

# Southwest Coordinating Group Meeting September 1-2, 2009 – Window Rock, AZ (BIA-Navajo)

*Approved October 13, 2009*

## UPCOMING SWCG DATES:

-October 13-15  
-November 17, 18

SWCG/IC AAR Springerville, AZ  
SWCG PHX

## September 01, 2009

**Attendance:** *SWCG Members* – Donald Griego, Kenan Jaycox, Brent Woffinden, Loren DeRosear, Cal Pino, Bill VanBruggen, Jason Greenlee, Dave Bott, Don Kearny, Lisa Bye,  
*Recording-* June Begaye

## 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

**Chevron Fire (closeout):** Discussion with the line officer and Regional Office to determine what was actually needed, umbrella organization/IMT long/short. A decision was made to order a type 2 team, the team took command of all those incidents for a few days. The logistics and finance issues were the biggest challenge for the incident. Tent vendor on Chevron arrived without floors that were supposed to be part of the tent kit, needed some other type of floor material due amount of rain. Logistics chief had a talk with the vendor. IMT evaluations were good from the forest. Tracking of resources was and the loading into I-Suites was an issue. Costs did exceed district rangers' authority, but the RO did support the district.

**Taylor Closeout:** Coconino NF, SW of Flagstaff. Forest ordered T2 Team. Most of T1 Crews available, the fire made good use of 12 Hotshot crews. Water tenders ordered via state agreements. Dennys performance on Taylor was good. Many units in the SW are still struggling with this fuel tender availability.

**Type 3 Teams recognition:** Get more zones involved to support more standing teams. Most Type 3 organizations managed incidents were short in duration. With slower activity within the area most IMT3 were able to get resources that they needed. All managers involved gave positive feedback. A letter of recognition will be issued to all zone chairs.

**Type 2 Crew-subcommittee:** Tasked to monitor crews that went out, each crew has been asked to send evaluations to Jason Greenlee for review and will be posted on the website. When negative evaluations came in, the committee, attempted to get crew comments on why evaluation was negative and get supporting documentation from the evaluator. No phone numbers to contact evaluators. Suggested to Boise that they revise the form the print name and sent email addresses

**Type 2 Crews- Cache replacement:** BIA is struggling to keep crews equipped with PPE and supplies. Cost containment is forcing incidents to limit cache replacement for critical items. BIA has limited funding to support the type 2 crews but usually has funding earmarked for a specialty item (radios). S#

are not being issued by IMT's to crews like they were in years past. Tribes do not support the crews with funding. Need to bring this issue up to Boise. Think about recycling equipment. Push this up to IB and take a look at it and may have some issues.

**Cache: Ordering procedures:** working on agreements for using the cache for non-fire projects and RX fire, what level should agreements reside? Procedures will work until September 8. Issues on cache being closed when a fire is going, the mob guide will be update for PL3 to explain when the cache is supposed to be open. Put Cache information in Mob Guide on ordering procedures. Put people on re-supply list to order supplies. On resource orders it does not say who is authorized to order supplies, only on restock orders this is happening. Need to fill out form and send all paperwork to the home unit. ICBS cannot talk to ROSS and the Dispatch Centers don't know when they filled the order. .

**NM Smoke Management:** Finally got RFP together and try to get finalized next week. Next step is to go out to bid with the new RFP.

**Taos Dispatch:** Pat Pacheco (TDC Chair) wrote response letter in response to the SWCG letter issued on March 09. Taos is trying to work together, to get some things back on line. What is our fall back plan? Need meeting with SWCG group and Taos Zone Board? Annual ops plan finished in July was supposed to be completed prior to fire season. How long is this going to continue? Will SWCG to do another review this fall? If we write a letter to the AA's saying we may shut dispatch down it may speed things up. Need to take a look at deficiencies. SWCG would like to see the expectations. Where's the delegation of authority? Who is the facilitator? Was there a sign-in sheet? SWCG really has no evidence. Would like to see due dates for each of the incomplete items listed on the review. Don will draft letter and send it out to members for review. Taos dispatch needs to produce these documents with due dates. SWCG should think about what would be the fall back. Don will send letter to Zone Boards and Agency Administrators.

**Predictive Services (Fuels):** There is a need for the smoke coordinators and predictive services to work together to deliver better smoke prediction products to the field. What role should SWCC (predictive services) play as products from the National Weather Service do not help with many smoke issues. It would be good to have smoke intelligence posted in real time on the website. Chuck Maxwell and his folks are busy and will have to drop something in order to make this happen as they are busy with their normal workload. Loren will talk with Chuck and report at next meeting.

**AD Guidelines:** (IBA tasking to make the AD guidelines just for AD overhead/ does not apply to SWFF crews. SWCG did come out with standards with AD Guidelines. Distinguish with Crew Guidelines. Make changes on hiring policies and procedures for AD's to attend team meetings (see handout). There are AD's that come from out of the area, but who pays for it? An issue on AD's driving agency vehicles. Change on last page on interim direction will be implemented during the 2010 fire season not 2008.

**IMT nomination.** . SWCC will recruit for everything and send fire use team nominations to the Northern Rockies. Free agent trainees, are not getting many assignments, most teams have their primary trainees. They are getting trained up but not getting out. Trainees are not necessarily with the team. It would be valuable to have a list

**AZ MOB Center:** New price figures for offer on space for AZ Mob Center for Forest Service. Big importers of crews in AZ may need more time to mobilize crews. Temporary mob centers can be set up but will require logistic support and planning. SWCG will support the NM Mob center and if the need arises we will support a temporary mob center in AZ. Donald and Bill will respond to Clay. AZ Mob Center topic an update from ALB side at end of Sept. Agreement drafted and got sent to Cals shop.

Hoping to get agreement done. Engage on MOB Center Team to get cost of items. And will look at advertisement process.

**Predictive Services:** SW Area 7 days Significant Fire Potential (hand out).

**September 02, 2009**

**PLIA/PLIC Agreement**

Last year had a proposal to support the website that posted restriction information. Some agencies were able to pay and some were not due to no official documentation. Does anything need to be added to the draft MOU that was sent out? MOU development will make it easier to pay. Donald sent for review and has not received anything back.

Last years agreement worked although the Forest Service and AZ State Forestry have not paid yet. Why can't one of the agencies pick up the cost? That could be an option. If we go to one agency there may be another cost to trade around. Will have IBA committee to break down a list and get costs. Would like the 7500 paid by May 1. Next meeting will decide which Agency will take this on. Maybe we want to keep 2500 under each agency. May rotate it to break it down to whatever agency code. More agencies may be involved. Continue talking to solicitors about breaking all the costs and make a decision on what route we want to go.

**Area Training (tasking) Charlie:** (hand out) Did get a few responses back from different agencies. Not all the agencies responded back. Plenty of opportunities with among agencies to find a place for training. Right now everybody takes care of themselves. There is an opportunity to work together no one had ideas on how that was going to work. We need to push our folks more to get information. There is no central person to work on this right now, not having the active committee. May adopt a zone to help with the committee, still working on it. We either sanction a different group for this or move to SW training program but appears we are not getting that. They meet twice along with conference calls. It's the interagency participation some do and some don't. FET training is being re-advertised and won't be filled until the beginning of the New Year. It's difficult getting responses. At this point we are decentralized. Start planning classes and have a list on who sponsors what class on what year. This happens on the 100 and below levels. Vacancies and commitment is the main concern right now. Get needs assessments in and start planning. I think that SW needs to push their people. Basic questions like tuition or need a new facility. Get group together for needs and plan out and focus on it. Using federal building or hotels whatever is available. Tony is willing to host anything and is dedicated. Continue to pursue to get them to participate right now. SW will push and give ideas from here on. The question is what is it going to cost. Need to plan on how we are going to take care of this training in the next few years. Navajo has dorm and instructors. Charlie will keep chasing it down. Short term put some kind of task with needs assessment with what classes are needed. We need to know who is going to do it and where. Charlie will get types of courses and cost and will send out list. Charlie thinks working w/James, Linda and Pat are the ones we need to focus on to work on this. Been playing with this response since May and just going back and forth. Bill will redo tasking draft. We as SW group need to look at needs. Everyone is ok with expectations. Discussion will continue in Springville.

**WFSS-Assessment Lead:** Testing system and making changes. Bill just wants one point contact for the geographic area. Harold is the main person within the region. Harold will be the lead for SW and the WFSS group that each state should have a representative. BLM AZ and NM are doing their own thing

and don't see that connection. Be better to have local group for WFDSS. Maybe more of the Zones need workshops. Ask the zones to put one on this year. Maybe set up a mini WFDSS team to answer questions instead of calling Marlene all the time. And also bring in the state to sit in and learn about it. Dialog needs to be set up and task with Zones. Don will draft a letter to zone chairs and center managers and send to Bill. Need to coordinate with Harold. NM still operating with 100% suppression.

**ICS-209's:** Updates on fires are only done when acreage doubles (National Mob Guide), need to add more specific direction to SW Mob guide. NM and AZ smoke management requires daily updates. ICS 209's may need changes for next year on daily reporting.

**Liaison** (SWCG) recommendation: Proposal to re-insert the position into the 310-1. Donald will push the proposal to NWCG for evaluation. SWCG feels that this is a critical position.

**T2 Teams:** If teams want to remain on they can stay on. Denny's team going stay on until September.

### **CISM**

February 1 – 4, 2010 at Clarion in Tucson (full 40 hour course) if anyone is interested. 40 people.

### **Committee updates:**

**AICG-** Meeting is scheduled for October 20th. Still working on the joint funding of positions, waiting on Leon to finalize the agreement. AICG has a lot of smoke issues.

**Aviation:** Still having monthly conference calls. Hard time getting commitments from members with ongoing conference calls. Darren has been working on Geographic Plan. Having meeting in February. It's working with monthly conference calls.

**Dispatch:** Meeting scheduled for the middle of October, still developing the agenda and planning workshop.

**Fire Planning:** John is plugging away and will be sending out the information on the FPU/FPA calls.

**IBA committee:** Dave was liaison, need to find replacement.

-BIA: They will have 3 different representatives assigned; each agency will get the information to Donald.

**NMICG:** Still working on getting the zones to update smoke plans. Next meeting scheduled at the end of this month. Smoke revision is still being worked on.

**Operations:** Sept 16 conference call. Continue work procedures with cache to put in SW Mob guide and put into website. The Committee is planning to meet in October in conjunction with IC AAR in Springerville.

### **Agency reports:**

**Forest Service:** Burned about 150 acres in AZ and NM this year. The region has noticed that units have different interpretation on the new fire policy. The Forest Service is experimenting with new hiring protocols and will be hiring twice a year, the 1<sup>st</sup> session is in January. This will be for the Ranger District level vacancies from the AFMO on down. The 2<sup>nd</sup> session will be held in October. National Rapel guidelines are being reviewed.

Navajo: IHC going off Nationwide on Sept. 25. Hiring a HR position in Boise that will be dedicated to fire.

NM BLM Pretty quite. Have a few resources out. Still have chemical projects going on.

AZ BLM: Making selection on Mitigation position . Phoenix and Kingman was very slow this year. Burned 10,000 acres in June.

AZ State: Still don't have a budget. The state has assisted a lot for Forest Service on resource benefits.

FWS: Good this year. Dealing with vacancies within the regional office.

NPS: One retired FMO. IFMP stuff cleaned up.

NMSF: Donald will stay on thru December as chair person and will represent SWCG at the GACC chairs meeting in December. The State has received about 10 Million in Hazardous fuels treatments.

### 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	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.	SWCG liaisons	Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annually, each SWCG rep should attend Zone Mtgs if possible.</li> </ul>	all	Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ABZ, WMZ, SEZ and CWZ reps need to get their zone charters to Kenan for posting.</li> </ul>	Loren, Dave, Kelly, Leon	Ongoing

Operations Group (Madrid, Griego)	<p>1. Follow up with Caches on Aquatic Invasive Species-cleaning agents. (Temps)</p> <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> <li>• Each agency will explore its own process for AIS</li> </ul>	Bott  Bott/ Brown Hughes  SWCG Members	Ongoing  Ongoing
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 Mathis	Ongoing  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>	FUTA committee: work w/Jay to get that removed.		
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/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 concurrence.</li> </ul>	Ops Group/SWCG	Sept 2009
IMT3 letter of recognition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dave has sent draft. Donald will send out</li> </ul>	Sept 09 (done)	Sept 09
	BIA: Reps on committee (3 different reps). Jason needs to give names to Don.		
Predictive Services	Smoke dispersion and Predictive Services	Chuck/Loren	Springerville