Fire Management Board FMB Meeting Notes

FMB Members in Attendance: Aitor Bidaburu (USFA), Chad Fisher (NPS), Grant Bebe (BLM), Sarah Fisher (USFS), Chris Wilcox (FWS), Stephen Nelson (USFS IT), Brad Koeckeritz (OAS), Aaron Baldwin (BIA), Dave Haston (USFS), Erin Horsburgh-Chair (OWF)

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

Guests: Kaili McCray (MPHAT), Jeff Arnberger (BLM)

Topic & Notes	Decision
 Bipartisan Infostructure Law (BIL) Slip-On Tanker Units Pilot Program: \$50,000,000 made available in BIL funding to establish and implement a pilot program to provide local governments and Tribal Nations assistance for the acquisition of slip-on tankers units. Establishment of fleets of vehicles that can be quickly converted to fire engines. Office of Wildland Fire (OWF) provided guidance authorizing DOI to implement. Jeff Arnberger is the lead. Task group includes BLM, BIA, OWF, NASF, FWS, and NPS. Grant program: No build/transfer or procure/transfer. Specs/options will be established. Approximate cost per unit \$6,000-\$10,000. Includes labor to retrieve, transport and installation fees. Recommended initial investment of \$5 million in FY23. Evaluate demand and make further allocations. Community Wildfire Defense Grant (CWDG) USFS: Provides funding for similar items and programs. Easy for applicants. Program. Web portal, applicant review, process, and panel. Qualifying project proposal requirements: 25 horsepower or lower rating. Pressure not capable of exceeding 300 psi. Primary use must be for initial-attack suppression. Applicant eligibility: Local Governments located in an area with a risk of wildfires. Tribal Nations 	Support to move forward to IFEC.

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 FOIA Online website at <u>https://www.doi.gov/foia/make-a-request</u>

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July 20, 2022

	0 di j 20, 2022
Topic & Notes	Decision
 Alaska Native Corporations 	
 Non-profit only. 	
Project priority:	
• High or very high wildfire hazard area.	
• Low-income community.	
• Impacted by a severe disaster.	
Eligibility criteria:	
• Max grant amount \$15,000.	
• Grant term 4 years, with one-year extension possible. For a total max term of 5 years.	
• No cost-share match requirements.	
Recommendations:	
• Assign Grants/Agreements staff and establish an Interagency agreement with USFS to	
provide funding for slip-on tanker units through existing CWDG program.	
 Monitor demand of program and forecast future demand. 	
Expanded MPHAT Scope to Support Firefighter Health and Wellbeing:	Discuss revised charter at August 4 th
• Envision an advisory group with decreased membership to provide flexible for the group to bring in	meeting.
SMEs as needed.	
 Umbrella approach for mental and physical wellbeing of Wildland Firefighters. 	
 Engage NWCG Committees as needed. 	
• Charter under FMB.	
Membership:	
 Identify positions not people for charter membership. 	
 Current membership focused on infectious disease. 	
• Need to maintain State connections.	
 Mark Goeller 	
• CAL FIRE representative	
• FMB/FEC liaison representative needed.	
• Remove Safety Officer representative.	
MPHAT Update on DOI/FS Incident Screening Testing Guidance and Tasking on Implementation	
Support:	
Draft guidance on hold. Encoded with DOLOSU	
• Engaged with DOI OSH.	
Concerns with procuring tests without a plan in place.	

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 Safer Workforce Taskforce working through testing plans. FS FAQ being developed which will include ADs and unvaccinated. No joint guidance being developed at this time. DOI Bureaus to establish plans and buy tests but there have been issues with the BPA. FS sharing tests on incidents that were acquired by the Cares Act. 	
 ICIWEB: Update will provide a way to modernize within the cloud and become a single resource to maintain. Delayed release of update to minimize interruptions during fire season and allow time to improve roll plan. More training development will be needed. Update release September 2022. 	Will provide addition update before rollout.
 Dingall Act Funding: FS received \$12 million this year to implement resource tracking. Estimate needed \$87.5 million over 5 years for FS. Approximately \$300 per unit and \$20 per month for subscription. Approximately \$27-\$30 million for devices. Rolling stock and per person tracking plus upgrades to dispatch centers. Logistics is a huge component to track individual Firefighters. Devices can be installed on units. Need to develop a detailed process. Program will only be viable if we can secure the funding for years to come. Set standard and then allow Agencies to adopt as appropriate. 	Request briefing paper on cost breakdown for August 17 th meeting.