

# Southwest Coordinating Group Meeting June 9, 2009 – Albuquerque, NM (BIA-SW Regional Office)

*DRAFT – to be reviewed for approval at next meeting*

## UPCOMING SWCG DATES:

-September 1, 2	SWCG Window Rock, AZ
-October 13-15	SWCG/IC AAR Springerville, AZ
-November 17, 18	SWCG PHX

## June 9, 2009

**Attendance:** *SWCG Members* – Donald Griego, Kenan Jaycox, Jeff Hickerson, Brent Woofenberg, Hector Madrid, Loren DeRosear, Cal Pino, Bill VanBruggen, Jason Greenlee, Mike Gonzales, Dave Bott, Leon Ben

*Recording-* Kenan Jaycox

## PREVIOUS MEETING NOTES AND ACTION ITEM REVIEW

Previous meeting notes reviewed, edited and approved. Action Items updated and carried over at the end of these notes.

## Agenda

### **2010 IMT Meeting**

BLM NM and USFS will pay for the guest speaker Gordon Graham. Will continue to follow up with ICs on the planning/logistics process.

### **Canelo/Bear Closeout**

Still challenges related to cost apportionment and coordinating between the agencies on initial decisions to order a team, etc. All affected jurisdictions need to be involved. Internet service was a problem because of remoteness and provided difficulties in providing good updated information. Structures were lost on the fire. Good interface with the community. IBPA tents acquired from the DPL were an issue. They received what appeared to be colorful “circus” type tents. Performance rating for IMTs from the Redbook talks about firefighting “aggressively” which may not be the case with the new policies, etc. Difficulties in coordination with DHS and border activities. Trouble finding a consistent contact/rep to coordinate with. Also problems with getting adequate LEO representation/support for night operations. Need to also add portable cell towers to the team preorder. Good support for trainees. The team did get engaged in WFDSS and learned some things.

### **ICS209 Terminology**

In the National IMSR, some fires that are being managed for resource benefit and they are being indicated in the report as confine/contain strategy. For prioritization purposes, is there enough information to make good decisions. Need to go back to each agency and recommend that 209s reference “resource benefit” for reporting purposes. See action item.

## **NMAC Response on Trainees**

NMAC Chair supports following Mob Guide standards on the mobilizations and use of trainees. They realize the Cost Review Teams ding the teams on costs of trainees. As long as we follow the standards, we are OK to continue to promote trainee assignments. According to NMAC, these reviews should be available for all teams/agencies to review.

## **Structure Protection Memo**

The group reviewed the new Structure Protection Policy Memo from the USFS. The intent was to clarify what USFS folks should and should not be doing when faced with structure protection on incidents. Local governments are charged with this task. The Red Book and Blue Book for DOI also has good direction which spells it out sufficiently.

## **SWCC Review**

SWCC was reviewed the first week of June. There were certain items that were identified for improvement which they will work on. Commendations and Recommendations were reviewed. Need to a FireOrg workload analysis for funding and budget contributions, FTE's, operations costs, etc. Need to improve aircraft log documentation. Will look at WildCad/WildGACC as options. Good comments on IMT procedures, website, and Predictive Services. Overall the review of SWCC was excellent.

## **Taos Review**

Taos Dispatch was reviewed the first week of June. Commendations and Recommendations were reviewed. Agency Administrators involved will meet on June 17 to try and resolve recommendations.

## **2010 IMT2 Rotation Letter**

Letter for the 2010 process regarding IMT2 rotation GACC-wide. SWCG is finalizing and wants to get letter out by the August timeframe. Before that happens, SWCG needs to make sure the A/A's from each agency have buy-in. See action item.

## **Southwest Area Training Task Group (Luevano)**

Reviewed options for the future for SWA training since the USFS Columbia Bldg lease has expired. Options are being looked at for facilities, funding, agreements, and work force. The question remains as to what actually is needed to support training needs. When the group meets for the first time, they will work through some of these questions both short term and long term. Each agency's representative needs to get with Charley Luevano to provide feedback on options and training needs. Per the charter, the Task Group needs to make recommendations to SWCG on how to proceed in the future and how we can support training needs.

## **S-520 Nominations**

SWA received 6 nominations for S-520. Individuals were priority ranked by SWCG and turned into NAFRI. Charley will find out if nominees who don't get selected for the current year will need to reapply for the following year. Almost all nominations this year were late. A letter needs to go out in future years with enough notice so that we can avoid late nominations in the future.

### **Tanker 42 Update**

NTSB is continuing to contact all involved and information will be forthcoming.

### **NM Smoke Mgmt Update**

NMICG has given over a scope of work and NMS is working on getting the facilitator.

### **Restriction Toolbox**

Now posted on the website. Still seems to be a lack of adequate coordination of restrictions amongst the agencies.

### **PLIA**

Agencies need to make sure they have paid their monies, the date was May 1, 2009.

### **PS Update (SW and National)**

Conference call with Chuck Maxwell on SWA and National outlook. Remainder of June in Southwest, not a whole lot of change. Cooler and occasionally breezy. Will warm and dry out end of June. In July, late monsoon in AZ. Could get active in mid-July in AZ. Most of NM should receive more of a normal monsoon. Nationally, needs to be a lot drying the next month or two to become active.

### **IMT3 Availability (Sit300)**

Proposal to add IMT3s to the Sit300. Discussion on pros and cons. Decision is to post them on Sit300 with availability and area (local, GACC, National, etc).

### **Ironwood IHC**

Request has been submitted for Ironwood IHC to become certified as IHC. They are in process of peer review. Once the Ops Group creates a letter one way or the other regarding certification, they will send to SWCG for concurrence.

### **CISM Update**

A lot of interest in the training. Currently have 30+ people. Will create the official announcement soliciting for NWCG nominations later this year. Training will be at the Hilton Garden Inn in Tucson, AZ.

## **Type 2 Crew Evaluations**

Evaluations are being posted on the SWA website. Handbook has also been completed. Discussion on the process when a crew comes home with a negative evaluation. It is usually the sponsoring agency who deals with the negative evaluation. There seems to be a disconnect on what the agency does to correct items contained within the negative evaluation. Does there need to be more direction on how to deal with this? Will look at changes to the handbook in the future.

## **Conference Call with Caches**

Prescott and Silver City Caches joined SWCG on a conference call. Prepositioned cache vans can only be sent to a Type 1 or 2 incidents. For Type 3 incidents, need to use the Type 3 kits. Need to have identified cache ordering procedures in the SWA for incidents, RX fires, etc. Will look at the GBK template and make any changes and submit to SWCG for review. Incident replacement forms need to be signed by the appropriate person who is authorized on the list, especially when there are multiple jurisdictions involved. Dottie and Debbie will draft some procedures and send to the Ops Group for dissemination and input.

## **Committee Updates/Zone Reports**

**Ops** – Border information/DVD's are out. Border safety info is posted on the website.

**AICG** – working on agreements to facilitate paying for smoke coordinator position.

## **Agency Round Robin**

BLM NM – slowed down quite a bit with recent moisture. Will still try and burn Pelona Mountain when conditions are right. No severity in place. Hector takes his new job July 19.

USFWS – RX has proved difficult in getting the right conditions. Fuel moistures are too high. Brown Canyon will be rescheduled in 2010. Possible severity in Colorado River area in July.

NPS – Brent Woffinden is in place. Couple of resource benefit fires, but otherwise quiet.

USFS – Lots of resource benefit fires on 6 different forests. Due to Union issues, no more 401 series for GS 12 and below until a fire series is established. Still more to come on this. It may impact relationships with educational institutions.

BIA SW – Agencies reporting moisture and have slowed down. RX burning planned. SEAT at Double Eagle for a month. Still trying to fill positions at Mescalero with detailers until permanent positions can be filled.

BIA Navajo – Lots of RX fire. Helicopter is at Window Rock. Navajo Scouts can provide up to 18 crews now.

BIA Western – Most positions are now filled. Received WFDSS training to prepare for implementation.

NMS – Moderate IA around the state. A few vacancies currently.

### SWCG Action Items

Topic	Action needed	Responsibility	Date
SWCG Committee Liaisons and Chairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check SWCC website to see if charters, chair names, essential documents, and member lists are up to date. If not, contact Jay Ellington and update!</li> </ul>	All SWCG Members	Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IMT Rotation policy needs to be discussed with agency administrators prior to sending out the letter in August.</li> </ul>	All	Jan-Aug 09
Zone Boards	<p>SWCG Zone reps: <b>León-CWZ, Jeff-SNZ, Jason-NAZ, Hector-PEZ, Donald-TAZ, Kelly-SEZ, Loren-ABZ, Dave-WMZ, Marsha-GLZ, Cal-</b> alternate as needed. Talking points bullets available on SWCG secure website.</p>	SWCG liaisons	Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annually, each SWCG rep should attend Zone Mtgs if possible.</li> <li>• ABZ, WMZ, SEZ and CWZ reps need to get their zone charters to Kenan for posting.</li> </ul>	all  Loren, Dave, Kelly, Leon	Ongoing  Ongoing
Operations Group (Madrid, Griego)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Follow up with Caches on Aquatic Invasive Species-cleaning agents. (Temps)</li> </ol>	Bott	Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with IC's and IMT's to plan next year's IMT meeting in AZ BLM/FS will pay for Guest Speaker (Gordon Graham) -Explore Video Taping meeting</li> </ul>	Bott/ Brown Hughes	Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each agency will explore its own process for AIS</li> </ul>	SWCG Members	

Training Committee (Kearney)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training Committee and GATR need to prepare for coordinating updated WFDSS workshops.</li> <li>• Modify all SW Course nomination announcements to include a statement committing attendees to utilizing their skills on incidents, not just attending for career growth.</li> </ul>	Womack, Luevano	On going
Aviation Committee (Castillo)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop accelerated aviation position development in relation to SW aviation needs, IMT shortages, and zone position needs analysis. (w. Trng./Ops committees)</li> <li>• Continue follow-up on UAV business with Rudy Holm, DHS.</li> <li>• 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? Recommendation to SWCG/Zones?</li> </ul>	Mathis Mathis Mathis	Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing
Interagency recruitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dispatch Committee to develop interagency recruitment for Mob center</li> <li>• IBA Committee to develop interagency recruitment notice for Buying Team</li> </ul>	Kenan IBA group	Sep 09 Dec 09
Solano	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Address Solano Action items as needed</li> </ul>	Group	On going
PLIC Funds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agencies should start process for 2010 payment.</li> </ul>	Group	Fall 2009
CISM Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gather info on Arizona Side</li> <li>• Gather info on NM side.</li> <li>• Develop a SWA team for 2010</li> </ul>	Boness Griego SWCG members	Ongoing

<b>NEW ACTION ITEMS</b>			
Update from Aviation Meeting in Boise (Theater Level Mgmt)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Get Yolanda to provide an update to SWCG next meeting</li> </ul>	Jaycox	Sept 2009
IMT3 Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop an IMT3 award to present at the next IMT Meeting</li> </ul>	Ops Group	Oct 2009
Aviation Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bring in Darrin Mathis to next meeting for updates and Solano items</li> </ul>	Castillo	Sept 2009
CISM Sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Get 2009 sources posted to the website</li> </ul>	Jaycox	June 2009
2010 IMT Brief	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add Medical Standards</li> </ul>	Jaycox	Jan 2010
209 Revision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suggest revision to include "Resource Benefit" as a strategy</li> </ul>	Griego	June 2009

NMAC letter On trainees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Get written reply from NMAC</li> </ul>	Griego	June 2009
IMT2 Rotation Letter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each agency needs feedback from A/A's before letter goes out the first week or two of September.</li> </ul>	All	Sept 2009
Training Task Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Need report on progress</li> </ul>	Luevano VanBruggen	Sept 2009
Advanced recruitment for S-520 Candidates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Charley to work with training committee to get letter out.</li> </ul>	Luevano - Training Committee	March- April 2010
IMT3 listing on the Sit300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Post on Sit300 with availability/area Assignment, etc.</li> </ul>	Jaycox	June 2010
Update PLIA (formalize)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IBA committee to formalize and make exchange of monies easier.</li> </ul>	IBA Committee / Griego	Sept 2009
Ironwood IHC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Once letter comes out from Ops Group regarding Ironwood IHC regarding certification, SWCG needs to send letter to members for</li> </ul>	Ops Group/SWCG	Sept 2009

	concurrency.		
Meetings	SWCG to plan future meetings	Group	September 09