

OWDC Conference Call Notes

April 8, 2015

Date/Time: April 8 0900 - 1000 Mountain

Standing Agenda Items:

Review and Update Action Log – Mark Jones

- New member representing BIA – Jacqueline Martin

New Agenda Items:

Intro New Western States Rep - Ron Stoffel

- Paul Fieldhouse from MT will be taking over for Ron Stoffel.

FEMA Update - Tony Doty

- All hazard incident management team association, parallel efforts going on with NWCG. They were at the FEMA meeting and did a presentation.
- No update on National Qualification System.

Endorsements - Buck Kline

- Discussed tasking (see attachment)

Glossary Term Request

- Need a decision on the following terms;
 - Incident Objectives
 - Gridding
- OWDC members will email Mark with their feedback prior to the end of April.

EIM /Pathways – Deb

- Because of the changes the pathways work unit has done what they can and nothing left in those tasking to address.
- Evans will recommend sunseting pathways work unit at NWCG Meeting next week.

Decisions

No Quorum

Round Table Closeout

Jones – please send any topics to Jones/Kelin for May meeting ASAP

Tony – moving to Chico, CA and retiring June 30th.

Tim – NWCG is meeting April 15th and will be closing out T2/T2 IA tasking. Sean Cross is pulling together NWCG training review tasking. Recommendation to establish NWCG dispatch committee from NIAC. Safety zone expansion recommendation is coming from RM committee to NWCG.

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Next Meeting Date/Time

OWDC Conference Calls are every second Wednesday of the month at 0900 Mountain

Future Meetings:

Date: May 27 – 29, 2015

Location: Boise, Idaho

Address: NIFC, Jack Wilson Building, Multi-Purpose Room

OWDC Members	Y/N	Associates	Y/N
Mark Jones (Chair), BLM	Y	Deb Fleming, NWCG Training Branch, BLM	Y
Kelin Staats (Logistics), BLM	Y	Tony Doty , DOI, OEM	Y
Jeff Arnberger, BLM	N	Brad Gibbs, NIAC, BLM	N
William Martin, USFA	N	Marley Marshall, IQCS, BLM	N
Bill Van Bruggen, USFS	N	Rob Lehmann, IQS, NASF	Y
Kevin Conn, FWS	Y	Tim Blake, NWCG Preparedness Branch Cord.	Y
Don Johnson, NASF	Y	Nicole Hallisey (Backup Logistics), BLM	N
Jacqueline Martin, BIA	N	Jason Steinmetz, DOI, OEM	N
Mark Koontz, NPS	Y		
Ron Stoffel/Paul Fieldhouse, NASF	Y		
Buck Kline, NASF	Y		

Attachment:

Endorsement Tasking Update
4/7/2015

The Endorsements Task Group was given a four part tasking from the OWDC.

1. Ensure compliance with the FEMA requirement for each emergency responder discipline to have an endorsement process tied to the National Qualification System (NQS)
2. Establish business processes to develop and integrate wildland fire discipline specific qualifications when performance requirements exceed the minimum, discipline neutral, qualifications requirements.
3. Ensure that the framework provides for efficient integration into existing business systems (e.g. IQCS, IQS, ROSS).

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4. Recommend changes to appropriate publications to incorporate new endorsement business practices.

The task group has participated in monthly calls which began in February 2015. During the course of our meetings we have each looked at various pieces of the above tasking to develop some thoughts and talking points to enable the group to move forward. Below are some talking points as to what the tasking group has formulated so far:

- 1. Ensure compliance with the FEMA requirement for each emergency responder discipline to have an endorsement process tied to the National Qualification System (NQS)**

This tasking cannot be completed until the NQS is released. Once released the group feels a gap analysis could be performed between the PMS 301-1 and the NQS to determine the differences to help establish a WF endorsement positions. **In order to be proactive, in anticipation of the forthcoming NQS Guide, OTC should draft the process for how endorsements for wildland fire positions will be determined.**

- 2. Establish business processes to develop and integrate wildland fire discipline specific qualifications when performance requirements exceed the minimum, discipline neutral, qualifications requirements.**

We talked about many different aspects of business process and below are a few over view of thought and concerns the group had.

Expectations

- From the field and from the new people going through the process to get the WF endorsement.
- Have to have clear direction of the process
- Have to look at how to hire "outside" NWCG resources to start to get WF endorsement using agreements other means.

Business

- Where does the workload lie.... local forest, region?
- New policy to be able to use non WF endorsed positions to support wildfire?

Mobilization

- ROSS – who/how is responsible to upload resources from non NWCG agencies. The AHJ or the dispatch center?
- Sponsor – will they need a NWCG sponsor... is a mandatory for all NWCG dispatch center/agencies to host non NWCG agencies to get WF endorsements?

Certification

- Qualification Cards – how will they look? Do we need to go electronic? *Marley has provided the group with some DRAFT examples of potential qual cards with endorsements.*

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3. Ensure that the framework provides for efficient integration into existing business systems (e.g. IQCS, IQS, ROSS).

- IQS – what's the cost and need to redevelop to handle new endorsements?
- Sounds like it would take 8-12 months to retrofit IQS don't know how much \$ it would cost
- IQCS – it would take 8-12 months to retrofit IQCS don't know how much \$ it would cost

4. Recommend changes to appropriate publications to incorporate new endorsement business practices.

Without a clear defined endorsement process (lack of NQS to provide a gap analysis with the 310-1 makes this very difficult) this tasking cannot be closed. The group did spend some time to discuss the various publications that could be affected/touched once this is clearly outlined. Publications could include but not limited to the 310-1, Red Book, Interagency Standards for Business Operations/yellow book, Task Books?? While there are many other publications which could be affected, this group is not the platform to recommend/define changes but rather feel they may be the conduit to provide a list of publications that could be affected once the endorsements business practices are outlined.

The group did look at various positions in the 310-1 to see which ones may need a WF endorsement. This list was vast. What the endorsement is could vary from; just in time training to classroom training which would depend on the endorsement recommendation.