

# **SW Operations Group Meeting October 15, 2008, Springerville, AZ**

## **Attendance:**

### SW Operations Group

Rich Nieto Chair, US Forest Service  
Jeff Hickerson, National Park Service  
Helen Graham, Arizona BLM  
David Bott, New Mexico BLM  
Jason Greenlee, Bureau of Indian Affairs  
Kevin Boness, Arizona State Forestry Division  
Eugene Pino, New Mexico State Forestry Division

### SW Eng Committee

Guy Wilson Chair, US Forest Service

## **1. Role of SW Ops Group role in team nominations process**

Ops. Group Members receive nominations for their agency. Due Dec 15

Ops. Group Members review applications carefully. Ensure all checklist items on Nom. Letter are complete.

Ops. Group Members will complete excel spreadsheet from SWCC and send to SWCC with original Nomination Forms by Dec. 18. Late Nominations can be added and sent to SWCC.

Ops Group Members should bring a copy of the excel spread sheet with them to the team selection meeting on Jan 15.

See - **SW Operations Group Procedures for working with IMTs** document.

## **2. Ops members assigned to attend IMT meeting breakouts**

Bill VanBruggen's team will conducting Breakouts, Ops members are to help facilitate and provide any needed assistance.

Breakouts & Ops members assigned:

- A. Safety, Operations. Air Operations      Rich Nieto, David Bott
- B. Logistics      Eugene Pino
- C. Plans      Kevin Boness, Jeff Hickerson
- D. Finance
- E. Information

- 3. Snapshot of personnel Qualified/Trainee for SW IMT C&G Positions**  
Discussed low number of Applicants for Type 1 & 2 IC in the Region and who is coming up. Rich presented Current IQCS data of personnel from each agency that are Qualified or Trainees eligible for IMT C&G Positions. He will send a list to each Ops member of personnel from their agency. Ops Members are to verify status and their desire to fill a C&G Position for SW IMT's. Return the lists to Rich by \_\_\_\_\_. The Ops Chair will send the information to SWCC to add to the Trainee Pool (established by the SWCG)for SW IMT C&G Positions .
- 4. Mark Kaib of the Ops group will coordinate the silent auction** for the Wildland Firefighter Federation (Vicki Minor the federation president will attend)
- 5. Zone Type 3 Organizations**  
SWCG tasked the SW Operations Group to develop recommendations and procedures on how the SW can become more effective in developing and supplying Type 3 organizations. David Bott developed a template of standard procedures and guidance. Will forward the Type 3 Organization Template to SWCG Chair. The SWCG liaisons to each Zone will present to the Zone Boards. The the formal selection and implementation of the Type 3 Teams will be at the Zone level. Some NM Zones may work together to staff a single Type 3 Team.
- 6. Type I Crew Sub-Committee Report**  
Rich Nieto reported on IHC certification of Granite Mtn. Crew.  
Mark Kaib has drafted a Type I Crew certification process and forms.  
Rich Nieto reported there is a proposal for expansion of R-3 IHC crews.
- 7. Type 2 Crew Sub-Committee Report**  
Chairperson (Jason Greenlee) reported on issues with Type 2 Crews and Type 2 IA crews (Crews with Consistent Poor performance or Disciplinary Problems) (Not Meeting Crew Configuration on Assignment, Organization and IQCS qualifications) Crew committee recommended a listing of Penalties be added to Crew Guide book, SW Operations Group approved recommendation. New Crew Guide books are being printed for 2009.  
SWCC Crew desk will keep copies of crew evaluations and log crew issues for review at the end of each fire season.
- 8. SW Engine Operators Committee Update**  
Guy Wilson, Committee Chair, reported a SW Engine Interagency Committee conference call is scheduled for Oct 29 to discuss Lights and siren policies, striping standards, etc. and issues from this past season. We are still trying to get better interagency participation on SW Interagency Engine Committee. If participation doesn't improve from other agencies SWCG may drop Interagency Committee.
- 9. SW Engine Academy for 2009**  
Rich Neito Report the SW Engine Academy for 2009 will be held at Carlsbad NM, Feb 1-14, 2009. Interagency participation is encouraged. Non FS student costs will be offset by their agency providing services or supplies to the Engine Academy inlew of tuition. A letter of course equivalency to NWCG courses (such as S-216 , PMS-419 etc.) to go along with the SW Engine Academy Certificate was discussed . SW Engine Academy Cadre will look in to this for 2009.

**10. SW Operations Group Chair rotation and Review of Charter**

David Bott, Bureau of Land Management New Mexico will take over as SW Operations Group chair for the next 2 years

No changes to the SW Operations Group Charter signed 5-30-08.

The following change were made to the Operational Procedures for SW Operations Group:

2. Group Membership:

National Park Service: **Jeff Hickerson**

3. Officers:

a. The Group Officers shall serve two years and the positions should rotate among the agencies of the Southwest Area. Currently, the rotation is as follows, with chair appointing secretary ~~currently USFS~~:

US Forest Service

*Bureau of Land Management: New Mexico*

National Park Service

Bureau of Land Management: Arizona

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Arizona State *Forestry Division* ~~Land Department~~

US Fish and Wildlife Service.

New Mexico State Forestry Division

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b. The Group shall meet in October along with the IMT IARR and in January for the IMT selections. Conference calls will be held the months of March, June and September, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 10:00 NM time. (March 24, 2009, June 16, 2009, September 15, 2009)