutters etc. (Karen Takai)
  - Firewise Workshop
  - Are You Prepared?, Ready, Set, Go or Take Responsibility campaigns
  - Governor Proclamation ceremony
  - Work with local and county partners to establish events or activities...VFD Open house
  - PSA-Tweets
  - Use teachable moments from 2011
  - Booth at the Sierra Blanca Fire Academy to promote WFAW
  - Tours through affected fire areas: Interagency/media/public x
- Develop a WFAW Communication Plan and CD kit
  - Loretta and Annette will work on commo plan
  - Access and improve information about WFAW on agency websites
- Use positive action statements
- **What is a Fire-Adapted Community? How do we explain it to the public? – Jennifer Myslivy – BLM-NM**

The US Forest Service and a large stakeholders group are in the process of developing a program that targets 1 of the 3 elements of the Cohesive Strategy. It combines the various mitigation education tools and partners into a comprehensive synergistic effort. The USFS and the Ad Council will be launching campaigns in June 2012 and a website will be launched in early 2012 by NFPA and the USFS. Please read the attached documents'.

Link to FAC project on NFPA website:  
<http://www.nfpa.org/itemDetail.asp?categoryID=2282&itemID=53129&URL=Safety%20Information/For%20consumers/Outdoors/Wildland%20fires/Fire%20Adapted%20Communities&cookie%5Ftest=1>

- **AZFireInfo.com & NMFireInfo.com – Dolores Garcia – BLM-AZ & Jennifer Myslivy – BLM-NM**

Jennifer and Dolores provided updates from both NM and AZ Fire Info websites

Links: <http://nmfireinfo.wordpress.com/> & <http://azfireinfo.wordpress.com>

- **Careers in Fire Prevention, Fire Prevention Plans, Tracking reports, and SW Fire Prevention Teams: Fred Hernandez – USFS and Loretta Benavidez – BLM-NM**

Fred and Loretta passed out examples of fire prevention and mitigation PDs and personal development charts from both the FS and BLM. Also, examples of prevention plans from both the FS and BLM were handed out.

Fred, Loretta and Jennifer recapped the 3 fire prevention teams that were ordered in the SW this year: 2 in Southern NM and 1 on the Coronado NF in AZ. All items developed by the prevention teams can be viewed and used from the Daniel Boone NF website:

Visit: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/boone/prevention/2011nmprev.shtml>

Prevention training classes are being considered for 2012 and it looked like a majority would attend P-310 Fire Prevention and Education Team Member training if one was held in ABQ

- Jennifer and Fred will look into the cost and needs for the class

- **Fire Restrictions in the SW – Val Christianson – BIA and Jennifer Myslivy – BLM – NM**

- How can we be more effective with fire restrictions in 2012?

- Better coordination at the zone level for both implementation and rescinding
- Communicate with Forest/State level folks and work with communication shop when writing press release and prevention orders
- Establish parameters with “ALL” parties and agree upon them
- Reduce duplication of efforts with media releases
- Our external audience is our most important so we need to make sure the information is release in a timely manner:
  - Friday morning (0600) and not on a Saturday or Sunday
  - Release is set out early enough to provide for the local newspapers that are just weekly
- Degree of coordination – tighten up communication/coordination process going into and out of restrictions between agencies including the local county/city level

- Standardized fire danger/other for when to enter
  - Agree on standards for restrictions
  - Standardize nomenclature - phases, levels, etc
  - Essentially develop a system that provides clarity to the public on when and where restrictions are placed/lifted
  - Address website shortcomings
- Re-evaluate the Fire Restriction Toolbox and make it more user friendly for the Zone board level.
- **2012 Committee Chair, Co-Chair, and Secretary:**
    - Chair**           **Val Christenson – BIA**
    - Co-Chair**       **Karen Takai - USFS**
    - Secretary**      **Jennifer Myslivy/Loretta Benavidez – BLM-NM**

### **Thursday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Fire Prevention Planning – Dolores Garcia – BLM-AZ

Dolores reviewed the components of a fire prevention plan:

- Determine your risk and hazards for your district, field office, etc.
- Collect information
  - Fire reports and fire history
  - Cost
- Collaboration- FMOs, recreation and timber staff, LEO, Info front desk, etc.
- Track activities and accomplishments
- Develop messages and create target audiences
- Use the 3 E's and A
  - Education, Engineering, Enforcement and Administration

**\*\*\*Examples of prevention plans are attached\*\*\*\***

### **2012 Upcoming meeting and call dates**

- ❖ **SW Coordinating Group Presentation – Jan 11<sup>th</sup> at SWCC**
- ❖ **Interagency Fire Prevention and Education Meeting – Jan 18<sup>th</sup> in Socorro, NM**
- ❖ **Future SW Prevention and Information Meeting –**

- November 6-8, 2012 (Tucson, AZ)
  - Michelle and Dolores will work on location
  - More FMO involvement

❖ **Fire Restriction Template Update and/or revision**

Suzanne, Jennifer, Dolores and Karen

❖ **WFAW Committee – Video Conference Call Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>**

Val Christianson – BIA

Dan Ware – NM State Forestry

Dolores Garcia – BLM

Karen Takai – USFS

Nate Cordova – USFS

Mike Salmon – USFS

Loretta Benavidez – BLM

Suzanne Romero – USFS

Becky Livingston – USFS

Jennifer Myslivy - BLM

Michelle Fidler – NPS