Fire Management Board FMB Meeting Notes May 17, 2023

FMB Members in Attendance: Chris Wilcox (NPS), Ken Schmid (BLM), Sarah Fisher (USFS), Brad Koeckeritz (OAS), Aaron Baldwin (BIA), Ed Christopher (FWS), Jason Fallon (acting for OWF), Stephen Nelson (USFS IT)

Staff: Karma Hope (Executive Secretary)

Guests: Jeff Arnberger, Michael Ellsworth

FMB 2023 Topics of Focus

- **IWDG**
- **IFPM**
- **PSOG**
- Workforce Development
- Health & Wellbeing

Topic & Notes	Decision
 FMB Chair/Facilitator Discussion: Facilitator discussion tabled for the June FMB meeting. 	Group consensus – swap FWS & USFS in the rotation, making Sarah Fisher the chair for 23/24 with FWS to chair in 25/26. Once the FWS Fire Chief is hired permanently, that individual will become the Vice-Chair for 23/24.
 Workforce Development – WF Apprenticeship/Pathways BIL Funding 5 mil of BIL funding to be split evenly between the DOI fire programs. NPS, BIA, FWS plan to use funds for the apprenticeship program. BLM is heading in the pathways/intern direction. 	FMB gave support to move forward with the plan.
 PSOG Update: Derek Hartman updated PSOG regarding FMB's decision to move toward a national level program. Responses varied from very supportive to some pushback against the idea. PSOG is having a F2F meeting next week at NIFC. This topic will be re-addressed with the intent to work through perceived issues and begin ironing out what a national level program will look like. 	Group felt it would be helpful for FMB to distribute a clarifying memo to PSOG expressing the expectations for a national level program. **Chris to draft the memo. – after a clarifying conversation, Chris decided no memo was needed.

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 https://www.doi.gov/foia/make-a-request

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 IFPM – Short-term Crosswalk & Long-term Changes based on the IFPM Report: Discussion on the short-term crosswalk topic was stilted without Meagan there to drive the topic. Was tabled for the June FMB meeting. The IFPM working group presented FMB with a report in 2021. Group discussed the applicability of the report with current conditions and whether a new one should be requested. There are new players in the current group compared to when the report was delivered. 	FMB 'accepted' the report in 2021 so it was decided that the report should be evaluated as is and feedback delivered to the current IFPM working group. ** FMB to read/review the report before the June meeting (under pain of death!)
 NASA Priorities List It is important the bureaus respond to the survey to assist in informing the needs of the field and potential directions for the Science Data and Technology to focus on. Eventually this information moves on to Congress for budget decision making. 	FMB members who have not taken the survey will take the survey before the June meeting. Brad will send results of the survey back to FMB when complete.
 Drone Responders – Red Flag Initiative: Brad updated FMB on the FAA red flag initiative – to be implemented on June 9, 2023. Points of discussion: Will affect anyone with potential WF interest (states, local units, utility companies, etc.). FAA doesn't fully understand the innate risks this policy could create. The current model has no communication line of authority – first entity to request will have sole access to airspace. Will seriously impact SAR, law enforcement, etc. Fire programs should be having these same conversations with counterparts. Best possible way to impact FAA decision is an influx of letters alerting them to the pitfalls of this policy. FMB members to take this topic back to their agencies to create more avenues for dissenting letters, i.e. aviation programs, law enforcement, state/unit fire programs. *** The UAS bill is circulating. If it passes, it will allow for WF & SAR to purchase UASs through any distributer. 	Brad will provide some talking points for FMB (to be shared with other entities as needed) in order to inform letters of protest. FMB to draft a memo to FAA (Brad will draft?)
CIM Memo	Karma will route for signatures.
 Has been drafted and is ready for signatures. Potential FEC cover memo? This topic is on the FEC agenda for Friday, 5/19/2023. 	
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