March 20, 2024

FMB Members in Attendance: Dave Haston (USFS), Aaron Baldwin (BIA), Jason Fallon (NPS), Meagan Conry (BLM), Jolie Pollet (OWF), Ed Christopher (FWS), Brad Koeckeritz (OAS), Aitor Bidaburu (USFA/FEMA)

**Staff:** Karma Hope (Executive Secretary)

Guests: Kat Navarro, Kaili McCray, Rick Gividen

## **FMB 2024 Topics of Focus**

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

Topic & Notes	Decision
MPHAT Research Review Process – Final Approval	Jason Fallon will craft a sentence regarding tribes.
FMB reviewed the final document and gave group approval with the caveat that a sentence be added to address tribal entities.	Kaili McCray will work with Karma Hope to create the final/signed memo.
Wildland Fire Learning Portal Briefing Rick Gividen gave a presentation on the learning portal highlighting fy23 stats, upcoming platform upgrades, potential exponential growth in the future and funding/staffing plan for fy25 and beyond.	Rick Gividen will create a report showing the number of users, how many trainings, etc. and report back to FMB.
<ul> <li>Discussion:</li> <li>Where is the funding coming from for these future upgrades and additional training?</li> <li>Who is using the portal, is it truly just fire entities?</li> <li>How many classes/trainings are there and what is the number of users?</li> </ul>	
Federal Workforce Development Program, beyond BIL funding Discussion:  • Concern over the financial impacts to fire programs, especially fuels, when BIL funds run out.	

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Topic & Notes	Decision
<ul> <li>We are hiring and strengthening the workforce with no guarantee we can afford it down the road.</li> <li>Agencies have hired positions with the understanding they will need to find long term funding when BIL ends.</li> <li>Evaluate other areas money is being spent and use those funds for workforce development. What is the higher priority.</li> <li>Political uncertainty, what could change after November.</li> <li>Important to trust and set expectations that the field will do the best they can with the funds available.</li> <li>Potential to affect support roles, loss of capacity across multiple areas.</li> <li>OWF/departmental stance is to keep moving forward as we are. There is no need to make drastic changes. Continue to do the work we need done with the funds we have now. We don't want to lose the progress we have made.</li> <li>OWF is messaging the risks of not sustaining the work to the decision makers at the higher levels. Emphasizing the potential loss of capacity and detrimental effects of losing funding long term.</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>General consensus things have progressed enough with the 0456 series that it is the right time to re-engage with IFPM.</li> <li>What from the 2021 report is still applicable. What areas do we need to focus on? What is potentially missing and needs to be included?</li> <li>Need to revisit the purpose of IFPM and Forest Service's role in it.</li> <li>Concern over the need to have FS fully engaged and on the same page moving forward. Need to have the correct approvals at the level appropriate from FS to enable DOI &amp; FS to coordinate effectively.</li> </ul>	Jason Fallon will craft the intent behind IFPM and begin drafting a tasking.  Agencies will consider who they can bring to the table and submit names for the new working group.  Will be approved by FMB. FEC will be briefed and sign final.
<ul> <li>IMT and AA Evaluations</li> <li>A lot of work was done by NMAC and new forms have been created. NMAC is ready to send out a memo saying these are the forms and this is where to find them.</li> <li>Should these evaluations be mandatory?</li> <li>Can we require this of line officers? Group consensus was no, we can't.</li> </ul>	Group agreed to kick it back to NMAC – mandatory for IMTs but optional for AAs.

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<ul> <li>Evals of AAs would be a culture shift. These evals are a meaningful exercise from a learning perspective. How do we collect the information or track common things?</li> <li>Potential to create training based on results/findings. How could the greater good benefit?</li> </ul>	