



*Conference Call  
January 21, 2016*

**Attendance:**

Ted Mason	FWS, NIFC
Tony Beitia	BIA, NIFC - Not on call
Shelby Gales	BLM (Acting)
Chad Fisher	NPS, NIFC - Not on call
John Owens	Safety Advisor, NIFC
Bill Troup	USFA
Tim Blake	NWCG, NIFC
Shane Greer	USFS, NIFC
Joe Domitrovich	USFS, MTDC - Not on call
Wayne Williams	Montana DNRC
Mark Goeller	Oklahoma Department of Agriculture
Wesley Keller	PA Bureau of Forestry
Corey Butler	NIOSH
Jan Peterson	IEMS - Not on call
Hope Spriggs	USFS, NIFC

**Guests:**

Kathy Komatz	6 Minutes for Safety
Russ Babiak	USFW
Britt Rosso	LLC
Tony Petrilli	MTDC
Joe Sol	MTDC

**NWCG Updates (Blake)**

- Feb All Chairs meeting update – February 2-4.
- NWCG has received a tasking to define how complexes will be divided.
- Budget requests due April 27, information on submitting requests available soon.
- Other RMC members welcome to attend the All Chairs meeting; coordinate with Ted.

#### MTDC Update (Petrilli/Sol)

- **Smoke Exposure/Heat Stress** study underway, module headed to OK and the SE.
- **Studying alternative IHC WCT**, field testing and discussions with agency personnel underway. Elevation gain and increased weight during testing is a factor.
  - The USFS is very early in the study process; further information to be shared as available.
- **Fire Shelters**
  - 2015: Two fires with shelter deployments (Twisp, WA, separate from fatalities, central CA entrapment, deployment and burnover, but unable to use shelter as ground had recently burned).
  - Material testing for shelters: so far, the only improvements found in materials also come with a significant increase in weight and bulk. The testing is focusing on keeping to a similar weight and bulk as currently used while increasing shelter performance.
  - NIFC.gov Fire Shelter Website: Training page now includes a fire shelter reminder and inspection list and how-to documents.
  - Plastic case perforation can become difficult to open if heat has deformed or melted the perforations, something to discuss during annual shelter training.
- **Hazard Tree** – Don't be a target – awareness.
  - Working on a video with information on how to mitigate working near hazard trees. May not be available until after this refresher season.
- **Medical Kit** – Survey out, should be open for a few more weeks. A group of SMEs will be assembled to make recommendations taking response data into consideration. Looking at modernizing and standardizing personal kits, multiple person kits, and trauma kits. Will work with ETC.

#### Safety Officer Toolkit (S-404) Update – (Beitia) TABLED.

#### Safety Gram (Owens)

- Latest draft of final 2015 S-G has been distributed.
- Any edits need to be summited ASAP, expected posting end of January.

#### SAFENET (Owens)

- Lowest number of filed SAFENETS this year since the program was implemented.
- Corresponding increase in number of rapid lesson sharing through the LLC.

#### Safety Alert System Update (Mason)

- Need to write final letter to all subscribers that the Safety Alert distribution will be discontinued.
- Distribution will be done through agency channels and the LLC.

#### Subcommittee updates:

##### 6 Minutes for Safety (Komatz)

- New topics will begin next week.
- Week of Remembrance planning continues and will inform the RMC of updates.
  - This will be an annual event.

### **NIOSH updates (Butler)**

- Two proposals will be submitted for potential research funding:
  - Cohort mortality study (what WLFF are dying from).
  - Long term health effect study.
    - Working to determine location and availability of employee records for this study.

### **U.S. Fire Administration Updates (Troup)**

- Emergent Health and Safety of the Volunteer Fire Service draft report will be forwarded for review in the next month.
- Communications Guide for Fire Service should be out in a month.
- Awards for research projects should be made soon.
- Workplace and occupational violence in the fire and EMS service study underway.
- Roadway operations safety study ongoing.

### ***Round Robin***

#### **BLM:** (J. Owens)

- Vice-Ryerson position is out, flown as a primary safety position, has fire retirement.

#### **FWS:** (Mason)

- Working on 2015 year end stats, and will share with the RMC. Most of 2015 FWS acreage burned was in Alaska.

#### **USFS:** (Greer)

- Larry Sutton is has accepted the USFS AD of Operations position in Boise, effective date next week.
- Working to detail behind Larry and in the vice-Waterbury position.

#### **States:**

##### **Western States** (Williams)

- Wayne will be retiring at the end of March. Replacement TBD.

##### **Eastern States** (Keller)

- Updating Eastern States contact list.

##### **Southern States** (Goeller)

- Chiefs Managers Supervisors meeting in Boise last week.
  - IMT Succession planning.
  - Winter weather expected this week.

### ***Next Call: all at 1300 MST***

- February 18

Conference call adjourned.