

Southwest Coordinating Group Meeting October 14-16, 2008, Springerville, AZ

Approved November 18, 2008

UPCOMING SWCG DATES:

-Nov. 18, 19	PHX, location TBD by AZ Forestry, (chair rotates this meeting)
-Dec. 8 th week	NMAC-GMAC meeting in Boise, (Bob/Donald/Leon/Kenan)
-Jan. 13, 14	ABQ - USFS
-Feb. 17-19	SW IMT Meeting -ABQ
-March 24, 25	PHX, AZ-BLM
-May 6, 7	ABQ, FWS
-June 9, 10	ABQ, USFS

Oct. 14, 2008

Attendance: *SWCG Members* – Donald Griego, Jason Greenlee, Kenan Jaycox, Bob Lineback, Hector Madrid, Marsha Kearney, Ron Melcher, Leon Ben. *Recording-* Nancy Moore

PREVIOUS MEETING NOTES AND ACTION ITEM REVIEW

Sept. 24-25 meeting notes reviewed, edited and approved. Action Items updated and ongoing carried over at the end of these notes.

TODAY'S AGENDA ITEMS

T2 IMT Rotation

- Discussed four different options for the T2 team rotation for presentation to ICs tomorrow.
- Final decision will be made Thursday.

T1 Team Business

- Discussion on recruitment of T1 Deputy IC's.
- T2 IC's interested in T1 Deputy IC – possibly help train ICs from other GACCs if not enough SW applicants.
- Hughes' team definitely wants a Deputy IC.

Review Draft SW Interagency AD Guidelines

- Discussed draft guidelines and made suggestions for additions/deletions. Hector will carry to committee.
- Updates will be made, and then sent back to SWCG for another review before finalizing.

IMT Recognition Awards

- Agency sponsoring recipient will buy the awards. Marsha and Bob will get criteria out to the ICs

SWCC Center Manager Report

- All Dispatch Offices represented at center manager meeting.
- Dispatch training for the year will be formalized.
- Dispatch Steering Committee will now consist mostly of Center Managers. Formalizing/revising charter. Agency reps OK if any agency wants to utilize.

- Discussed Solano Action Items and AAR processes for incident for the dispatch offices.
- Discussed “delegations of authority” from Agency Administrators to Center Managers due to the interagency nature of the dispatch centers; Kenan to do draft and SWCG will look at for comments.
- Discussed generic T-3 team announcement being put t/g by Ops group; has already been discussed with zone center managers.
- Discussed video conferencing and that it could save travel costs in the future.
- Discussed Dispatcher’s Workshop at NAFRI this year; new format.
- Discussed WFDSS and continuing to wonder how it will affect the dispatchers/GACC.

Northern Rockies Request for Joint FUMTs

- SW did not have any FUMT IC nominations. Therefore, no stand alone SW FUMT.
- Discussed proposal from Northern Rockies for shared FUMTs. SWCG agreed if NRCG will host recruitment and the team. Bob will send notice to NRCG.
- Agreed to continue to build our regular SW IMTs to have all teams able to do long term plans and Stage 3s (to be called Response Level 3 Plans under the updated policy implementation?).

NMAC AAR Agenda Suggestions

- Negative on proposal to do a separate Agency Administrator Intent letter from incident Delegation of Authority.
- T2 IMT’s – PROC not mandatory position on T2 teams.
- WIMS access restricted; waiting to hear more from SWCC meteorologists if this needs to be brought forward.
- Update on implementation actions related to Dispatch Efficiency Study and Cache Strategic Plan
- LTAN, AOBD, FBAN, FUM2, FUM1, qualifications should be higher IFPM credits to encourage folks to pursue those qualifications.
- PL 4&5 WFU and RX approval process needs clarified on an interagency basis.
- WFDSS; how will it be implemented in 2009?
- Accountable Cost Management; avoid implementation of major initiatives like this in mid-summer.
- March 9th – Washington DC – all T1 IC’s and C&G staffs to meeting of unknown import.

NM Smoke – new rulemaking issues

- NMED, AQB proposes to revise the rule defining the NM Smoke Mgmt Program. This is a major process that could have implications to RX and WFU. Discussed USFS response (handout).
- NMICG meeting on Oct 29th at 11:00 where it will be discussed further by agency experts.

Agency Round Robin Items

- **BLM**
- Trainee IHC’s are now full IHC’s
- Should know by November on BLM WFDSS and fire policy implementation.
- **AZ State**
- Kirk Rowdabaugh leaving end of month. Acting will be Cam Hunter.
- State budget down – no travel. Hiring freeze within the State.
- Asst Center Manager – AIDC recruitment out now.

- AZ State has new mutual aid plan and does not include wildland fire.
- Glen Joki and Chris Lyle still in DC on hurricane related/FEMA detail assignments.
- **NM State**
- Hired 4 new state FMOs – asked patience during the training and transition process.
- **BIA, Navajo Regional Office**
- IHC Supt retired last Friday – will be looking for one.
- **BIA, Western Regional Office**
- Fall FMO meeting last week.
- FMOs participated in the Dude Fire Staff Walk.
- BIA Engine subcommittee started, addressing/standardizing T-6 package. They are building a simpler package that is easier to operate, repair, and maintain. Other agencies are interested in this approach.
- Tri-Area FMO Workshop, ABQ, March 2-5, 2008.
- **USFS**
- Some discussion on the proposal to bring on 10 more IHC's – will have more info later. Not sure if this will occur. Lots of concern from various groups.
- Challenges trying to meld fire doctrine with safety program (OSHA).
- Leadership Team meeting last week – too much to cover.

October 15, 2008

Southwest IC AAR all day attended by SWCG, SW IC's, and SW Operations Group. The group developed a separate Action Item list from that meeting.

October 16, 2008

Attendance: *SWCG Members* – Helen Graham, Donald Griego, Jason Greenlee, Kenan Jaycox, Bob Lineback, Hector Madrid, Rich Nieto, Ron Melcher. *Recording-* Nancy Moore

The SW Operations Group met separately in the same building this date.

Today's ACTION ITEMS

Decision on T2 IMT Rotation

- 2009 – Option 2, response areas maintained to support closest forces with equity option 2nd team out/out of GACC rotation. In 2010 T2 teams will be moving to a straight rotation system to meet the other objectives for attracting applicants, satisfying AA concerns about continuous availability, and giving employees unassigned off rotation time.

AD Dispatching by non assigned agency/dispatch office

- Issues were discussed relating to AD's living in one area and being dispatched from another area, and workload being unrelated to zone needs and response.

IAWF Conference in April in Phoenix

- This is a National meeting is being addressed at the National Level. Marsha will discuss recommendation that Whitney’s NIMO team be involved as a SW Representative group. Leon has gotten the BIA national office to contribute funds.

November Meeting

- AZ State will work on meeting place; state conference rooms are full.

Committee Updates

- AICG – Leon Ben gave update; chair transitioned to Jeff Hickerson (NPS). Issues with using the agreement to transfer smoke manager funds.
- Aviation – changing of chair to occur; may co-meet with SWCG in Phoenix, then meet with SWCG.
- Dispatch – Working on finalizing new charter. To send to Bob to sign.
- Fire Planning – Implementing FPA “waves.” Will update next meeting.
- FUTA – changing. Will be discussed at Nat’l Director’s meeting. Trying to get FY09 AOP so can do interagency funds transfer. Update next meeting
- Incident Business Management – new chair is Kathy Lister – update at next meeting.
- Info & Prevention – recommends PLEA Pilot Project (website) from last year continue. Monetary contributions should be about the same. SWCG agreed a good idea to continue. Kelly Castillo will work with group to develop budget and formalize proposal at the next meeting.
- Predictive Services – no new information.
- Training – update next meeting; Marsha will see if Glenda can attend. Revised charter to be sent to Bob, who will circulate for comments.

SWCG Action Items

Topic	Action needed	Responsibility	Date
SWCG Committee Liaisons and Chairs	Check SWCC website to see if charters, chair names, essential documents, and member lists are up to date. If not, contact Jay Ellington.	All SWCG Members	Ongoing

Zone Boards Communications	<p>Annually, each SWCG rep should attend at least one Zone Mtg. The following are the SWCG reps to each zone: León-CWZ, Bob-SNZ, Jason-NAZ, Hector-PEZ, Donald-TAZ, Helen-SEZ, Loren-ABZ, Dave-WMZ, Marsha-GLZ, Cal- alternate as needed.</p> <p>Talking points on SWCG secure website.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zone reps need to discuss with zones to share/cooperate on standing T3 organizations; ops group template for their use. Bob and Ken to send to zones. • ABZ, WMZ, SEZ and CWZ reps need to get their zone charters and pass to Kenan for posting. • Develop template for zone charters as some zones are struggling with this. 	SWCG liaisons	Ongoing
		SWCG liaisons	Ongoing
		SWCG liaisons	Nov 08
		Kenan, Bob	Jan 09
Operations Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bob and Rich finish up the draft IHC subcommittee charter. • Work with Training Committee to develop accelerated process for IMT shortage positions • 09 SW IMT Meeting (Feb 17-19 2009, ABQ): continue planning and work with Van Bruggen group. Help coordinate IMT meeting silent auction • Ops group continue to finish out T3 Org template; Bob to send memo to zones with it. • Finish IMT Recruitment Notice; incorporate shared training “pool” and FUM2 language; send out. • Combined zone and IMT needs analysis spread sheet to SWCG? 	Nieto, Lineback	Nov 08
		Madrid, Griego	Jan 09
		Madrid, Griego Van Bruggen	Jan 09
		Bott, Lineback	Nov 08
		Nieto, Madrid	Nov 08
		Nieto, Womack	Nov 08
Engine Academy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nomination announcement to be completed and sent out • Determine non-USFS cost per student • Send out Transfer IGO example • Increase engine sub-committee involvement; re-look at sub-committee charter to determine validity. • SWCG members visit academy while 	Nieto/Graham	Nov 1, 2008
		Nieto	Nov 08
		Graham	Nov 08
		Nieto, Bott	Nov. 08
		All	Spring 09

<p>Training Committee</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with Ops Group to develop accelerated training or experience process for IMT shortage positions. • Get GATR Charter posted to the Training Committee website. • S-420 class update (Feb 2-6, 2008). • Update TC Charter • TX MOU – more info needed • Training Committee and GATR need to prepare for coordinating updated Fire Policy workshops for late winter/spring 09. This is essential for the 09 season and must wait until the Nov 08 national implementation memo comes out. May be needed at multiple organizational levels. • Modify all SW Course nomination announcements to include a statement committing attendees to utilizing their skills on incidents, not just attending for career growth. • Training committee needs to attend SW IMT selection meeting in January to see/hear IMT shortages firsthand. Coordinate with Ops Group. 	<p>Graham, Womack, Tewa</p> <p>Womack</p> <p>Tewa Lineback, Womack</p> <p>Womack</p> <p>Womack, Tewa</p> <p>Womack, Tewa</p> <p>Tewa, Womack and all</p>	<p>Nov 08</p> <p>Oct 08</p> <p>Nov 08 Oct 08</p> <p>Nov 08</p> <p>Dec 08</p> <p>Nov 08</p> <p>Jan 09</p>
<p>Aviation Committee</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete in-brief packages for out of area aviation resources. • Develop accelerated aviation position development in relation to SW aviation needs, IMT shortages, and zone position needs analysis. • Figure out implementation plan for Solano Aviation Action Items • SECO action items follow-up • Follow-up on UAV business with Rudy Holm, DHS. • Discuss capabilities and reliability of Air Ambulance services in the SW. There continue to be additional fatalities across the country; is there anything we can do to ensure that the services our FFs are using are safe? • Is Aviation charter still reflective of what SWCG expects? 	<p>Darren Mathis</p> <p>Committee</p> <p>Mathis</p> <p>Mathis</p> <p>Mathis</p> <p>Mathis</p> <p>Lineback</p>	<p>March 09</p> <p>Jan 09</p> <p>Nov 08</p> <p>Nov 08</p> <p>Jan 08</p> <p>Jan 08</p> <p>Nov 08</p>

Incident Business Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have an after season AAR with SW incident business folks on 2008 fire season and prioritize action items. Invite SWCG members (hopefully a few can go); Kathy will send out notice of time, place. • The Incident Business Committee will continue to work on drafting the SW interagency AD Guidelines. • Members need to plan to attend Finance Section breakout at IMT Meeting • Update Interagency Firecode Guidance 	Lister/Behrens/ SWCG Lister Lister Lister	Dec 08 Nov 08 Feb 08 Feb 08?
Dispatch Steering Committee	Draft new and updated charter, reflecting suggestions to SWCG on new membership	Jaycox, Lineback	Nov 08
Mob Center Task Group	Draft final recommendations memo before sun setting the committee	Kenan	Nov 08
Radio Communications Task Force	Charter signed; group will begin to meet	Kearney	Nov 08
IMT SW GIS CD's	Return 2 AZ copies to Kenan. Update SW out of GACC IMT briefing packets w/portable hard drives. Place 2 copies in Phoenix. Get copies to each SW IMT (8).	Graham, Jaycox	Oct 08, then March 2009
Agency Admin. Awards	Two 08 awards presented, one still waiting (Greenlee will find recipient). Marsha will have Mary Z write a short update for the website. Bob and Marsha to get 09 process underway.	Kearney, Lineback, Greenlee	Nov 08
Team Related Recognition	Finish draft of recognition criteria for ICs. 2009 Awards will be paid for by BIA Navajo area team support funds.	Bob, Marsha, Jason, Donald	Dec 08
2009 Mob Guide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop mob guide protocols for dispatching neighbor resources across GACC boundaries in boundary areas, based on the agreements. • Review NIMO infill guidelines before adding them to the SW Mob Guide in 2009. • Update Preparedness Level plan pages with changes, lessons learned from 08 season. • Compare National PL 4&5 to SW PL 1&2 WFU and RX approval process • Incorporate new T2 team rotation language and Solano/AZ team information 	Jaycox SWCG Lineback, Jaycox, and SWCG Jaycox Jaycox	Jan 9, 09 Jan 9, 09 Jan 9, 09 Jan 9, 2009 Nov 08

Update of SWCG Handbook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporate changes from MAC forms and post on website. Incorporate new language on what fires to consider by MAC, (T3, WFU). • Buff out “6 question” sheet for IMT incidents, then include in IMT handbook with direction to use • Review, update rest for 09 season 	Cumming, Lineback Lineback, Madrid, Griego Griego and all	Jan 09 Jan 09 Jan 09
Implementation modifications to Wildland Fire Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify to Marsha Kearney potential SWCG member agency members of centralized SW WFDSS group • Marlina to present at Jan SWCG Mtg. on understanding of WFDSS and 2009 modifications to policy • Look for interagency opportunities to do thoughtful implementation after the final (Nov) memo come s out. 	All Nieto SWCG	Dec 10, 2008 Jan 13, 2008 Nov 08
NIMO Team	Develop list of things NIMO could help the SW with and send to USFS	All, Lineback	Nov. 08
Agenda Items for Nov SWCG Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up meeting place for November meeting • Aviation Issues • Start Mob Guide Updates • SW IMT all team meeting update • Invite local Zone Board Chairs and Center Managers (1/2 hr presentation?) • Standing T3 Org update from Zones • Training issues • AD Guidelines • Implementation Actions related to Wildland Fire Policy • PLIC proposal presentation • ARR Incident/Handbook Update • Review IA AAR Action Items • Review and progress report on Solano Action Items • Review progress on NRCG joint FUMT proposal • IMT issues • Feedback from IHC AAR meeting 	Behrens Underwood, Mathis Jaycox Madrid, Griego Jaycox Jaycox Womack, Tewa Lister Lineback Castillo Jaycox Madrid Lineback	Nov 2008

Agenda Items for Jan SWCG Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss how to develop/implement 2010 straight rotation for T2 Teams. • Review AA Award nominations • Review IMT Award nominations • Lay out any priorities for IMT member selection meeting • Invite local Zone Board Chairs and center managers • Review NMAC meeting results • NR Joint FUMT applications review • TICC or TFS attend? • FUTA fall session and steering committee Mtg. update • 	Jaycox	Jan 09
AD Pay Plan	Any more comments from draft handout due to Hector Madrid to pass to Incident Business Committee	All	Oct 31
NMAC AAR Agenda Items	Bob to send summary of SWCG discussions to NICC center manager who is coordinating agenda for the NMAC meeting. See Oct 14 SWCG notes for details and IC AAR notes.	Lineback	Nov 7, 2008
IMT meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send out message to IC's reminding them of the SWCG expectation of attendance by their teams at the All Team Meeting in ABQ. • Invite IAAR reps to meeting? 	Lineback ?	Nov. 1, 08
Joint FUMT w. N Rockies	Bob send acceptance of this proposal to NRCG	Lineback	Nov 08
IC AAR	Send action items out to SWCG, ICs, Ops Group, and Training Committee	Lineback	Nov 08
TICC to come to SWCG meeting?	Donald invite TICC or TFS rep to Nov or Jan Meeting	Griego	Nov 08
T2 Team Rotation Decision	Send message to IC's announcing rotation decision for 2009, 2010	Lineback	Nov 08
IAWF meeting in Phoenix	Discuss with Whitney recommending his NIMO team get involved with this summit.	Kearney	Nov 08