



Great Basin Coordination Center Consolidation



Issue 4, September 2014

Great Basin Coordinating Group Newsletter

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On September 4, 2013 the Agency Administrator's for the Great Basin Coordinating Group made the decision to combine Eastern Great Basin and Western Great Basin Coordination Centers. The consolidated coordination center will be located in Salt Lake City, Utah as the "Great Basin Coordination Center" or "GBCC." The Great Basin Coordination Center will open its doors and be fully operational January 1, 2015.

Upon making the decision to consolidate, the Agency Administrator's asked the Great Basin Coordinating Group to implement a number of communications strategies, one being a series of newsletters. The GBCG is committed to keeping Coordination Center employees, Agency Administrators and other partners informed of the plans and progress of this endeavor.

Board of Directors Update

Message from the Board of Directors:

On behalf of the Great Basin Coordination Center Board of Directors, we are very pleased with the progress to date toward our goal of combining Eastern and Western Great Basin Coordination Centers into a single organization known as the Great Basin Coordination Center. Notable milestones include selection of the new facilities in Salt Lake City and hiring several critical positions for the new center. Everyone involved continues to strive to make the new organization successful - and there's still a lot of work to be done to meet our goal of opening in early 2015. Thanks for all your efforts, and we're looking forward to celebrating the grand opening of the Great Basin Coordination Center.

Sue Stewart, Chair Great Basin Coordination Center Board of Directors

The Great Basin Coordination Center Board of Directors (BOD) continues to hold bi-weekly conference calls to discuss progress, updates and issues. Key items include:

- Finalization of the Center's design and layout.
- Architecture and Construction activities.
- IT Infrastructure.
- GBCC Operating Procedures and Business Practices.

Human Resources

Forest Service

The Forest Service, Region 4 recently selected four outstanding individuals as Operations Coordinators for the Great Basin Coordination Center. Two current employees from Eastern Great Basin Coordination Center were selected as well as two current employees from Western Great Basin Coordination Center. We congratulate Jess Costello, Intelligence Coordinator and Ted Spencer, Logistics Coordinator both from Western Great Basin. From Eastern Great Basin we congratulate Jana Barabochkine, Logistics Coordinator and George Long Logistics Coordinator. All four employees bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the new Center. All four Operations Coordinators are officially on board as of September 21, 2014.

BLM

The BLM, Utah State Office is in the process of advertising the following vacancies for the GBCC:

- Center Manager, GS-13
- Predictive Services Manager, GS-13
- Web Master, GS-11
- Administrative Assistant, GS-6/7

Shelby Law, Predictive Service Manager accepted a job share opportunity in her former position as Meteorologist. We welcome Nanette Hosenfeld who will be sharing the position with Shelby. Nanette comes to us from the National Weather Service office in Salt Lake City where she has been working since September, 2006.

Ruta Glinski, Center Manager at Eastern Great Basin announced her retirement in early January 2015. Ruta has been the Center Manager at EGBCC since 2011.

Facilities Update

During the summer months the State of Utah finalized the building lease. The space includes almost 11,000 square feet on the second floor of the building. Coordination between the building owner, architect, interior designer and the systems furniture and flooring representative continues to be on-going. The building owner has requested the necessary building permits from the City of Salt Lake. Construction will begin once the permits are received hopefully in mid to late October.

In early September the Facilities Group and GACC Managers approved the final floor plan and layout. Procurement of additional consoles and flooring is in process.

Preliminary demolition plans for the Western Great Basin facility are being developed. Demolition of the current Eastern Great Basin facility will occur once the new Center is operational. Both Eastern and Western Great Basin Coordination Centers will close their doors December 31, 2014. The Great Basin Coordination Center will be officially established January 1, 2015.



Fall 2014

Business Practices

As the 2014 Fire Season begins to wind down both Coordination Centers will begin to focus on finalizing the standard operation guidelines and business practices for the Great Basin Coordination Center. A number of IT systems will also require modification. Some of the efforts that are underway include:

- Establishment of the Great Basin Coordination Center in ROSS and moving the Great Basin Dispatch Centers into the organization.
- Consolidation of Predictive Services products.
- Request for a new Unit Identifier for the Great Basin Coordination Center.
- Revision of the Great Basin Mobilization Guide and other publications.
- Instituting the Great Basin Coordination Center in FamWeb Applications including the SIT/209 program.
- Standardizing reports including the Morning Briefing, Crew Report, End of Season Report and other reports the GACC is responsible for.
- Development of the Great Basin Coordination Center Web Site.



Logo Contest

The Great Basin Coordination Center Board of Directors invites individuals from the wildland fire community in the Great Basin to participate in a logo contest for the new Great Basin Coordination Center.

The newly designed logo will be used for official correspondence, signing at the new facility and other documents and publications.

We look forward to viewing the creative designs and artwork which will represent the Great Basin for many years to come. We encourage everyone who is interested to submit a design.

The specific information can be found at:

Thanks and good luck in the competition. If you have any questions, please contact Ruta Glinski or Dave Curry.



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For Additional Resources Visit:
<http://gacc.nifc.gov/wgbc/GBCG/index.htm>

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