



Safety and Health Working Team

May 20-22, 2003
Nashville, TN

ATTENDANCE:

Paul Broyles	NPS, NIFC
Rod Bloms	FWS, NIFC
Gene Madden	FL STATE
Michelle Ryerson-Grett	BLM, NIFC
Chuck Whitlock	USFS, MTDC
Bob Ashworth	NV STATE
Larry Grimes	USFS, R-8
Stan Palmer	BLM, NIFC
John Gould	BIA, NIFC
Pat Haddad	NPS, AZ
Karin Nichols	BLM, NIFC

Guest Presenters:

Allen Dietz, NWCG IRM Program Management Office
George Jackson, USFS, MTDC
Mark McFall, NIOSH

OLD BUSINESS

Review Action Log – All

The SHWT reviewed and updated the Action Log. This will be posted to the website once the changes/corrections are made.

IOSWT response to WCT Fitness Levels – Paul Broyles

Handout #1 - 4/9/03 memo. The SHWT reviewed and discussed the revisions of the listed positions.

FY '04 Budget – Paul Broyles

The SHWT's FY '04 budget was cut by \$5K, and the requested \$10K additional funding for further scientific analysis to validate the physical fitness levels of four positions was denied. Of these four positions, the group identified (DIVS) as #1 & (STDZ) as #2 priority for analysis.

NEW BUSINESS

NWCG Glossary – Allen Dietz, Michelle Ryerson-Grett

Handouts #2-8. Allen Dietz gave a presentation on the NWCG IRM Program Management Office and the NWCG Glossary of Wildland Fire Terminology.

After discussion Allen agreed to pull out the terms the BLM-NIFC External Affairs has identified in addition to the existing terms and distribute to the SHWT within the next two weeks.

Michelle is the glossary custodian for SHWT.

The SHWT has been assigned 47 terms in the existing glossary.

***ACTION:** Team members were assigned glossary terms to validate. New terms were identified and assigned. All glossary terms are due to Michelle by July 1st, 2003.*

Future MTDC Projects – George Jackson

Steve Munson has compiled historical data of entrapments/fatalities on wildland fires. Paula from Lessons Learned would like to post the reports from this data to the Wildland Fire Lessons Learned Center website. The team discussed the possibility of sponsoring this project, and the need to establish a clearly defined process with parameters.

***ACTION:** A task group (John Gould, Chuck Whitlock, Steve Munson and Paula Nasiatka) will identify the issues and concerns, the validation of the product and establish the process. Once identified, this group will update the SHWT on the June conference call.*

- George presented the Fire Equipment Working Team needs questionnaire – will send out the CD to the group.
- The group discussed a project proposal to MTDC from Steve Karkanen, (Physical Fitness Training Manual) the team felt it was not a SHWT issue, and will not endorse. George will take the proposal to the Jan' 04 USFS F&AM Steering Committee Mtg.
- Wildland Firefighter Health and Safety Conference proposed agenda (Brian Sharkey) – possibly in conjunction with IAWF Safety Summit.
- New fire shelters are available for order, George passed out the “New Generation Fire Shelter” publication & video, and the WCT Administrators Guide & CD.

Incident Business Mgmt. Memos – Paul Broyles

There still is opportunity for comments and changes by the October meeting on the following issues:

Contractor Performance Appraisals

Length of Assignment

Work Rest Guidelines Language

DOT Driving Requirements Waiver Status – Michelle Ryerson-Grett

The Federal agencies are exempt from most DOT requirements. However the agencies have established policy binding themselves to the DOT requirements. The Federal agencies are looking at requesting a waiver or exception from the Department of Interior and the Forest Service during fire operations BLM will maintain standards in the Red Book.

H/O #9 –

Driving requirements for AD's – the SHWT feels this is a single agency issue at this time. The Forest Service members will keep the team apprised of the status of this issue.

NWCG Thirty Mile Action Plan Tasking – Paul Broyles

The group discussed this assignment and agreed to draft a response to the NWCG parent group.

ACTION: Draft a response to the NWCG parent group, take to each Fire Director for approval, finalize and respond.

NIOSH Fatality Investigations – Mark McFall

Mark McFall presented to the group an overview of the mission of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and how they conduct investigations and reporting in their Fire Fighter Fatality Investigation and Prevention Program.

MTDC WCT PowerPoint – Chuck Whitlock

Chuck went through the PowerPoint presentation of the new Work Capacity Test Administrator's Guide. This CD is now available on the internet and through the PMS.

IHC Assistance Offer – Paul Broyles

Dennis Baldrige, Chair of the IHC has offered to contribute any assistance the SHWT may need. This is a valid resource when we need some input from the IHC community.

Social Science Research and FF Safety – Paul Broyles

H/O #10. The SHWT has been approached by the newly chartered Fire Social Science Working Group for interaction/dialog. After discussion the team decided to consult with each Agency Fire Director and the State Representative to the NWCG Parent Group to clarify the expectations of that team and the SHWT's interaction with them. Further discussion and feedback will be discussed on the June conference call.

EMSG Update – Gene Madden

H/O #11 – The draft charter of the Emergency Medical Support Group (EMSG) was handed out for review. With the identified changes, the charter was approved. Minutes from future EMSG conference calls will be distributed to SHWT members. A web page is being built that will be on the SHWT web site. The decision was made to have a joint meeting with the EMSG at the next SHWT meeting in Las Vegas, October 7-9, 2003.

Meeting Host Rotation Schedule - All

The following rotation schedule will be used for future procurement of the meeting facilities.

NPS – Tucson (Jan '03)
BIA – Nashville (May '03)
NV State – Las Vegas (Oct '03)
FWS - Austin (Jan '04)
BLM – San Diego (April '04)
FS – (Nov '04)
FL State– (Jan '05)
WI State – (May '05)

Future Conference Call Schedule – All

June 5, 2003 and September 4, 2003 at 1300 MDT.

“Standard Fire Orders and Watch Out: There is a Better Way” – Paul Broyles

The team discussed Craig Goodell's issue paper “Standard Fire Orders and Watch Out: There is a Better Way”. The team agreed not to take any action at this time.

Reviewing NWCG training courses

The following courses will be reviewed by the respective members;
S-215 – Fire Operations in the Wildland/Urban Interface – Al King
J-252 – Ordering Manager - Michelle Ryerson-Grett
J-253 – Receiving and Distribution Manager – Stan Palmer
J-257 – Incident Communications Center Manager - John Gould

International Wildland Fire Safety Summit (Toronto, Canada November 2003)

Stan Palmer will attend and represent the SHWT at the IAWF Safety Summit.

3rd Annual International Wildland Fire Conference & Exhibition (Sydney, Australia October 2003)

Michelle is planning to attend and will represent the SHWT. She will bring samples of the SAFENET, Safety Alert, Safety Gram, and Safety Posters CD. Michelle will draft up a brief summary of the teams' accomplishments and future goals.

SHWT Draft Charter – Paul Broyles

Changes were made to the charter and a final will be presented to the Chair of the NWCG parent group for approval. The SHWT nominated and elected Gene Madden as the Vice Chair of the team.

FFAST project update – John Gould

John updated the team on current projects of the FFAST. There were several safety and health issues that resulted from the Columbia Shuttle recovery management planning so the FFAST is proposing to develop a risk management process to be utilized by the NMAC and NICC. Radio communication issues relative to analog vs. digital were discussed.