

BLM Fire Training Committee (BFTC)

Conference Call Notes

Date/Time: 1/7/15 at 1030 MT (Boise)

Phone number: 866-704-5789

Participant code: 223574#

ROLL CALL:

AK – Doug Gibbs
AZ – Shawn Jaca
CA –
CO/WY – Kim Bang
EA –
ID – Kelly Woods

MT – John Thompson
NV – Cindy Savoie
NM – Charley Luevano
OR/WA – Renee Beams/Brian
Rindlisbacher
UT – Cheri Ausgotharp

NIFC – Mike Ellsworth
NIFC – Jeff Arnberger
NIFC – Pam McDonald
Aviation –
Fuels – Dave Mueller

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. NWCG Training Committee Update

(Ellsworth)

- Requesting OWDC approve L-481 as interchangeable with S-420.
- Working to charter the M-581 group under the NWCG Training Committee.
- Will request from the NWCG Executive Board reconfirmation regarding previous guidance regarding Spanish versions of courses such as S-130/190 and L-180.
- Developing a strategy regarding the Gap courses.

2. IQCS Updates

(Ellsworth)

- The *2015 Federal Qualification Supplement* is complete and will be available soon at <http://www.nwcg.gov/pms/docs/docs.htm>.
- All changes to BLM SetID IQCS responders have been made in the system.
- The IQCS Change Management Board will be providing guidance on times performed versus operational periods.
- Kim Bang inquired about the release date for the online IQCS training course.

ACTION: Contact IQCS Program Manager regarding the IQCS training course release date and update the BFTC by January 23, 2015. (Mike Ellsworth)

3. 2015 PMS 310-1 Review

(Ellsworth/Arnberger)

The draft 2015 PMS 310-1 is out for review. Comments are due by May 8, 2015.

4. IMT State Minimum Qualification Standard (#2013-26, HO #1) (Bang)
Kim Bang (lead) and Mike Ellsworth will respond to the FOG tasking response to BFTC's proposal to establish a National standard for oversight and certification of Type 1 Command and General Staff. Draft will be made available to the BFTC by the end of January and presented to the FOG at their March 2015 meeting.

5. Chainsaw Refresher Tasking (#2013-29, HO #2) (Ellsworth)
Mike Ellsworth will lead up the BLM Chainsaw Refresher Standards Task Group. Members will come from the engine, hotshot, helitack, and smokejumper committees.

6. Dozer Operator Tasking (HO #3) (Ellsworth)
Mike Ellsworth presented the FOG tasking to analyze the proposed Dozer Operator (DZOP) and Dozer Operator Initial Attack (DZIA) qualifications and develop a suitable position task book for DZOP. Tasking elements are due by February 21, 2015.

7. Resource Advisor (READ) (Ellsworth)
Mike Ellsworth is developing a course of action to address the READ position. The BFTC previously recommended adopting the DOI All-hazard READ qualification and establishing a wildland fire READ endorsement for READs who visit the fireline unescorted.

8. Scholarship Fund (#2012-14) (Jaca)
Shawn Jaca will be working with the Scholarship Fund Task Group (Dylan Rader and Chris Buhrig). Doug Gibbs will obtain a copy of Alaska's scholarship program.

ACTION: Provide a copy of Alaska's scholarship program to Shawn Jaca for distribution to the Scholarship Fund Task Group by January 31, 2015. (Doug Gibbs)

9. UNLV GS-401 Program (#2014-08) (Ellsworth)
UNLV's break-even analysis of 25 students exceeds the threshold that the BFTC feels comfortable with a formal MOU.

ACTION: Contact UNLV administrators regarding the BLM's participation in the GS-401 program by February 2015. (Mike Ellsworth)

10. L-380 Equivalence for the Level II 40-hour Supervision Course (Woods/Rader)
The BFTC discussed previous, unsuccessful attempts to obtain equivalency for the Level II 40-hour Supervision Course. The USFS failed in their attempt at a similar effort. The BFTC dropped Action Item #2014-18.

11. Incident Medical Specialist (IMST) Positions (Thompson/Beams)

Renee Beams and John Thompson will continue to develop a draft proposal to adopt the USFS qualification requirements for IMST and report on the March 2015 BFTC conference call.

12. Crew Representative (CREP) Request for Change to OWDC (Ellsworth)

OWDC will address the proposal to allow Strike Team Leader, Task Force Leader, and Division Group Supervisor to maintain currency for Crew Representative during their next meeting.

13. GATR Updates (Beams)

GATRs have a conference call the week of January 11th. The National Priority Trainee list should be finalized by January 16, 2015.

ROUND ROBIN:

- **Alaska** – Quiet, cold, and dark. Questioned the group regarding the term “regular driver” for driver training (BL300 and RT301).
- **Arizona** – Nothing to report.
- **Colorado/Wyoming** – Nothing to report.
- **Idaho** – Next week begins the 2015 training season; 50 courses scheduled.
- **Montana** – Nothing to report.
- **Nevada** – Nothing to report.
- **New Mexico** – Nothing to report.
- **OR/WA** – USFS in the PNW adopting the ENOP position task book.
- **Utah** – Nothing to report.
- **National Aviation** – Nothing to report.
- **National Office** – The 2015 Wildland Fire Leadership Challenge – Followership is Leadership launched. Ruby Mountain IHC received the 2014 From the Field for the Field Award.

The next conference call will be held **??day, ??, 2015**, at 10:30 p.m. (MST).