

Southwest Coordinating Group Meeting October 13-14, 2009 – Springerville, AZ

UPCOMING SWCG DATES:

November 18 - Conference Call
January 11-12, 2010 – ABQ (Team Selection Week)
February 9-11, 2010 – Prescott Resort (Team Meeting)

October 13, 2009

Attendance: *SWCG Members* – Donald Griego, Kenan Jaycox, Brent Woffinden, Loren DeRosear, Jason Greenlee, Dave Bott, Charlie Luevano, Rich Nieto, Kelly Castillo, Leon Ben, Scott Hunt
Recording- Nancy Moore

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

Training Task Force – Charlie Luevano. The final report was distributed to SWCG Members for review. Three options were discussed in the final report. Option two, Satellite Training Facility, is desirable for the short term. Option three, Dedicated Training Facility (Northern Rockies model), is desirable for long-term planning and implementation. SWCG discussed these three options at length. The Incident Business Management (Gilbert Romero) will be tasked with answering the tuition question, and report to the SWCG. Long-term – skill sets (position descriptions), data bases, and dedicated FTE's. Discussion will continue tomorrow after a discussion with Tony Sciacca and how he conducts business at the AZ Wildfire Academy.

SWCG Meeting – November 17-18th – will be changed to a conference call on November 18th at 1030.

IMT Applications – Nov 2 – Dec 15th. No major changes except FUM1 or FUM1 will now be SOPL (Strategic Operational Planner). Wildland Fire Mgmt Team apps will also be accepted during this. Discussion was held reference the out-of-GACC nomination approval process.

Taos Zone Update – Griego will get letter out next week for SWCG review. Zone Board meeting coming up soon. Will give an update on the Nov 18th conference call.

IMT Questionnaire – A discussion was held regarding the six questions, and whether they need revised or discarded. A suggestion was made to have results of the team AAR sent to the SWCG rather than the questionnaire, and use this questionnaire as a tool for agency administrators.

IC AAR – scheduled for tomorrow. Format will be same as last year. Agenda was handed out to SWCG.

Twin Fire Close-out – Rich Nieto – biggest item discussed was the “best value” limitations. This needs to be discussed and hopefully resolved before next fire season. Lessons learned included the sensitivity of the local unit in the situation of an escaped burn going to a T-1 team.

Zone Committee Updates:

- IBM – something by January
- Dispatch – working on several issues in ROSS, best value, etc. We will be meeting the next 2 days to focus on the content of the workshop.
- Info & Prevention – Cal (not present)
- CWZ – failed to develop a T-3 organization. Effort was made, just didn't materialize. Still working on signatures for charter.
- NAZ – met with new T-3 trainee, debriefed on the summer, got one assignment that went well. One issue was the zone threw together T-3 teams on their own. Zone board is going to try to stimulate getting more opportunities for that T-3 team. Navajo got some stimulus money – put together a couple of projects and accomplished them with minimal hassles. If anyone has stimulus money and needs help, Navajo will send some folks to assist.
- SEZ – nothing
- WMZ – met last month. Looked at current documentation that holds the zone in place, will be re-writing. Wants to develop a T-3 organization. Has been an inactive board for a while, but that will change in the future.
- ABZ – no meetings, no report.
- GLZ – working to get a team together in the next few weeks.
- Pecos – had a T-3 team this year – no issues. Merge of the dispatch offices is working well.
- SNZ – T-3 team at Taos. Operational plan expires – work on updating it.
- TAZ – meeting next month.

Agency Updates:

- FWS- Don Kearney reporting to BLM NM. Butch Wilson on detail through early November. Will advertise for detailers after that. Will be flying a 12-13 fuels manager in the near future.
- BLM AZ – has most vacancies filled. No changes since Window Rock. Working with CWZ for a T-3 team, as well as an AZ BLM T-3 team.
- SWCC – Color Country T-3 team has come down to assist NAZ on several fires. This was not reflected in the team assignment handout.
- BIA Western Region – almost staffed at full capacity – one vacancy left at Truxton Canyon. Prescribed burning will start next week.
- AZ State – State budget \$1.5 mil in the red. Asking for another 15% budget cut. Joint Powers Agreement completed. Specific language about initial attack – may affect extended attack duties. Dave Behrens retired about a month ago. New State Forester – Vicki Christianson.
- FS – Assistant directors are all in place. Still working on vice McDonald – will fly the position virtual. Looking for another detailer from November – February. Fred Hernandez was hired as the operations assistant. FS is going to start working on best value issues with AQM. Escaped RX burn – brought in a review team headed by Tom Zimmerman. Will share the final report when completed. Re-iterate the importance of the dispatch community concerns.
- BIA Navajo – 15,000 acres in WUI
- BLM NM – 5% budget increase for next year. Engine contractor went out of business, so they are about a year behind on engine replacements. Don Kearney hired as vice Hector. Moving to new office. Hiring a mitigation/prevention position in Roswell.
- NPS – advertising for FMO at Lake Meredith. Filled Big Bend position. Will start burning at Bandelier.
- NM State – no changers. State FMO job re-opened until 23rd. Still working out stimulus money. Five other vacancies that probably won't be filled. Budget 7% decrease.

No November Meeting – conference call on the 18th.

Springerville will be next year's meeting place for IC AAR. We will consider inviting T-3 IC's.

SWCG Action Items

Topic	Action needed	Responsibility	Date
SWCG Committee Liaisons and Chairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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! 	All SWCG Members	Ongoing
Zone Boards	<p>SWCG Zone reps: León-CWZ, Jeff-SNZ, Jason-NAZ, Hector-PEZ, Donald-TAZ, Kelly-SEZ, Loren-ABZ, Scott-WMZ, Marsha-GLZ, Cal- alternate as needed.</p> <p>Talking points bullets available on SWCG secure website.</p>	SWCG liaisons	Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annually, each SWCG rep should attend Zone Mtgs if possible. 	all	Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ABZ, WMZ, SEZ and CWZ reps need to get their zone charters to Kenan for posting. 	Loren, Dave, Kelly, Leon	Ongoing
Operations Group (Madrid, Griego)	<p>1. Follow up with Caches on Aquatic Invasive Species-cleaning agents. (Temps)</p>	Bott	Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with IC's and IMT's to plan next year's IMT meeting in AZ. Feb 9-11, 2010. Prescott Resort & Casino. BLM/FS will pay for Guest Speaker (Gordon Graham) -Explore Video Taping meeting 	Bott/ Brown Hughes	Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each agency will explore its own process for AIS 	SWCG Members	
Training Committee (Kearney)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training Committee and GATR need to prepare for coordinating updated WFDSS workshops. Fire Policy Group – still trying to get together 	Womack, Luevano	Ongoing

Aviation Committee (Castillo)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop accelerated aviation position in relation to SW aviation needs, IMT shortages, and zone position needs analysis. (w/Trng./Ops committees) • Continue follow-up on UAV business with Rudy Holm, DHS. • Discuss capabilities and reliability of Air Ambulance services in the SW. There continues 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? 	Mathis Mathis Mathis	Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing
Interagency recruitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dispatch Committee to develop interagency recruitment for Mob center • IBA Committee to develop interagency recruitment notice for Buying Team 	Kenan Transition with Gilbert Romero	Jan 10 Jan 10
Solano	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address Solano Action items as needed 	Group	On going
PLIC Funds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agencies should start process for 2010 payment. 	Group	Fall 2009
CISM Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a SWA team for 2010 	SWCG members	Ongoing

NEW ACTION ITEMS			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FUTA Committee – work with Jay to get removed. 	Griego	
Aviation Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring in Darrin Mathis to next meeting for updates/Solano items 	Castillo	Nov 2009
2010 IMT Brief	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add Medical Standards 	Jaycox	Jan 2010
Update PLIA (formalize)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IBA committee to formalize and make exchange of monies easier. 	IBA Committee / Griego	Nov 2009
Predictive Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smoke dispersion and Predictive Services • Meeting Oct 30th – WFDSS needs, integration with smoke mgmt 	Chuck/Loren/Kenan	Nov 09

IBM Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What agency pays for what? Report at next meeting. • How can we collect tuition for training? 	Scott Hunt	Jan 10
Task Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop task group to assist the Arizona dispatch centers with flight following issues. Report to SWCG on Nov 18th conference call. • Task group to evaluate dispatch center boundaries. 	Castillo & Co.	Nov 18
NMICG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request for proposals out – received 2-3 bids. Will convene next week at RO and award contract. 		Mar 10