

BLM Fire Training Committee

Conference Call Notes

Date/Time: 2/1/12 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 – Pam McDonald
AZ – Brian Brazzeal	NM – Charley Luevano	NIFC – Kirk Rothwell (Aviation)
CA –	OR/WA – Renee Beams/ Brian Rindlisbacher	NWCG Training – Scott Anderson
CO/WY – Kim Bang/Paul Hohn	UT – Cherie Ausgotharp	
EA – Lamar Liddell	NTC – Don Washco	
ID – Carol McElroy	BFTU – Mike Ellsworth	

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Annual Fireline Safety Refresher Update (Anderson)

Scott Anderson updated the BLM Fire Training Committee (BFTC) on the workings and status of the Annual Fireline Safety Refresher. The BLM continues to order the most DVDs. The audience seems to be somewhat fluid, making the target audience and topics a challenge to identify. A strategic plan was recently adopted to accommodate audiences with varied delivery seasons. In 2014, the Refresher will move to an online delivery system.

The 2012 Refresher should be available mid-March. The BLM Fire Training Unit will disseminate the DVDs and e-mentoring pamphlets. As a reminder, local units may use previous year Refresher programs if they host a training session prior to the 2012 release. For additional information regarding the 2012 Refresher and to download previous modules, visit the WFSTAR website (<http://www.nifc.gov/wfstar/index.html>).

The Refresher group asks that Refresher course coordinators and students provide feedback regarding the product. Very few evaluations are received.

2. Job Aid Updates (Ellsworth)

BFTC members are encouraged to continue working on their Job Aid commitments. Mike Ellsworth will be working closely with Lynn Standley Coe on the "Request for Change" form.

3. Paper Review (NIMS, MEDL PTB, Faller/Sawyer, FIRB removal from SRB) (Ellsworth)

The BFTC discussed the increasing number of issue papers that have come forth and the need to develop a process for vetting IMs and IBs so that duplication with the Fire Operations Group (FOG) is minimized.

ACTION: Create a process for collecting issue paper comments and report to the BFTC on the March 2012 conference call. (Kim Bang and Mike Ellsworth)

To ensure that an issue does not “fall through the cracks,” BFTC members are asked to provide comments to Jeff Arnberger and Mike Ellsworth regarding recent e-mail threads for NIMS, MEDL, FALL and FIRB. Contact Jeff or Mike if you need additional information. If you agree with the proposals, no comment is needed.

4. Preparedness Checklist (Ellsworth)

Mike Ellsworth forwarded a copy of the Training Officer Checklist to be used during preparedness reviews. Changes to the form are requested prior to the 2012 review season.

ACTION: Review the Training Officer Checklist and provide comments for revision to Mike Ellsworth by February 24, 2012. (All BFTC members)

Mike encouraged BFTC members to participate in the preparedness review process. FA IB-2012-008, “Request for Participation in Fiscal Year 2012 National Fire Preparedness Reviews,” is available at http://web.blm.gov/internal/fire/Directives/IB2012/FA_IB2012008.pdf.

5. IQCS Request for Change (IRAWS and “Do What’s Right”) (Ellsworth/Beams)

The IQCS Change Management Board received two requests for change: assigning a “BL” or “N” number to “Do What’s Right” and a name change of Fire RAWS (FRWS) to Incident RAWS (IRAWS).

DECISION: The BFTC have reservations regarding the requests to assigning a “BL” or “N” number to “Do What’s Right” and a name change of Fire RAWS (FRWS) to Incident RAWS (IRAWS).

6. TFM Presentation Help (Ellsworth)

TFM 2012 presentations will be hosted by the NPS the week of April 16-20 in Boise, ID. At this time, the BLM should have 10 students presenting. Mike has not received any extension requests. Extensions require FOG representative and State Training Officer concurrence.

BFTC members are encouraged to reach out the TFM students in their state and provide every opportunity for success, including constructive peer reviews, mentoring, and encouragement.

7. Training Officer Spring Meeting (Ellsworth)

Mike sent out another Doodle survey (<http://www.doodle.com/85wxu4s87gpq7ven>) to determine the best date for a spring face-to-face BFTC meeting in Boise.

ACTION: Respond to the Doodle BFTC spring face-to-face meeting survey and request attendance through state FOG representatives by February 16, 2012. (All BFTC members; supersedes Action Item #2012-04)

8. OJT Nominations

(Ellsworth)

The instructional bulletin for the OJT program will be out soon.

9. 2012 Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations (Red Book)

(Ellsworth)

The 2012 Red Book is available online at (http://www.nifc.gov/policies/pol_intgncy_guides.html) or through the Publication Management System. BFTC members are encouraged to review the new version for training content accuracy as well as for information that could be incorporated into the BLM Fire Trainings Standards Guide.

Round Robin:

Alaska (Standley Coe)

- Lynn continues to work on recreating Alaska's allocation of forces database; needs an extension for Action Item #2011-6 to fall 2012.
- Training season is getting busy.
- Heavy work load with Canadian training requirements.

AZ (Brazzeal)

- Nothing to report.

CA (n/a)

- No representation on the call.

CO/WY (Bang/Hohn)

- Middle of the training season with a lot of student cancellations.
- Cancelled the May offering of the South Canyon staff ride; a few slots may be available for the hotshot's staff ride on May 21.
- Paul Hohn, newly elected FOG co-chair, will be Kim's BFTC backup.

Eastern States (Lidell)

- Nothing to report.

ID (McElroy)

- The Great Basin Training Center is experiencing significant student dropouts from inside and outside the state.
- Mike Ellsworth reported that Steve Shaw was named the Idaho's AFMO.

MT (Dauenhauer)

- Nothing to report.

NV (Savoie)

- Nothing to report.

NM (Luevano)

- Nothing to report.

OR/WA (Renee Beams/Brian Rindlisbacher)

- GATRs sent up an issue paper regarding the increasing difficulty in covering the travel expenses of NAFRI instructors.
- Student numbers have dropped; cadres have been reduced.
- Bobbie Scopa is working on an MOU with Deschutes NF for the duties that Renee Beams will assume.
- Brian Rindlisbacher hears rumor of an ATV/UTV policy coming down from the Washington Office (WO). Mike Ellsworth provided some insight into the matter: The FOG is aware of the issue. Michelle Ryerson is working with the WO to help guide policy with regard to fire operations. Brent Higby (detailed into the National Fire Equipment Development Program) is on the national ATV/UTV focus group.

Utah (Ausgotharp)

- The fire academy is a go but at reduced classes. Courses that did not have more than eight students last year were not included in the schedule for 2012. Any class that does not have eight students two weeks prior to the course offering this year will be cancelled.
- Brian Brazzeal is the Great Basin Training Committee Utah Zone chair.
- Utah will be revising the state training officer position description (PD). Cherie would appreciate receiving non-standard training PDs.

NTC (Wascho)

- Nothing to report.

BFTU (Ellsworth and McDonald)

- Mike Ellsworth
 - The draft Operation Plan between Fire Operations and NTC is complete.
- Pam McDonald:
 - Made reference to the Action Item Log which prompted discussion regarding conference call agendas and paper comment solicitation reminders. Mike Ellsworth will attempt to send out agenda items and papers for review a week prior to conference calls.

Next Conference Call:

The next conference call is scheduled for **Wednesday, March 7, 2012**, at 1030 hours (Mountain).