



**FFAST Meeting
October 15, 2010**

Attendees:

Larry Sutton – USFS
John Owens - BLM
Chad Fisher – NPS
Chris Wilcox – FWS
Michelle Ryerson – BLM
Tony Beitia – BIA
Kaili McCray
Michelle Moore
Dave Koch
Stephanie Cleary

DOI-MSP – Payment Strategy for PFE tests per agency – Kaili McCray

Upon reviewing medical information, if additional test(s) are requested the agency will pay for it. When additional medical information is needed for a clearance decision a letter (the first letter) will be sent to firefighters asking for a response within 90 days of the date on the letter. The letter will ask for existing medical information on a pre-existing condition with instructions on how to gather the information without incurring a cost. If there is no response from the first letter within 45 days, a second letter is sent to the firefighter re-requesting additional medical information within 90 days of the first letter and notification of status change to “Not Cleared, Non Responsive” in the MedEx system. If no additional medication information is received within 90 days of the first letter, a third letter is sent to the firefighter stating the change is status to “Not Cleared, Non Responsive” within the MedEx system and the opportunity to submit at any time the requested information.

If the medical information requested and received from the firefighter is not sufficient to make a clearance decision, a more specific letter will be sent with specific information and instructions to send to MDI; the website will have more agency specific information and MSP’s role will be to clarify the letter and provide additional detailed instructions. The log within the MedEx system does state whether or not a firefighter is working on a request. Upon receipt of all requested medical information a decision of “Cleared” or “Non Cleared” will be made.

For access to MedEx: a user in the field goes to the site, fills out the form, and faxes the form to MDI; MDI contacts WFSPM agency representative regarding permission and access; WFSPM agency rep makes a decision and inform MDI; MDI informs the user of their access/denial. Once the process is approved, all FFAST agency reps will have to go in and examine those with access already and determine their status.

WFSPM agency reps will draft account and payment information and guidance for the website no later than October 22 and send to Michelle Moore.

Hazard Tree and Tree Felling Task Group update – Dave Koch

Dave received the new format for the charter & intent documents. He received the old charter from Elaine and sent it to the committee for comment; there has been no response. All of the folks previously on the committee have expressed an interest in staying on it, but are they the right people for this committee? George Solverson was the original chair and Winston took over, but the group fell apart some. The group needs leadership and people non-responsive should be replaced by those interested; hotshot crews and other non-agency groups would be a good addition. Dave has full authority to make decisions. Dave will decide on whether sitting only in the chair position or both the chair & BIA position. Chris is the liaison to Risk Management Committee and will work with Dave. The Group and its energy needs to be reinitiated and reactivated to get them involved and engaged, and the upcoming meeting will be a great start. IEMS developed a tactical plan (can be found on their website) of “to do’s” which helped them focus, prioritize, (re)evaluate themselves and biweekly/monthly conference calls keeps thing moving. Recognition needs to be made for hazard pay on hazardous mitigation work! RMC meeting is the first week on November and a status update is requested for that. At the last summit there was a HTTF presentation; this summit is April 4-8 in Missoula and an update and information on the group would be good. Incorporation of refresher modules should be considered.

EMS situation write up for RMC – status? – Larry Sutton/Michelle Ryerson

Michelle and Larry are working with IEMS to put together a tasking and will draft something for the RMC meeting. There are been a few responses to the Red Book changes. If the email about the changes was not received, ask Michelle to send them.

OF-178 Form Status – John Owens

Latest version of moderate incorporated all the changes. Lifting and carrying are separate items on the side that matches Red Book and is consistent with 310-1. Excessive heat to be added to the moderate since it is included on the arduous. An updated version to be sent to Tamara to post to the NIFC HR site and a link to be put in Red Book.

Red Book updates – 10/01/10 meeting notes clarification – Chad Fisher

Clarification of NPS Section in Chapter 7: Rick Young provided a more detailed and extensive and open text (not a NPS specific bullet; ½ page) version of Chad’s emergency medical information so it was not included. Chad needs to check with Dan Buckley on this since Tom Nichols is saying “we need daily operational stuff.”

Chad to check on NPS Policy for fire extinguishers and ATVs/UTVs; the Red Book should be consistent with all parties’ information. The fuel guide is a done deal, but exemption from OSHA is still pending.

Re-currency standard will not change. The next text in 13 incorporates part of what NPS said and added the training piece. Chad will look at it and chat with Dan Buckley. There have been no responses on the re-currency and training yet.

FLA, LLR, NSAI – Interagency incident protocols – Tony Beitia

Determine protocols so the field knows what to expect; additions for the Red Book and Blue Book. See addition to Chapter 18.

Round Robin

Michelle and BLM's Distracted Driving Policy: Written to be very restrictive and is being negotiated. OSHA is stepping in and there was a National Safety Council Congress session last week. 2-way radios were not approved in the draft policy, but risk comparison data is not shown for them. Agencies with drafts, please send to Michelle for comparison; agencies without drafts, heads up.

Tony and WFSTAR Conference Call: The torch is being passed on to Scott. The annual refresher and WFSTAR will have the same topics to coincide. The new WFSTAR will fall under OWDC. Tony, Scott, and Mark Koontz will work on drafting documents for the new year. WFSTAR is by agency, but there is consideration of inviting the hotshots. Some videos have been posted for this year. A flyer will be sent out on the 2011 WFSTAR topics and "best of" videos. Collaboration with NWCG or IT folks on Google analytics of the site (what are people looking at, where are they visiting). Kathy Komatz has been invited to the RMC meeting to present "6 Minutes for Safety" data analysis. Larry and Chris mentioned GETA, Geospatial Equipment Technology Application, Group is regards to data represented in Google Earth.

Chad & Chris Carter: She finished her interview with epidemiology and should start working on the report again. Send a RMC meeting invitation for a status update.

Michelle had new flame resistant reflective vests.

John/Michelle & National Safety Council Congress & Expo Conference: All should consider attending in the future.

Next Meeting Date

December 13, 2010 @ 1300 – location to be announced