

SWCG PL-4 Informational Meeting/Conference Call, 6/18/10 – 1600

At SWCC: Brent Woffinden-NPS, Dave Cummings-MAC, Karen Frost-MAC, Bob Gilman-USFS, Patty Koppinol-USFS, Bob Lineback-NPS, Rich Naden-SWCC, Kenan Jaycox-SWCC.

On Phone: Donald Griego-NM State, Cal Pino-BIA/SW, Don Kearney-BLM/NM, Kelly Castillo-BLM/AZ, Daren Mathis-BLM/AZ, Loren DeRosear-FWS, Valdis Neha-BIA/Navajo, Leon Ben, Jr.-BIA/W, Scott Hunt-AZ State, Neal Hitchcock-NMAC.

Weather Summary: Pattern similar for next 7 days, mostly hot and dry. Expect breezy and gusty winds in N. AZ and NW NM on Sunday and Monday. Isolated dry lightning expected Sunday-Monday, maybe Tuesday and Wednesday, mostly on the east half of the GACC, with the line being from the Coronado NF north to Western NM. No rain expected. “Monsoons” are 1-3 weeks out, depending on where you are in the GACC. Arrival appears in “normal” date range. Moisture may surge up from Mexico and the Gulf when the westerlies weaken.

Summary of Incident reports by Kenan:

Tecolote – 758 acres, no critical needs, containment 2-3 days out?, direct attack, releases early next week.

Eagle Rock- 3415 acres, no critical needs, around Sitgreaves Mountain with pockets of private land, 20-50 structures, needs LE that are enroute, cost share agreement in place.

South Fork- Probably the most active and complicated fire in the GACC at the moment. 11,000+ acres, watershed threats, yesterday short sustained runs (and more today?), lots of indirect line due to terrain.

Horseshoe- 2960 acres, slow acreage growth, lots of indirect line, could get active as fuels dry, Verizon COW is an issue as it has been in place a long time, structure plan done, WFDSS decision published, no DOA to IC on structure protection, transition to another WFMT on 6/22-23?, 6/23 closeout in Tucson.

Fort Bliss 2- 4979 acres, DOD lands, 60% contained, good progress due to new dip site, direct attack, cost share issues, closeout tomorrow at 10am.

Resources:

- 70% of HS crews assigned to 5 fires. Crews being re-positioned to 2 in E. AZ, 2 in Payson, 2 on Gila, 1 in Grants, 1 in Taos. 10-12 available.
- 10 Air Tankers (5 Alamo, 4 Prescott, 1 in Winslow). Will reposition and spread as opportunities allow.
- 6 Lead Planes (2 assigned).
- SEAT's and Air Attacks good.
- Helo's: 4 excl. use Helitankers committed. 6 additional have been brought in. 1 enroute to Winslow. T2 available at Double Eagle (205++).
- Smokejumpers: 20 available.
- IMT's available: T1-Hughes, T2 (2) -Small and Cowie, AZ State Team, 3 of 4 established T3 teams available.
- NMAC reports lots of resources available. Due to rain AK is releasing lots.

Upcoming Prescribed Burns:

- The NM agencies did not understand the state's recent halt to RX burning on a statewide basis due to smoke concerns. Chair to draft letter at request of members asking NMED to explain. Also hope to get an NMED staff on the next SWCG call on Wednesday.
- BLM Arizona wants to do an RX near Sunset Point adjacent to I-17. Maybe next week.
- FWS has burned 6-7000 acres at Buenos Aires NWR and is continuing.
- FWS is concerned about the cancelling of the San Andres RX. They had worked hard on getting military clearances and lining up resources for this weekend's RX. NMED should consider discussing the implications of the statewide burn ban.
- NPS wants to do approximately 400 acres in the Rincon Mountains at Saguaro NP at the end of next week. Brent checked with the group and got concurrence to go ahead.

Miscellaneous:

- SWCC says no concern with crew timing out issues. They are watching the rotations and days off. Repositioning as come more assets become available.
- USFS has brought in a STAT team of 3-4 folks to look at aviation issues. Visiting Ft. Bliss fire, but available to others if need.
- Lead Plan Coordinator is being brought into SWCC to help with rotations and managing.
- 75 acre state of AZ fire is emerging near St. John's, AZ.

-Next Call: Wednesday at 1400, (NM time). Number to be sent out.