

BLM Fire Training Officer Committee

Conference Call Agenda

Date/Time: 05/11/11 at 1300 MT (Boise)

Phone number: 866-704-5789
Participant code: 223574#

ROLL CALL: (participants in bold)

AK –	MT – Fonda Knox	NIFC – Mike Ellsworth
AZ –	NV – Cindy Savoie	NIFC – Al Olson
CA – Nate Gogna	NM – Charley Luevano	NIFC – Pam McDonald
CO/WY – Kim Bang	OR/WA – Brian Rindlisbacher	
EA –	UT –	
ID –	NTC – Don Washco	

AGENDA ITEMS:

- 1. BLM Fire Training Unit Leader Position Update** **(Ellsworth)**
 Ted Mason has accepted a position as Safety Officer for the US Fish and Wildlife Service beginning June 5, 2011. Mike Ellsworth will assume Ted’s duties as “acting” BLM Fire Training Unit Leader. F & A Management is evaluating whether or not the BLM Fire Training Unit Leader position will be filled.
- 2. BLM Fire Training Committee Charter** **(Ellsworth)**
 The BLM Fire Training Committee charter has been approved and signed. A copy of the signed charter will be available on the BLM Fire Training Unit website when received.
- 3. Recertification Policy Update** **(Ellsworth)**
 The BLM’s recertification policy was included in the recently released errata sheet to the *Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations* (Redbook). The policy statement and BLM Recertification Evaluation Form can be found at http://www.blm.gov/nifc/st/en/prog/fire/training/fire_training/recertification.html.
- 4. UNLV GS-0401 Education Program** **(Ellsworth)**
 To date, 14 applications have been received for the UNLV GS-401 Education Program. UNLV had previously required a minimum of 15 students to offer the program; however, UNLV’s new management is reconsidering the minimum number of students. Potential students should forward applications to Mike Ellsworth immediately. There is no national funding available for this program as this time.
- 5. Technical Fire Management (TFM)** **(Ellsworth)**
 The BLM Fire Training Unit has received only one conditional application for TFM. In the past, the BLM filled 8 to 10 of their 13 requested seats. Washington Institute has previously required a

minimum of 35 students from all agencies. There is no national funding available for this program as this time.

6. On-the-Job Training (OJT) Programs (Ellsworth)

RX-OJT

There is nothing new to report regarding RX-OJT. Individuals are still encouraged to submit nominations for the program in the event that national funding becomes available. The nomination form can be found at

http://www.blm.gov/nifc/st/en/prog/fire/training/fire_training/training_programs/rxojt.html.

OPS-OJT

One OPS-OJT trainee has been placed on fires in New Mexico and is gaining valuable experience with hopes of completing his position task book. Training officers are encouraged to submit their priority OPS-OJT trainee lists to their FOG member as well as submit an application to the BLM Fire Training Unit. The OPS-OJT application can be found at

http://www.blm.gov/nifc/st/en/prog/fire/training/fire_training/training_programs/opsojt.html.

Training Committee members are asked to notify Mike Ellsworth of potential trainee opportunities.

7. Extending Open PTB from 3 years to 5 years (Ellsworth)

OWDC received a request for change proposal to extend an open position task book from three (3) years to five (5) years. Mike Ellsworth will forward the proposal to Training Committee members for feedback.

ACTION: Forward the OWDC open PTB extension proposal to Training Committee members.

Round Robin:

- CA – Nothing to report.
- CO/WY – The geographic area is working on an interagency training priority process which is being met with resistance by some state agencies. Kim just attended the L-580 Gettysburg Staff Ride and highly suggests others to attend.
- MT – Nothing to report.
- NV – Nothing to report.
- NM – Fire activity has increased; recent weather systems have assisted suppression efforts
- OR/WA – Mike Spencer forwarded an e-mail to Ted Mason regarding proposed changes to the PMS 310-1. Kim Bang informed the group that OWDC tabled the proposal until their fall meeting to allow time for review and comments.
- NTC – Don Washco questioned the viability of name requests in ROSS. Ways exist to name request.
- National Office – The next conference call will be **Wednesday, June 1, 2011**, at 1000 hours (Mountain).