

BLM NATIONAL WILDLAND FIRE TRAINING COMMITTEE
Conference Call
August 4, 2010

Conference Call Participants

Mike Ellsworth, BLM Training-NIFC; Al Olson, BLM Training-NIFC; Pam McDonald, BLM Training-NIFC; Kim Bang, CO/WY; Charley Luevano, NM; Don Washco, NTC; Brian Achziger, AZ; Tony Doty, AK; Carol McElroy, ID; Nate Gogna, CA; Madonna Lengerich, GBTU

IFPM Update (Mike Ellsworth)

The current IQCS report shows 39 individuals failing to meet IFPM requirements.

Nate Gogna related his concern that California has an abundance of GS-5s who have not had S-290 and are looking to hold a special class in late October. Kim Bang expressed similar concerns. The National Weather Service has created an online S-290 that is presently going through the NWCG approval process. Mike continued to express the urgency for training officers to update their systems to accurately report IFPM needs. Individuals cannot be helped if records do not show there is a need. Only 4 are showing that they are missing S-290 or S-211.

ACTION: Mike Ellsworth will check on the status of NWCG approval of the NWS online S-290.

RX and Operations OJT Program (Al Olson/Mike Ellsworth)

No updates on RX OJT. Bad weather caused cancellation of the Texas exchange; therefore, several few individuals were unable to meet IFPM requirements.

We continue to place individuals in the field for the OPS OJT Program. A recent placement coordinated through Kim Bang and Gage's NIMO team on a fire in Colorado was successful. Committee members are encouraged to let Mike know when opportunities arise. Mike will be contacting various NIMO teams for partnering opportunities.

ACTION: Post the Operations OJT nomination list on the website. (Ellsworth/McDonald)

UNLV/TFM (Mike Ellsworth)

No new information. Slots are still available.

BLM Fire Training Information Job Aid (Mike Ellsworth)

Special thanks go out to those individuals who reviewed the recent changes made to the Job Aid. Continued effort is needed to keep the document as accurate and useful as possible. All questions and concerns about the Job Aid should be directed to Al Olson.

Open Mentoring Program (Mike Ellsworth)

The NPS and FWS will be embarking on an open, web-based mentoring program (for more information visit <http://3creek.com>) this fall. The BLM and BIA will pilot the program for FY 2011. The web-based mentoring process will guide the mentee through assessing his/her development needs, finding a suitable mentor from a dynamic database, and creating a mentoring agreement. IT also supports the participants through utilities allowing for collaborative discussions and easy planning and scheduling.

Round Robin

Don Washco (NTC) – nothing new to report

Tony Doty (AK) – nothing to report

Brian Achziger (AZ) – nothing to report

Nate Gogna (CA) – The apprenticeship announcement went out. He will send out a timeline in the future.

Reminder that California will provide an S-290 the last week of October or early November.

The time has come to explore L-380 options. MCS prices are too high. Suggests developing a BLM National L-380 Cadre.

The above concern also exists for L-381. The PNW Training Center is working on an agency version and may be a source to develop instructors.

Kim Bang (CO) – PFTC nominations are sent directly to PFTC and do not go through GATRs. They are then sent from PFTC to the national office.

Carol McElroy (ID) – nothing to report

Charley Luevano (NM) – nothing to report

Madonna Lengerich (GBTU) – Successfully completed a field S-420 with Kidd's IMT. Great Basin Training will be moving under Joe Freeland at the Idaho State Office as of October 1.

Next Conference Call

The next conference call is tentatively scheduled for **September 1, 2010**, at 1000 hours (Mountain)