

BLM NATIONAL WILDLAND FIRE TRAINING COMMITTEE
Conference Call
November 3, 2010

Conference Call Participants

Ted Mason, BLM Training-NIFC; Mike Ellsworth, BLM Training-NIFC; Al Olson, BLM Training-NIFC; Pam McDonald, BLM Training-NIFC; Tony Doty, AK; Larry Elder, MT; Gary Helming, CO/WY; Nate Gogna, CA; Lynn Cook, UT

Great Basin Training Officer Workshop (Mike Ellsworth)

The Great Basin Training Officer Workshop was held in Boise October 27 & 28, 2001.

Deb Fleming, NWCG Training Development Unit discussed the following:

- Revision of the PMS 310-1 will become conducted annually and accompanied by errata sheets like is done for the Field Manager's Course Guide (FMCG) revision.
- The Tractor/Plow/Dozer Boss position will be renamed Heavy Equipment Boss.
- OWDC will be addressing the section of the PMS 310-1 regarding maintaining higher qualifications.
- A group will be looking at redefining the terms pre-course, pre-test, etc., portion of course delivery in the FMCG and reevaluating the amount of course hours.

Sharon Allen-Brick, Region 5, US Forest Service presented information to participants regarding the development of recordkeeping procedures that were developed for master training records as a result of various OIG audits. Items in the binder include:

- What qualifies as a record?
- Proving someone is qualified for a position.

Chapter 7 of the BLM Fire and Aviation Training Information Job Aid includes information regarding training record maintenance. Although the BLM Training Unit staff is not aware if any local unit has undergone an OIG audit, they will review the Region 5 information to see if additions or clarifications can be incorporated into the BLM Fire and Aviation Training Information Job Aid.

E-Mentoring (Mike Ellsworth)

Mike is still working with other DOI agencies to develop the BLM integration points for the e-mentoring program. Mike will send all National BLM training officers the access codes for the website. Training officers should review the website and provide feedback to Mike as soon as possible. A projected launch date for the program, possibly a TFM integration point, is year's end with a global launch of mid-spring 2011.

IFPM Implementation Team (Ted Mason)

Ted Mason briefed the committee on the status of the IFPM Implementation Team. Although the October 1, 2010, date has passed, the team feels there is still work to be done and proposes that the team become a subcommittee under OWDC. The proposal/issue paper will be drafted and submitted for consideration to OWDC.

The issue of “currency” was also discussed by the IFPM Implementation Team. The way we define currency in the PMS 310-1 does not work as a selective placement factor for hiring, but it could possibly be used as a selection criteria. The Team will continue working with Human Resources on this issue.

Ted will update the committee on any other issues that stem from the meeting.

Round Robin

Tony Doty (AK) – Meetings are being held in Alaska this week to address the significant impacts of a declining budget.

Nate Gogna (CA) – Nate recently received an e-mail regarding a proposal to combine the SRB and ICT4 position task books which would have impacts for the state of California. He expressed concern that the BLM National Training Committee does not have a formal voice at the Fire Operations Group table. Although the BLM Fire Training Unit generally attends the meeting, the group discussed the importance of having more formal representation from the committee.

The Wildland Fire Apprenticeship Program (WFAP) has undergone some significant changes including a decrease to 3,000 hours of experience, movement of courses between elective and required status, expansion of aviation course offerings, consolidation of dispatch courses. The newly revised WFAP website (<http://www.wfap.net/>) reflects a lot of the changes. If you have not received information regarding the WFAP, contact Nate.

Gary Helming (CO/WY) – Nothing to report.

Larry Elder (MT) – Larry is looking for someone to replace him as representative to this committee. Target date: spring 2011.

Lynn Cook (UT) – Lynn stated that a lot of good information was shared at the Great Basin Training Officer’s Workshop.

Next Conference Call

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