

NWCG CONNECTIONS MINUTES

Date: 26 June 2019

In Attendance:

Terri Jenkins, CEPC | Robyn Heffernan, FENC | Angie Simpson, FMC | Dave Burley for Ben McGrane, IBC | Kristy Swartz, IFPC | Steve Shaw, OTC | Dave Mueller for Pete Lahm, SMOC | Jolene Ackerman, WUIMC |

Jesse Bender, Publications | Tim Blake, Coordinator | Sean Cross, Program Manager | Deb Fleming, Coordinator | Jeff Hughes, Training Pgm Mgr | Paul Schlobohm, Coordinator | Nancie Turner, Webmaster |

Not Present:

Roshelle Pederson DMC | Cole Belongie, DMC | Dave Haston, ETC | John Wood, LC | Eric Walker, LC | Kathy Pipkin, NCSC | Mike Mattfeldt, NIMSIC | Joel Kerley, NIAC | Jolene Ackerman, WUIMC |

Topic

Incident Position Description (IPD) Status Update

- Draft: FMC (2), Finance (7), PIO (3), UAS (3), IRIN (1); combined for 16 total under draft.
 - UAS wants to explore possibility of PTB templates to incorporate the new IPD. Draft versions have been developed. Will meet with UAS to discuss further.
- Posted for Review: Fuels (1), Aviation (14), and Finance (4).
 - Review = posted and actively seeking feedback from user community and committees.
- Approved: Operations (11).
 - Training Design Plan implemented. Vital Four (Frequency, Complexity, Consequence of Error, and Prior Knowledge) Focus Groups underway. Current groups involved include: Boise BLM SMJ, Boise District BLM, and Boise NF.

NWCG Course Management Subgroup Assessment Tasking

- Tasking will address purpose, structure, nomenclature, business practices, and products of existing NWCG course management subgroups. Also assessing how this tasking is included in the overall systems improvement efforts and the ties to NWCG positions.
- Will start reaching out for more information as we identify which committees/groups are affected.

Publications:

- Forms for OMB Approval: Need OMB approval on standardized NWCG forms to comply w/the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA). Validity of non-approved forms can be challenged in court, which opens users up to potential liabilities. Gathering forms by functional area to submit via packages instead of individually. Need committee assistance to identify standard forms that require approval and validate their content prior to submission. Goal is to have everything complete by June 2020.

Topic

- Approval of non-standard, sample forms is not required. NWCG Passenger/Crew and Cargo Manifest, PMS 245 would be a standardized form, while experience forms or plan templates would be non-standard.
- Form Consolidation: As part of OMB approval process, desire is to identify possible consolidated forms as well. The publications feedback form (in handouts) is an example which is currently inconsistently used. Send comments or edits to Bender.

Website:

- Color Changes: Issues w/contrast on website and didn't pass accessibility requirement. Updated with new colors and background. Nothing has moved just a color change. Late next year will migrate to Drupal 8 which will necessitate a major change.
- NIFC Migration: Continuing to move NWCG information and products from the NIFC website to the NWCG website. Latest to move over is fire shelter information.

FireNet Account Clarification

- Guidance posted on NWCG website: <https://www.nwcg.gov/website-guidance-and-support>. New FireNet accounts are currently prioritized for incident support and dispatch centers due to the limited number of available licenses. Contact Schlobohm or Bender with questions, as they are facilitating communication between the FireNet business leads and the committees.

Lightning Round: Sharing and Feedback

- CEPC: Fire Cause Task Group has finished and presented to the EB at their June meeting. They will approve the recommendations going forward. Changes take place by 2020, going out thru comment from the EB for 30-days shortly. Wildfire Spatial Assessment Tool will not be available for production by October. This is an interagency effort including states. Prevention teams have gone out locally and one out nationally so far this fire season. Smokey's 75th Anniversary: smokeybear.com has a list of events coming up. Lots of new PSAs. PIOSC have been working on IPDs. WFISC submitted many glossary terms, some of which are currently open for comment. Replied to request from NWS for wording to the public for red flag warning.
- FENC: Working with FDSC on NFDRS 2016, will not be following the regular schedule. Pushed back for various reasons but main one will be to do a side-by-side comparison and test the new fixes and changes. They will be discussing a new date. Official transition postponed. FENC works with fire business and making slow progress. Top priority is to update WIMS.
- FMC: Working to finalize their webpage with Nancie. Working on FIRB and RXB2/1 IPDs. Got feedback from Ops Subcommittee on firing boss fitness level, moving from moderate to arduous and will seek feedback. FUSC chair, Jason Fallon took a new job with OWF and they will seek a replacement for him.
- IFPC: Considering Resource Advisor as an NWCG position; will forward request this fall. Looking at glossary terms assigned to them and website updates. Kristy has moved to a new position at OWF, but will stay on as Chair through January 2020.
- IBC: Trying to roll out the rental car information nationwide. Reviewing IPDs.

Topic

- OTC: Upcoming name change for the committee, also moving the Incident Logistics Subcommittee and creating the Incident Command Subcommittee. Will coordinate an EB memo to announce the changes. OTC had a spring F2F meeting. IOSC working with SmoC on a IPD change which would result in additional smoke content in S-130. Fall F2F meeting potentially in Texas. OTC looking at a new chair and support staff in 2020, TBD.
- SMOC: Continue to aggressively work on having inclusion of smoke in S-130. Have been responding to EPA proposed guidance on wildland fire and ozone particulate matter. Feedback received on Smoke and Roadway Safety publication. Will make revisions as appropriate, timeline to completion unknown.
- WUIMC: Would like a glimpse into the future of agenda topics for upcoming Connections calls. Would like more guidance on budget requests. WUIMC is trying to figure out how to promote the Community Assistance Mitigation Teams. How to get word out about the resource. Committee will be submitting WUI information for FFT2s to the S-130 revision.

Next Meeting: October 2, 2019, 10am Mountain Time