

FMB Members: Ken Schmid (NPS), Meagan Conry (BLM), Beth Lund (USFS), Chris Wilcox (FWS), Aitor Bidaburu (USFA), Rhonda Toronto (USFS), Julian Affuso (USFS), Susan Bates (OAS), Rhonda Toronto (OAS), Jackie Martin (BIA for Leon Ben), Erin Horsburgh (FMB- Chair).

Staff: Tim Blake (Facilitator), Darci Drinkwater (Executive Secretary).

Guests: Dan Smith (NASF), Frank Guzman (NWCG), LJ Brown (COVID Task Force), Kaili McCray (MPHAT), Patricia Grantham (USFS), Sean Triplett (OAS).

| Topic & Notes | Decision |
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| <p>FMB Meeting Routine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Propose meeting 3rd Wednesday of every month in the afternoon following NWCG Executive Board (EB) meeting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Overlap for joint topics with EB/FMB/NMAC. | <p>Joint Session Meeting with NWCG EB/FMB/NMAC Jan 20th.</p> |
| <p>Weekly COVID Coordinators Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geographic areas experiencing challenges to scheduling mandatory training (leadership and aviation trainings). • Incident Management Remote Response (IMRR) All Hands call will now be held on 21 January 2021 to share the results of the IMRR survey from all functional areas. • USDA Forest Service seeking to gain information as a basis for collective organizational learning and improvements through the 2020 Wildland Fire Management and Leadership Learning survey. • Wildland Fire Medical and Public Health Advisory Team (MPHAT) working quickly to act on the topics discussed with FMB last week. | <p>N/A</p> |
| <p>Wildland Fire Medical and Public Health Advisory Team (MPHAT) Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID Vaccine Prioritization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rollout plan carried out by States. ○ Data request to FS/DOI to assist States/Counties with vaccine distribution for first responders and establish a plan with local public health. • Respiratory Protection Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Small group revising request. • COVID Surveillance and Tracking <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Addressing standard data points for 2021 ○ Assessing different methods and working to introduce a unified data collection approach end of March. | <p>N/A</p> |
| <p>COVID Coordinators Detail Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID Detailers beneficial to FMB by gathering COVID information and presenting to FMB. Allowing FMB to get back to normal business and not be consumed with COVID issues. | <p>USFS request more discussion after IMRR rollout next week.</p> |

Additional information beyond these meeting notes (i.e. handouts, presentations, maps, etc.) will require a FOIA request to ensure proper privacy regulations are followed. Please request via email: blm_fa_foia@blm.gov



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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOI- Currently one applicant. Setting up panel for placement. • USFS- Not actively pursuing a COVID Detailer. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ USFS- Has COVID team at the National level that will be coordinating with the DOI COVID Detailers. ○ IMRR survey rollout next week. Area Command/Incident Command (ACIC) tasked to work on consistency among Incident Management Teams (IMT’s) COVID plans. • National Association of State Foresters (NASF)- Will have a contact with collateral duties as COVID Coordinator not full-time detail. Possibly a contractor. | |
| <p>BLM COVID AAR Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 250 responses. From upper Fire Managers to ground personnel. • Positive findings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Virtual aspect of fire management (briefing and training). ○ Increased sanitation. ○ Increased number of spike camps. • Negative findings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No consistency with COVID guidance. • Working to simplify and consolidate COVID management response. | N/A |
| <p>Interagency Fire Program Management (IFPM) Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IFPM sub-group recommends removing prerequisite of previous fire experience for National Fire Program Managers. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ IFPM sub-group will report out in February with briefing paper. ○ FMB concerned with undoing policy due to absence of fire experience. | All in favor of keeping prerequisite of previous fire experience for National Fire Program Managers. IFPM sup group needs more direction from FMB. |
| <p>Apprenticeship Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreement for Apprenticeship Program needs all agencies to sign before Department of Labor (DOL) will approve. • DOI unable to get batch 6 banded 3/4/5 standard PDs associated with apprenticeship program out without all agency’s signatures. • BLM not legally authorized to hire from Apprenticeship Program. • Once signed no requirement to use the Apprenticeship Program for any agency. | Need more discussion. Added to February agenda. |
| <p>Dingell Act/Dingell Act Resource Tracking (DART) Update and IT Modernization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Firefighter Injuries Database <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Update existing systems and agree to standards. ○ Define “Firefighter”, develop reporting standards, United States Fire Administration (USFA) needs authority and funds to meet Dingell Act obligations. | N/A |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rapid Response Erosion Database <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Combine with existing water and erosion systems. ○ Funds transferred to USFS to support. System being integrated with Water Erosion Prediction Program (WEPP) • Predicting where wildfires with start (behind schedule) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Coordinate with Fire Environment Committee (FENC) to build next Gen weather system. ○ Implementing the Severe Fire Weather Index and utilizing variable developed withing wfSAFE. ○ Temporary contract awarded for hosting wfSAFE while FAM IM and FAM IT build long term web environment. • Agreements and Information Sharing Required by the Dingell Act <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Air quality/smoke projections- reduce smoke exposure. Assign Air Resource Advisor (ARA) to Type 1 Teams. Train additional ARAs. ○ Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS)- establish research, development, and testing to assess UAS. Develop protocols, share resources and training. • UAS- (180 days) Completed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Office of Aviation Services (OAS) and USFS UAS program agreement signed with 2 pilot projects. Develop NWCG standards and training. Funds approved. Contracts are being designed. • DART <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2 years to identify preferred solution and implement. Deadline March 2022. ○ Interagency DART Group has been chartered under FMB. Contract evaluation team in place. Still need Operations staff to support. • IT Modernization and Business Decisions Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Develop a system that ensures wildland fire management activities achieve compliance to minimize firefighter exposure and reduces wildfire costs. ○ Establish or expand system to track and alert the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture when: costs are incurred, firefighters are endangered, will be ineffective in meeting suppression goals, and decision deviates from spatial management plan. • Wildland Fire Decision Support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Waiting on FEC “leaders’ intent”. | |
| <p>NWCG Training Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BLM working on Interagency waiver and guidance for certification for pilots. • S-520, Advanced Incident Management course cancelled for mid-March. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Discussing virtual/hybrid class. Those with completed task book could get certified on incidents this summer. • Most ACE courses are virtual. Developing plans for ACE courses that cannot be done virtually. | N/A |

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