

# NWCG Equipment Technology Committee Meeting

October 29-31, 2019

Missoula Technology and Development Center, Missoula, MT

## Attendees:

John McDonald – GSA Automotive  
Shirley Zylstra – Fire Chemicals Subcommittee Chair (USFS - NTDP)  
Bill Yohn – ETC Vice Chair (NPS)  
L.J. Brown – BLM  
Mike Womack – Ignition Subcommittee Chair (Virginia DOF)  
Ted Mason - Fire Shelter and PPE Subcommittee Chair (BLM)  
Dave Haston – ETC Chair (USFS)  
Mike Henry – Cache Representative (USFS)  
Shawn Steber – Acting Portfolio Manager (USFS)  
Jennifer Wells – ETC Support Services (USFS)  
Matt Cnudde – NFES and Invasive Species Subcommittee Chair (call in)

## Visitors:

Tony Petrilli – NTDP  
David Maclay-Schulte – NTDP  
Laura Conway – NTDP  
Godot Apuzzo – NTDP  
Sam Wu – NTDP Call in  
Matt Cnudde – NFES Call in

## Action Items Review - Bill Yohn

Reviewed and updated action item list

## Review ETC equipment Bulletins

2019 Equipment Bulletins are available in the ETC website:

- 2019-01 – Medical Kit Changes for 2019 field season
- 2019-02 – Firefighter Pants Questionnaire
- 2019-03 – NWCG Dozer Typing Standard
- 2019-04 – Medical Kit Changes – Urgent Recall

## Agency Updates

### GSA Automotive – John McDonald

- FY20 items in AutoChoice will open soon
- The status list is available at: <https://autochoice.fas.gsa.gov/AutoChoice/VehicleAvailability>
- There are currently about 30 turnkey upfit packages primarily geared towards law enforcement
  - These packages cover various pickups, sedans, SUVs
- 2 Fire based packages
- Turn-key vehicles and upfitting of government owned vehicles through GSA Multiple Award Schedule 23V

- All SINs will change around April 1st
- [www.gsaelibrary.gsa.gov](http://www.gsaelibrary.gsa.gov)
- All diesels come with manual regen
- AREQs should open around Dec 1 with new procedures
- Manual transmissions are discontinued
- Telematics are available
- Vocational upfitters must have NTEA and OEM certifications

#### BLM – LJ Brown

- Staffing changes
- Equipment Bulletin
- Vehicle tracking GPS installation will be completed by 2020
- BLM continues to work with vendors on increased occupant protection and increased survivable space

#### NPS – Bill Yohn

- Reported on the issue of design and specification of regionally specific mechanized equipment (typically mission critical, interagency but small quantity) and potential NTDP project proposal

#### Eastern States – Mike Womack

- Georgia reports that on-board diagnostics sense a real or imagined issue on Caterpillar Dozers (2015-2018 models) causing the engine to shut down or go into limp mode during operation, which poses a safety concern for the operators
  - Georgia Forestry Commission is inquiring if any other agencies are having similar issues and have requested Caterpillar to install an override option

#### US Forest Service – Dave Haston

- Development of fire vehicle deficiency tracking system is proceeding. System is tied to existing Fleet Equipment Database (FED)
- Rollover protection prototypes are in process for large fire vehicles

#### NTDP Status of Projects – Shawn Steber

- Standard vs. Recurring Projects
- 50 active projects
- DLA Item Review
- Long Handle Pulaski
- National Vehicle Issue Reporting
- Physiological studies
- Fish Strainer
- Helmet Review – Godot Apuzzo
  - 2 year project
    - Heat stress study
    - Helmet questionnaire to fire community
  - White paper summarizing the results of the project
- Fuel Geysering – Sam Wu (call in)
  - Update on fuel geysering provided

- Vaporless fueling system tested – Soter Fuel System (SFS)
  - Goal of 15,000 hours was reached
  - 30,000 fueling cycles
- An independent lab will perform fuel container testing in 2020

## SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATES

### Ground Ignition Subcommittee – Mike Womack

- NWCG Standards for Transporting Fuel PMS 442 complete
- Region 8 Mobile Equipment Committee has requested assistance in evaluating Aluminum UTV Torch

### Fire Shelter and PPE Subcommittee – Ted Mason

- Looking to update roster based on expanded subcommittee responsibilities
- Fire Shelter Review project completed
  - Evaluation of design improvements will be continue as regular scope of work this subcommittee.
- Proposed Fire Shelter PVC bag retrofitting Instructions were presented
- New fire shirt was presented
- Fire pant redesign under consideration
  - Planned field testing 2020

### NFES Subcommittee – Matt Cnudde (call in)

- NFES/DLA AAR conducted
  - CROP levels are set for 2020
  - Non-cache customers continue to experience frustration with FedMall process
  - Catalog updates complete
  - Stock rotation, packaging and expiration dates of medical kit components were discussed
- Plastic Dolmar discontinued by manufacturer
  - Metal version in development
- New chain saw chaps schematics and specifications are being developed
- New fire shirt design
- Various kit changes under consideration

### Invasive Species Subcommittee – Matt Cnudde (call in)

- Working with NWCG training on a best practices video addressing aquatic invasive, timeline is to have available for the 2020 fire refresher
- Note: The ISSC may be moved to a new NWCG committee for better alignment with the READ guide and other resource work

### Mobile Equipment Subcommittee – Bill Yohn

- Dozer typing changes have been completed
  - Draft letter from ETC to NWCG Executive Board with new typing will be sent
- Draft of proposed Tractor Plow typing changes will go out for public comment
- ETC agreed to be the steward for all NWCG typing standards
- NWCG Glossary definitions should be updated

## Fire Chemical Subcommittee – Shirley Zylstra

- Interagency water enhancer evaluation meeting in 2019
  - Memo sent from the Fire Management Board stating that no on-board mixing will be allowed on federal land or federally contracted aircraft
- Wildland fire chemical specifications are being updated
  - Lot Acceptance/Quality Assurance testing - Metal coupons
  - Qualifications
  - Toxicity
- Aerial delivery tests continue for various aircraft
- Fire chemical training videos in production

## National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Committee Updates

### Respiratory Committee (NFPA 1984) – Dave Haston

- Cal OSHA may require respirator protection for wildland firefighting
  - NIOSH and NFPA technical committee considering multiple levels of protection

### Wildland PPE Committee (NFPA 1977) – Ted Mason

- Committee working on 1877 SCAM standard

### Apparatus Committee (NFPA 1901 & 1906)

- Committee will not meet until 2021 to revise applicable standards

## Next meeting:

Joint meeting with RMC – Boise, ID – April 14-16, 2020 (may need to be rescheduled)