

BLM Fire Training Committee

Conference Call Notes

Date/Time: 1/4/12 at 1030 MT (Boise)

Phone number: 866-704-5789

Participant code: 223574#

ROLL CALL: (participants in bold)

Voting Members:	MT – Michelle Dauenhauer	Guests & Support:
AK – Lynn Standley Coe	NV – Cindy Savoie	BFTU – Jeff Arnberger
AZ – Bryan Brazzeal	NM – Charley Luevano	BFTU – Pam McDonald
CA – Nate Gogna	OR/WA – Renee Beams	NIFC – (Aviation)
CO/WY – Kim Bang	UT – Cherie Ausgotharp	NIFC – (Fuels)
EA –	NTC – Don Washco	
ID – Carol McElroy	BFTU – Mike Ellsworth	

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Job Aid Updates

(Ellsworth)

Only a few chapters have been revised to date. BLM Fire Training Committee (BFTC) members are asked to make a concerted effort to submit their revisions as soon as possible.

Pam McDonald advised that she received a request for the Word version of Chapter 2 – Mandatory and Recurring Training from Josh Henry, Winnemucca, NV, for use in developing a training database which may be of interest to the wider training community.

ACTION: Contact the Winnemucca Field Office to determine the particulars regarding their training database project and report to the BFTC on the February 2012 conference call. (Cindy Savoie)

2. OWDC/FLT/FOG Updates

(Ellsworth/Arnberger)

OWDC

Jeff sent out a proposal submitted to OWDC by Dave Koch on behalf of the NWCG Hazard Tree Subcommittee proposing to create interagency position standards for Sawyer (SAWR) and Faller (FALL).

ACTION: Review the SAWR and FALL proposal from the NWCG Hazard Tree Subcommittee and provide comments to Jeff Arnberger by January 27, 2012. (All BFTC Members)

OWDC has a conference call scheduled this week.

FLT

Jeff Arnberger and Mike Ellsworth attended the November 2012 FLT meeting in Phoenix, AZ. The e-mentoring presentation was well-received and has generated a lot of interest and support. The FLT continues to discuss the 2-to-1 rest-work ratio. Nothing has been decided.

Approval was given to the Helitack Committee via the FOG to develop a three-year rope-assisted delivery system (RADS) evaluation plan including program standards, training, and evaluation. Boise Helitack will test pilot the initiative.

FOG

The FOG signed the BFTC's official charter and is happy with the direction the BFTC is moving.

While at the meeting, Jeff and Mike receive a few requests for National Office representation at preseason fire meetings.

ACTION: Determine through proper channels whether or not National Office representation is needed at preseason fire meetings and report requests to Jeff Arnberger or Mike Ellsworth by March 1, 2012. (All BFTC members)

Visit http://web.blm.gov/internal/fire/fire_ops/fog_notes_2012.htm for all FOG notes.

3. GATR Updates (if any) (Beams/Bang)

Madonna Lengerich (Great Basin) and Paul Fieldhouse (Northern Rockies) have retired. Brian Eldridge and Kitty Ortman, respectively, are acting in the positions.

4. National Training Center (NTC) Meeting (Ellsworth)

Sean Cross, Jeff Arnberger, and Mike Ellsworth met with Marlo Draper and Don Washco from the National Training Center (NTC) to discuss potential collaborations and basic guidelines and processes to complete projects. Don Washco intends to retire at the end of 2012 and will work on solidifying policies and procedures prior to retirement.

An area of interest during the meeting was NTC's recent success in obtaining college and continuing education credit for some of their courses.

5. Northern Rockies Training Center L-480/S-420 Course for BLM Students (Ellsworth)

Some confusion exists as to whether BLM students attending the NRTC's test course of L-480/S-420 (Intent into Action) will receive credit for S-420 or just L-480. The US Forest Service is evaluating the course as a potential means of dual credit.

DECISION: The BFTC recommends that BLM students successfully attending and passing any NWCG test receive the appropriate credit regardless of the agency sponsorship.

ACTION: Contact Kitty Ortman regarding dual credit for BLM students attending L-480/S-420 (Intent into Action) test course and report to the BFTC by February 1, 2012. (Mike Ellsworth)

6. Training Officer Spring Meeting

(Ellsworth/Arnberger)

Due to the effectiveness of the fall face-to-face meeting and the relative infancy of the BFTC, there is a push from the National Office to have a spring face-to-face meeting prior to the FOG meeting if not in conjunction with the spring FOG meeting to be held in Boise the week of March 19, 2012.

ACTION: Notify Mike Ellsworth of availability for a spring 2012 face-to-face meeting by January 20, 2012. (All BFTC members)

7. OJT Nominations

(Ellsworth)

The OJT nomination Instructional Bulletin is scheduled for release in February.

Round Robin:

Alaska (Standley Coe)

- Efforts are still underway to reclassify Tony Doty's position.

AZ (Brazzeal)

- Hearing rumor of potential budget cuts to the Arizona fire program.

CA (Gogna)

- Nothing to report.

CO/WY (Bang)

- Nothing to report.

ID (McElroy)

- Districts are completing summer training schedules.

MT (Dauenhauer)

- Nothing to report.

NV (Savoie)

- Nothing to report.

NM (Luevano)

- Carl Gossard reports as the new State FMO Monday, January 9, 2012, following the retirement of Don Kearney.

OR/WA (Renee Beams)

- Nothing to report.

Utah (Ausgotharp)

- There have been numerous Utah Fire Staff retirements.
- Looking into how budget impacts will affect the fire academy.

NTC (Wascho)

- Nothing to report.

BFTU (Arnberger, Ellsworth, McDonald)

- Pam McDonald:
 - The Nevada, Red Lights and Siren Response course will be turned over to Nevada soon. Al Olson was instrumental in working with Nevada on course development.
- Jeff Arnberger
 - Al Olson has officially retired. All communication should now go through Jeff, Mike or Pam.
 - Jeff will prepare an IB in the next few weeks to clarify NIMS training requirements that will be incorporated into the October 2012 release of the PMS 310-2. NWCG released memorandum #023-2011 (<http://www.nwcg.gov/general/memos/nwcg-023-2011.html>) regarding historical recognition:

“To minimize the impact on the field in implementing the NIMS requirements, the process of historical recognition will be used for all current NWCG responders for ICS courses. Individuals currently qualified will continue to be considered qualified even if they have not completed all of the NIMS ICS training requirements. For anyone with an open position task book and all future trainees, they will have to complete the NIMS training requirements before being considered qualified. All responders will be required to complete the appropriate independent study (IS) courses to be considered qualified for their current position. IS courses are available online at <http://training.fema.gov/IS/crslist.asp?page=1>.”

Next Conference Call:

The next conference call is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 1, 2012**, at 1030 hours (Mountain).