

NWCG Fire Environment Working Team  
Fire Behavior Committee  
Teleconference  
March 27, 2008  
FINAL

Members Present:

Kyle Cannon  
Kelly Close  
Dan Jimenez  
Risa Lange-Navarro  
Punky Moore  
Larry VanBussum  
Robert Ziel

Not Present:

John Barborinas  
Tami Parkinson  
John Saltenberger

Teleconference minutes from 2/14/08: The minutes were finalized with the addition of Tami to those present on the call. Punky reported that progress has been made regarding the NWCG website. The external website is up-to-date with current FBC business.

Curriculum update:

S190 – Online version done, is anybody working with it yet?  
S290 – Being offered and finding mistakes where finalized corrections did not get into curriculum. *Boise meeting agenda item*  
S390 – Same as above  
S490 – Final corrections and issue paper  
GATR meeting was held, S491/492/493 courses were discussed. Noble Dunn was not included in the meeting. Proposal for electronic version was denied. Geographic area training specialists wanted to be able to order from Boise. It was not common knowledge that S491 was being updated on its own website.

Advanced Fire Behavior Assessment:

Steering committee chair, Laurie Kurth, will conference call in during April meeting. Laurie reported that the committee is making preparations for 2009 course offering. The learning pathway was posted on the FBAN/LTAN/IMET community; Zeke will post on MFC.

FLAME:

Unsure of online course status. There needs to be a handoff course or online course in the fall for courses to be held in the spring. Need to follow up on research paper. *Boise meeting agenda item*

Risa will invite Noble to meet with FBC in Boise. In addition, a proposal will be made for regular participation on calls and at meetings.

FENWT Report:

Zeke & Risa will participate during FENWT meeting the week before Boise meeting. There should be more information regarding reorganization after the FENWT meeting. There may be changes for FBC. Also, there may be more latitude with the budget.

Budget:

Firefighter Math:

Dan will include a budget proposal (hours, work, cost) at the Boise meeting.

Field Ref. Guide:

Committee discussed whether this project should be inhouse or contracted out. Contracting could cost as much as \$40,000. Committee considered suggestions about a combined JFSP or Fuels Team effort. The committee needs to decide what will be kept and what will be revamped. Dan will invite Tim Swedberg to meet with FBC in Boise. Committee will draft a proposal/justification during the meeting. *Boise meeting agenda item*

There may be a funding request from Advanced Fire Behavior Assessment to make modifications to FireFamilyPlus.

Training:

A new course was held in R6 that incorporated Tom Leuschen's Probable Rate of Spread, PROS. FBC discussed what was going into the process, research or field wise and whether the product was peer reviewed. The committee also discussed the intent of the product. Kyle will contact Tom Leuschen and see if he is interested in attending the Boise meeting to discuss PROS. If he's not available, Kyle will lead discussion.

'88 Fires – Yellowstone & Beyond Conference

- Ideas for poster
- Abstract due 4/15/08
- Review as a group at the meeting
- Fee – Dan will check

Risa & Tami are planning on attending; Dan will finalize his plans to attend.

Preparations for Boise Meeting:

Core Fire Science Plan:

Dan will make inquiries about the plan Colin Hardy was working on in Destin. Is there anything FBC needs to be aware of? Dan will check and report during meeting. Of concern to the FBC is plume dominated vs. wind driven fire behavior as it pertains to the curriculum.

**BehavePlus:**

New version is ready for roll out. Dan will add to his Fire Research Report during Boise meeting.

**Meeting with TWT & Development Group:**

Zeke will draft a memo to Deb Epps and Mark Koontz addressing the items FBC would like to discuss.

S190 – Status, problems

S290 – Our role with Comet project – letters from the field

S390 – Necessary quals – what used to be required are not needed anymore

S490 – Meaningful maintenance schedule

S590 – Invited Whitmer and/or Elenz to call in

Advanced Fire Behavior Assessment – Kurth will call in

FLAME, incorporated in 290 and separate course

Course evaluations – Establish a means to have meaningful review, create continuing SME committee to have some permanence.

FBC discussed TWT's contract for private company to evaluate all the NWCG courses pertaining to development, updates and maintenance. FBC will inquire if there is a report to draw some info from.

**Workshops:**

Will committee request funding for some FLAME workshops and encourage other Fire Behavior workshops?

**IRPG:**

FBC needs to be prepared to send input during next cycle.

**Business Practices:**

Budget, FENWT reorganization, Communication Plan, Yellowstone Conf, Document Depot

Kyle will be leaving at 11 a.m. Thursday

**Field Ref. Guide:**

Risa passed out to the S490 cadre and will have feedback during meeting.

**Firefighter Refresher Video:**

Scott Anderson is scheduled to meet with us Wednesday, 10am. FBC discussed what happened to the Cramer walk video.

Landfire:

Matt Rollins will call in Wednesday during meeting in Boise. What is the FBC interested in?

- Landscape files need to be ground truth
- How to get into process (Rapid Refresh)
- How are updates from the field going to work
- What information is available
- What supporting info exists
- How users interact with the system
- How we can have input
- How we can have meaningful review
- How will it be maintained

Nelson Fuel Moisture Model:

Matt Jolly is willing to call in during meeting, Wednesday afternoon, ~1:30 pm our time

Communication Plan:

Time will be scheduled to work on the plan.

Meeting Schedule:

We will set future conference call and meeting schedule at the Boise meeting.

Round Robin:

Questions raised about FBAN/LTAN combined taskbook, availability, initiating. Risa will check with Cyndi Hogg and report back to committee.

Comet/S290:

Larry reported lingering problems transferring money to Comet. The money will be transferred to the National Science Foundation then transferred to Comet after a fee (~\$5,000). The FY '09 and beyond budget request included Comet funding; pretty confident the request will be approved. S591 is almost complete, and then S290 course will be started. S591 is almost complete; will start on S290 course next with approximately 18 months to complete.

Adjourned at 11:30am