

BLM Fire Training Committee (BFTC)

Conference Call Notes

Date/Time: 2/25/15 at 1030 MT (Boise)

Phone number: 866-704-5789

Participant code: 223574#

ROLL CALL:

AK – Doug Gibbs/Marlene Eno-Hendren	MT –	NIFC – Jeff Arnberger
AZ –	NV – Cindy Savoie/Dylan Rader	NIFC – Pam McDonald
CA – John Gannon	NM – Charley Luevano	Aviation –
CO/WY – Kim Bang	OR/WA – Renee Beams	Fuels –
EA –	UT –	
ID – Kelly Woods	NIFC – Mike Ellsworth	

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Preparing for the FOG (Ellsworth)

Mike Ellsworth will not be able to attend the spring FOG meeting. Kelly Woods will present the BFTC briefing. Jeff Arnberger will assist as needed.

FOG Briefing Paper

No changes were suggested.

Dozer Operator

No changes were suggested.

Chainsaw Refresher Task Team

The task team recommended the status quo. Many BFTC members are not in agreement with the task team recommendation and would like more time to discuss options and solicit additional field input. Mike Ellsworth will remove the BFTC logo from the briefing paper and inform Steve Shaw and Paul Hohn.

ACTION: Solicit FOG representative and field input regarding chainsaw refresher needs and provide feedback to Mike Ellsworth by April 1, 2015. (All BFTC members)

Type 1 C&G State-Level Certification

Paper approved with the inclusion of an approval process for the national office.

Non-fire Mandatory Training

Paper approved with a modification to designate a National BLM Training Officer at the BLM National Training Center.

2. IQCS Update **(Ellsworth)**

New Website

The IQCS website has been redesigned.

Online Training

The online training is available at <http://iqcsweb.nwcg.gov/>. Mike Ellsworth is looking for feedback from those who have taken the training. Immediate feedback included access issues and issuance of a FEMA certificate instead of an NWCG certificate.

Qualification Clean-up

The IQCS Change Management Board continues the task of reviewing unused or rarely used qualifications.

3. NWCG Update **(Ellsworth)**

Mike Ellsworth and Jeff Arnberger attended the NWCG All-Chairs Meeting.

Operations and Training Committee

OWDC and the Training Committee continue to prepare to function as a merged committee. Each agency will have one operations representative and one training representative.

L-481 as an Alternate Path to Type 2 Certification

The Great Basin Training Center hosted the alpha L-481 course February 9-13. Overall, feedback was good. The Leadership Subcommittee will review the L-481 Evaluation Team's recommendations next week.

CREP Proposal Update

OWDC approved the proposal allowing for STCR, TFLD and DIVS to maintain currency for CREP will be implemented in the 2015 310-1.

4. FML and LFML Future Direction **(Ellsworth)**

A Training Committee task team recently met in Portland to discuss the future direction of the FML and LFML courses. A proposal is being crafted to bring FML/LFML under the NWCG purview. The intent is to revise and restructure the courses and accurately title them.

5. 2015 BLM Standards for Fire Training and Workforce Development Status **(Ellsworth)**

The document is awaiting Ron Dutton's signature. Mike will look at the appendix one more time prior to release.

ROUND ROBIN:

- **Alaska** – Seasonal Training Specialists are preparing for the 2015 training season which begins next week.
- **Arizona** – Coordinating prescribed fire rotations to Texas to help firefighters maintain and gain qualifications. Continues to work on the scholarship concept.
- **California** – Nothing to report.
- **Colorado/Wyoming** – Slots are still available for the May 18-19 South Canyon Staff Ride. Busy with the 2015 training season.
- **Idaho** - Busy with the 2015 training season. Working with HR on an ATGS/Training Coordinator (GS-11) position.
- **Nevada** – Nevada will be hosting both “rookie school” and an engine academy.
- **New Mexico** – Dave Bott is retiring.
- **OR/WA** – Nothing to report.

The next conference call will be held **Wednesday, April 1, 2015, at 10:30 a.m. (MDT)**. The next face-to-face meeting will be held September 22-24, 2015. BFTC members are asked to identify an alternate if they unable to participate.