

BLM Fire Training Committee

Conference Call Notes

Date/Time: 3/7/12 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 –	NV – Cindy Savoie	BFTU – Jeff Arnberger
AZ – Bryan Achziger	NM – Charley Luevano	BFTU – Pam McDonald
CA –	OR/WA – Brian Rindlisbacher	NIFC – (Aviation)
CO/WY –	UT –	NIFC – (Fuels)
EA – Lamar Liddell	NTC –	GB SMJ – Mike Haydon
ID – Carol McElroy	BFTU – Mike Ellsworth	GB SMJ – Derrick Hartman

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Updates to Action Log

(Ellsworth)

Mike Ellsworth went through the BLM Fire Training Committee (BFTC) action log. Items pending include:

- 2011-6, Alaska's Allocation of Forces model (being recreated)
- 2011-9, Operational workforce planning function within IQCS (extended due date of 6/2012)
- 2011-14, BLM Fire Training and Qualifications Standards Guide draft (focus of April 2012 meeting)
- 2011-30, NWCG course development/revision SME analysis
- 2012-01, Winnemucca Field Office training database project inquiry (Cindy will follow up.)

BFTC members had no issues with the new process of sending the conference call/meeting agenda and supporting documentation a week prior to the call/meeting. Members will monitor the process and address if concerns are raised.

2. OWDC Update

(Arnberger)

Jeff Arnberger updated the BFTC on items of interest related to OWDC.

- *Sawyer/Faller Proposal (NWCG Hazard Tree Subcommittee)*
Jeff and other OWDC representatives received a lot of comments from the field regarding the Sawyer/Faller concept paper. OWDC deliberated the issue and recommended incorporating a Sawyer/Faller position into a future version of the PMS 310-1. The intent is to retain levels similar to Faller A, B, C into the NWCG position. The change may take a couple years to incorporate in order to address technical aspects (including qualifications and prerequisites for Falling Boss) prior to inclusion across the agencies. The BLM representative on the revision committee is Todd Johnson. The hope is to get a member of the BLM hotshot community on the committee as well.

- *Medical Unit Leader (MEDL) Position Task Book (PTB)*
The Colorado State Forest Service submitted an OWDC Request for Change requesting to add tasks 1-3 from other unit leader task books to the MEDL PTB. OWDC approved the update.
- *Firing Operations Removal from CRWB, ENGB, and DIVS Position Task Books*
The USFS submitted an OWDC Request for Change requesting to remove firing operations language from the CRWB, ENGB and DIVS PTBs. This proposal was rejected by OWDC.
- *Other OWDC Updates*
 - 1) OWDC will be reviewing the seven criteria that must be met for a position to be considered for inclusion in the PMS 310-1. Potential revisions could result in some Technical Specialist positions moving into future revisions of the PMS 310-1.
 - 2) An OWDC task group assembled to update the Fireline Handbook has been working on removing redundancies found with in publications such as the Incident Response Pocket Guide (IRPG). The revised publication will be replaced with the “Wildland Fire Incident Reference Guide” and printed in a format similar to the Red Book. The document should be available for field review this fall.

Brian Rindlisbacher inquired if the IRPG was under revision and who coordinates revisions.

ACTION: Determine who maintains custody of the IRPG and obtain the publication’s revision schedule and report to BFTC members prior to or at April 2012 BFTC meeting. (Mike Ellsworth)

In order to ensure that a consolidated BLM response is made regarding OWDC issues, Mike Ellsworth reminded BFTC members to forward comments they send to FOG members, etc., to Jeff Arnberger and him.

3. **BLM Fire Training Committee Request for Change Document** **(Ellsworth)**
Mike Ellsworth and Lynn Standley Coe developed a draft version of a Request for Change document. BFTC members had no suggestions for improvement and recommended testing the document with the Smokejumper Spotter (SPOT) proposal. (See agenda item #9.)
4. **Work Capacity Administrator Tracking** **(Bang/Ellsworth)**
This discussion was tabled until Kim Bang can brief the BFTC.
5. **Update on the Northern Rockies L-480/S-420 Course** **(Ellsworth)**
Mike Ellsworth advised the BFTC that all BLM employees attending the Northern Rockies L-480/S-420 course will receive credit for both courses.

6. IQCS Position Task Book Reactivation Button (Ellsworth)

Mike Ellsworth briefed the BFTC on an effort to allow IQCS administrators a one-day reactivation period for expired PTBs in order to add first-time evaluations or qualifying evaluations. This feature may be functional by the end of fire season.

7. A-110 Triennial Requirement for HECM in IQCS (Ellsworth)

While reviewing the 2012 Red Book, Michelle Dauenhauer noticed that A-110, Aviation Transportation of Hazardous Materials, was not included in the chart on page 16-15 as required training for Helicopter Crewmember as found in the PMS 310-1. In June 1, 2011, A-110 was added as “required training” with a triennial requirement in the PMS-310-1. The A-110 requirement was removed from S-271, Helicopter Crewmember. An expiration date has been placed on the A-110 course within IQCS. Aviation personnel are aware of the issue and are analyzing the A-110 requirement. The Red Book will be changed through an errata sheet.

8. Spring 2012 BLM Fire Training Committee Meeting Update (Ellsworth)

The spring 2012 BFTC meeting will be held April 3-5 in Boise, ID at NIFC. The intent is to have representatives from aviation and fuels at the meeting. Cindy Savoie and Mike Ellsworth will finalize meeting agendas and logistics. BFTC members should send agenda items to Mike Ellsworth.

9. Smokejumper Spotter (SPOT) Proposal (Ellsworth)

The Western Great Basin Coordination Center submitted a proposal to create an IQCS position for Smokejumper Spotter (SPOT) in order to alleviate problems with the “spotter” requirement being overlooked in the “special needs” section of the Resource Ordering and Status System (ROSS) or smokejumpers being designated as ATGS (Trainee) on rosters as a workaround.

DECISION: The BFTC recommended that a couple BFTC members work with Boise Smokejumper training officers to define Smokejumper Spotter (SPOT) qualifications and possible prerequisites and formally submit the request for change through the BFTC Request for Change process.

ACTION: Work with members of the Boise Smokejumpers to define qualifications and prerequisites for a Smokejumper Spotter (SPOT) position and report progress at the April 2012 meeting. (Mike Ellsworth and Cindy Savoie)

ACTION: Route the Western Great Basin Coordination Center’s request to create the Smokejumper Spotter (SPOT) position in IQCS through the BFTC Request for Change process and report on the status of the effort to the BFTC on future conference calls. (Cindy Savoie)

10. BLM Fire Training Committee FOG Briefing Paper (Ellsworth)

The FOG will meet in Boise on March 20, 2012. Mike Ellsworth will present the latest BFTC updates to the FOG. As a standard operating procedure, Mike Ellsworth and Cindy Savoie will work collaboratively to create the briefing paper that can also be used during preseason meetings.

11. IFPM Aviation Proposal (Arnberger)

Jeff Arnberger briefed the BFTC on an IFPM Field Input for Revision proposal to recognize and incorporate aviation firefighting qualifications or an aviation firefighting career path into the IFPM Standard. Feedback received regarding the subject varied and did not lead to a definitive BLM response. The issue will be a discussion topic during the March 2012 FOG meeting.

ACTION: Contact State FOG representatives by March 16, 2012, regarding concerns about the USFS's proposal to recognize or incorporate aviation firefighting qualifications or aviation firefighting career path into the IFPM Standard. (All BFTC members)

12. Preparedness Review Training Checklist (Draft) (Arnberger)

Jeff Arnberger thanked all BFTC members for the comments they submitted regarding the Preparedness Review Training Checklist. Some comments could not be included. Jeff will speak with the representative(s) that submitted rejected comments. The final draft should be completed by March 15, 2012, and will be sent to BFTC members.

ACTION: Send the final Preparedness Review Training Checklist to BFTC members by March 15, 2012. (Jeff Arnberger)

Round Robin:

AZ (Achziger)

- The Arizona Wildfire Academy begins next week.
- There will be a Southwest Training Committee meeting next week.

ID (McElroy)

- Nothing to report.

MT (Dauenhauer)

- Nothing to report.

NV (Savoie)

- Nothing to report.

NM (Luevano)

- Nothing to report.

OR/WA (Brian Rindlisbacher)

- SMEs are being assembled to work on the change policy effort. Still need another individual for ATV/OHV training policy.
- There is still a lot of discussion happening about the structure of R6 management positions. Unsure whether or not Mike Spencer's position will be filled.

BFTU (Arnberger, Ellsworth, McDonald)

- Pam McDonald:
 - The Annual Fireline Safety Refresher DVDs are in production and will be mailed as soon as they are available. All modules are currently available for download on the WFSTAR website (<http://www.nifc.gov/wfstar/index.html>). To download each module packet (video, Instructor Guide and Student Workbook), users must select "ADD MODULE TO CART."

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held in Boise, ID, **Wednesday, April 3 - 5, 2012**, 0800 hours (Mountain) at NIFC.