

FMB Memorandum No. 14-003 Date: 16 September 2014

TO: Jim Douglas, Co-Chair, Fire Executive Council

Tom Harbour, Co-Chair, Fire Executive Council

FROM: William Kaage, Chair, Fire Management Board

SUBJECT: Requesting Clarification on Human Factors Tasking

At the April and June 2014 Fire Executive Council (FEC) meetings, a tasking to the Fire Management Board (FMB) was discussed and planned as part of the follow-up to Yarnell Hill. Since that time, the FMB has not been provided any direction. We are concerned that appropriate follow-up to the National Association of State Foresters (NASF) request for federal engagement in the state of Arizona request for help following the Yarnell Hill investigation is languishing. FMB needs time to plan for task group formulation and engagement as we head toward fall 2014.

William Kaage

In addition, wildland fire personnel from both the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service have been engaged in discussions with Forest Service and Department of Interior Office of Wildland Fire staff without the benefit of any tasking or other written direction. The Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Land Management have not been engaged. This engagement has occurred without any FMB coordination or agency fire management leadership coordination.

FMB requests written clarification on both the planned tasking memorandum status and the actions of the aforementioned group so that both FMB and agency fire management leadership can appropriately plan coordinated work and clarify expectations with agency employees.

cc: FMB membership, NWCG Chair