



Safety and Health Working Team

Austin, Texas

January 13-15, 2004

ATTENDANCE

Paul Broyles	NPS, NIFC
Gene Madden	FL STATE
Bob Ashworth	NV STATE
Stan Palmer	BLM, NIFC
Rod Bloms	USFWS, NIFC
John Gould	BIA, NIFC
Leslie Anderson	USFS, MTDC
Karin Nichols	BLM, NIFC

Guest Presenters:

Mark Stanford	Texas Forest Service
Linda Langner	Social Sciences Working Group
Jim Saveland	Social Sciences Working Group

Texas Forest Service presentation – Mark Stanford

Mark gave a presentation of the Columbia Shuttle Recovery Incident to the team.

OLD BUSINESS

Review Action Log

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

IAWF Safety Summit – Broyles & Leslie Anderson

The fall 2004 location of the IAWF Safety Summit has yet to be determined. The board of directors will be having a conference call and will be discussing this issue. One possibility is to combine the summit with the Human Factors conference in May of 2005.

Minimum Age Requirements response memo – Broyles

The discussion followed regarding the 12/18/03 memo from the Oregon Department of Forestry concerning minimum age requirements for firefighters. The SHWT, while recognizing that firefighting is a hazardous job, has not been formally tasked to address this subject by the parent group. The team also discussed the 01/07/04 memo from the SHWT to NWCG recommending that if the parent group would like to further address the issue, they should seek legal counsel.

FY 04 Budget – Broyles & Leslie Anderson

All working teams received a budget reduction of 13% by the parent group. On the SHWT, MTDC will have the biggest cut with State travel following.

Work Rest & Length of Assignment response – Broyles

Paul gave an overview of the 01-09-04 final draft to NWCG to the team.

CamelBak® hydration system proposal – Leslie Anderson

Leslie will follow-up to ensure this subject was forwarded to the FEWT and will report back to the group.

NEW BUSINESS

Contract crew concerns - All

The SHWT is still concerned with the quality of the contract crews on fires, and feel they continue to present a safety issue. Question: What are the mitigations being implemented? John and Stan will participate in the IBPWT workshop in February and will be available to report back to the team.

Action Item: Contact chair of IBPWT for update – Ryerson-Grett (01/23/04)

Action Item: Review past 10 years of the Safety Gram for trends – Palmer, Madden (02/12/04)

Accident Reporting System in the ISUITE software –Gould & Ryerson-Grett

There is a window of opportunity to have input with the updating of the ISUITE software. The team agreed to request from the IRMWT to implement an accident reporting system into ISUITE.

Action Item: Draft memo to IRMWT – Ryerson-Grett, Gould (01/16/04)

New Incident Operations Driving guidelines – Ryerson-Grett

Handout #1. The team reviewed, and implemented changes to, the new Incident Operations Driving guidelines and transmittal memo.

Action Item: Implement changes to memo for submission to NWCG – Ryerson-Grett (1/23/04)

SHWT & FUWT Tasking – Paul Broyles

The team discussed developing and implementing a standard to include Safety Officers on complex and moderately complex prescribed fire operations. The team agreed that consideration should be given to all burns, and required for more complex levels.

Action Item: Draft a memo to the FUWT recommending the inclusion of a Safety Officer on complex burn operations – Bloms, Ashworth (01/14/04)

Potable Water Trucks on EERA's – Paul Broyles

The team discussed the issue of unacceptable potable water trucks on EERA's.

Action Item: Draft a memo to FEWT requesting adoption of a national standard into the contract language. – Madden (01/14/04)

Review of Draft BAER Handbook – John Gould

Considering that BAER is not within the purview of NWCG, this topic was dropped.

SAFENET server agreement – John Gould

Due to the fact that SAFENET is now an NWCG product, it is proposed that the yearly maintenance costs of the safety applications and server be funded from the SHWT budget rather than a single agency. The team agreed to pursue NWCG funding for FY 05 and beyond.

Action Item: Submit a modification to the three year budget request for the additional funding to accommodate the maintenance costs of the SAFENET application/server – Broyles (01/23/04)

Action Item: Consult with the IRMWT on cost effective suggestions for the maintenance costs – Gould (02/12/04)

German translation of "Heat Stress" brochure – Rod Bloms

Rod informed the team that the "Heat Stress" brochure has been translated into German.

Job Task Analysis form – Paul Broyles

Handout # 2. The team discussed and suggested changes to the form.

Action Item: Provide the suggested changes to Brian Sharkey – Anderson (01/16/04)

Fire Shelters – Gould, Madden

Handout #3, Proposal: Redesign of the packaging of the new fire shelter. The SHWT (Federal and State members) agreed to submit this proposal to the F&AM Technology Development Steering Committee.

Action Item: Take proposal to F&AM Technology Development Steering Committee – Anderson (01/20/04)

Question: What is being done with "old" fire shelters? The SHWT does not feel that direction should be given by this team on this issue. It is an agency responsibility to replace and excess or dispose of the old fire shelters.

Final Safety Gram – Stan Palmer

The team will provide any comments to Stan for finalization and distribution.

Action Item: Safety Gram finalized and submitted for signature – Palmer (01/23/04)

Liaison Reports

Gene gave an update on the EMSG.

Rod gave an update on the PMS and Medical Standards Team.

Michelle gave an update of the DAWG for data standards and glossary terms.

John gave an update on the FFAST.

NWCG Social Sciences working group – Linda Langner and Jim Saveland

The purpose of the Social Sciences Working Group is to facilitate the communication between the NWCG working teams and the research community. Linda and Jim discussed with the SHWT the opportunity for working teams to ask for assistance in finding current research, synthesizing existing data, as well as establish new research in the Social Sciences arena, in relation to specific safety topics. The SHWT will continue to communicate with this group.

Media Involvement in Fire Operations – Broyles

The SHWT along with the IOSWT and the NIFC External Affairs staff have been tasked with establishing a standard for the media involvement in fire operations. A proposal has been drafted for review and input.

Action Item: Send the proposal to the SHWT for input –Broyles (01/16/04)

San Diego, April meeting logistics – Nichols

This topic will be addressed on the next conference call when we have additional information from the CA Safety Officers meeting.

Upcoming Meetings:

April 27-29, 2004 in San Diego, CA

Fall 2004, TBD

Jan 25-27 or Feb 1-3, 2005, Merritt Island, FL

May 17-19, 2005, Northeast TBD

Conference Calls:

Feb 12th @ 1330 note: different time

Mar 25th @ 1300

May 13th @ 1330 note: different time

June 17th @ 1300

(all meetings are Mountain time zone)

Spring Meeting Agenda Items:

SOFR Proposal (Hollenshead)

Update on the study of the four positions being analyzed. (Anderson/vice Whitlock)

Review of PMS documents (Bloms)