



## **SOUTHWEST COORDINATING GROUP (SWCG)**

May 25, 2006 Meeting Minutes  
Southwest Coordination Center  
Albuquerque, NM

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

- Pam McAlpin (BLM-AZ) (Chair)
- Bob Lineback (NPS) (Vice-Chair)
- Hector Madrid (BLM-NM)
- Rick Belger (BLM-NM) (Acting)
- Don Griego (NMS)
- Dave Lentz (USFWS)
- Cal Pino (NM-AAO)
- Leon Ben, Jr (AZ-PAO)
- Ginger Brudevold-Black for Tom Beddow (USFS)
- Willie Begay (NM-SWC for AZ-NAO)
- Dugger Hughes (NM-SWC)
- Jay Ellington (NM-SWC, Ex. Sec.)

### **GUESTS:**

- Cyndie Hogg (Acting SWCC Director)

### **MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:**

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The meeting began at 1000.

### **TYPE 3 IMT ORGANIZATION**

SWCG needs to respond to NMAC letter. Discussion revolved around typing teams, AZ State team, number of established teams, and the use of Type 3 Teams.

- Dugger will provide draft response to Pam for further forwarding to NWCG. The response will state that Type 3 teams are established for fire season needs and not for use outside the Southwest Area. All IM Teams in the SWA must be typed before they can be used on Federal incidents.

### **USE OF SW LETTERHEAD**

Recently, a fire behavior alert was distributed using SW letterhead, but was directed to a single agency.

- Anytime a letter, note, or update is distributed using the SW letterhead it must be written for purposes of distribution to the interagency community.

### **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

Several meetings ago, the Operations Committee was tasked with pulling together a Fire Management Summit. Later it was decided to cancel the meeting, then at the last meeting it was placed back on the Committee to continue with pulling together the meeting. Cost of the meeting could be as high as \$50K. The question was asked "Why do it?"

- Table the meeting until proper objectives for the meeting has been established. At that time decide if it is an Operations Committee function.

### **MAC GROUP CONFERENCE CALLS**

Operations Guidelines approved. For the conference call checklist, add PFK and SFK, remind Weather and FBAN to keep it to a summary, have SWA IC's go first followed by Out-of-Area IC's, and start call at 1800.

## LANGUAGE IN SW MOB GUIDE

Language in the SW Mob Guide Chapter 26.3.3 differs somewhat from what is written in the National Mob Guide. The difference is causing some confusion in the use of resources and shutdown of Prescribed Fires.

- Bob Lineback will write-up draft language for SW Mob Guide that follows lead of the National Mob Guide, and send out to the SWCG for review. Language currently in the SW Mob Guide remains in place until the draft has been approved.

## NWCG/GACG MEETING

Pam recently attended the NWCG/GACG meeting to discuss various issues. A copy of the meeting notes was distributed. A number of topics were discussed including, NWCG Advisory Group Charter, FPA, Federal Drivers License, Contract Crews, NIMO, ROSS, etc.

Follow-up discussion:

- Should the National GACG meet more often? What's the issue with alerts and distribution? How are proposals made to the national group?
- Operations Committee tasked with working on language to determine drawdown levels for each Preparedness Levels? Language to include Teams, helicopters, engines... check with California.
- Type 2 Crew Committee to research the number of Type 2IA crews in the SWA. **Willie Begay to draft letter on behalf of SWCG to be forwarded to BIA encouraging crews to move toward Type 2IA capability, allow units to free (i.e. waiver) folks up to attend ICT5 training, and determine the minimum level of T2IA crews for each agency.**

## LESSONS LEARNED BRIEFING

Meeting with the SW Strategy brought two issues that need follow-up:

- (1) Three-Tier Dispatch
- (2) Mentoring or Shadowing Agency Administrators. Develop a formal process for those Agency Administrators without much fire background to mentor and/or shadow with AA that have IMT activity. Pam needs a report on what each agency is doing on this item. And if there is opportunity for those AA's to shadow with other agency AA's. BLM-Arizona might have large Type 4 or 5 fires, but no Type 2 or 1. Would like to have shadowing opportunity with USFS AA's that would have IMT fire. Need info to Pam by mid-June.
- Jay to post Lessons Learned document to SWCG website when received from Pam.

## ALTERNATE VICE-CHAIRS

- First alternate vice-Chair: Leon Ben, Jr
- Second alternate vice-Chair: Willie Begay

Next conference call: 1100, June 9, 2006

Next meeting: July 20, 2006 in Albuquerque.

/s/ Pamela McAlpin

Chair

Southwest Coordinating Group

Notes compiled by: Jay Ellington, SWCC