

Fire Behavior Subcommittee

Monthly Call Notes

Nov 15th 2023 0900-1010

1. Participants: Rocco, Nathan Perine, Cheryl, Tami, Matt Butler, Tonja Opperman, Andrew, Mitch, Rick, Nicole, David Schultz
2. **Action Item** (Tami): kick out notes from the Missoula Mtg
3. Intro to new folks (Tami)
 - a. Letters being sent to supervisors
 - i. Projects accomplished
 - ii. What is expected
 - b. Nate Perine:
 - i. FMO Carolina Sandhills National Refuge
 - ii. Prior to that worked in AK for 8 years
 - iii. Just signed off as an FBAN a few weeks ago
 - c. Tonja Opperman:
 - i. AD for fire analytics for Region 4 of USFS
 - ii. Home in Gardiner MT
 - iii. Worked in RD&A for awhile
 - iv. Used to be co-chair of S-495
 - d. David Schultz:
 - i. Newly hired coordinator at NWCG so taking over as our coordinator amongst others
 - ii. Learning curve steep and still at bottom of the hill
 - iii. Sent stuff his way if need help
 - e. Round robin intro of the group
 - f. Looking to have David Greathouse join the sub-committee as well
4. Budget 2024 (Tami)
 - a. Received ~350,000 dollars
 - i. WA office FAM \$\$\$
 - ii. Earmarked for Ring O Rang, Univ of Idaho agreement (development of course materials) and Univ of Fairbanks
 - iii. Dan administers Ring O Rang, rest of the agreements administered under Washington office (FAM and NAFRI)
5. Knowledge of a Service (KAS) update (Mitch/Matt)
 - a. Did a test of Ring of Rang app with last Univ of Idaho course (during and after)
 - i. Will use app again for Nov course
 - b. A lot of time building out post S-290 class questions/fodder

- c. Plan to use Ring O Rang app prior to the course as pre-work
 - i. 40 questions developed
- d. After course is complete, run app again
- e. Lots of time commitment
- f. Will take many of the questions used for S-290 build for the pre-work part of S-390
 - i. Probably won't build calculations (side of things for the course) in the S-390 app
- g. Soooo S-290 version pretty much complete while S-390 version is being worked on
- h. **Action Item:** what is timeline for interaction with KAS so everybody on same page (needed around beginning of New Year)...come up with a basic timeline for work
 - i. KAS folks
 - ii. Mitch/Matt
- i. Background: FBS is authority for all of content from S-190 to S-590
- j. Q & A:
 - i. Nicole asked about inquiring for other courses (community college)
 - 1. Brent: one of Dan's action items is to see how many licenses we have for Ring O Rang prior to outreach
 - 2. Mitch: which version of S-290 does the community college teach?
 - a. There could be some questions that students may have a hard time with in the app based on content taught in the course

6. Round Robin:

- a. Rick: ISAP, fire modeling work into Next Gen (UAT environment available if folks interested)
- b. Nicole: S-490 cadre and looking at revamping what is taught during spring, can look at other community colleges of Ring O Rang, will contact Frankie Romero/Tim Y as an action item
- c. Brent: IRPG revision/updates were due on Oct 31st (submitted 3) and S-290 video work (meet every Wed with Heather, Darren, Mitch/go over scripts)
 - i. Tami: suggest either Andrew, Nate or Tami help with IRPG updates in future and get up to speed on the process
- d. Cheryl: views her role on sub-committee as more about keeping things in line with Fire Danger sub committee
 - i. Saw notes from Missoula Mtg: FBAN S-491 requirement for S-590
 - 1. Tami: proposal had initially got shot down a few years ago but going to try again
 - 2. Cheryl: proposes instead of using "S-491" language to change to "fire danger course work"

3. Meeting with FDSC next week
 - a. Design analysis for whole series
 - b. 100 to 300 level fire danger education (modular)
 - i. Can be used for different positions
 - c. S-491 and S-591 focused more towards analysts or making 591 a management type course (decision support)
 - d. Cheryle working with NWCG on this
- ii. Just became DOI Business lead for FEMS
- e. Rocco: beta test a couple of S-290's (January)
 - i. Coordinating with Mitch/Heather
 - ii. Likely back-to-back Jan 8th to 11th
 - iii. S-390 in Feb based on core of stuff they built in 2021
 1. Some virtual/in-person learning with study sessions for students
- f. Mitch:
 - i. Came back from Yukon mtg last week
 1. 4 from US and 33 Canadians SOPL/FBAN/LTAN types
 2. Training discussed plus this past fire season
 - ii. Cargo pocket guide
 1. Likely not print a new one because revisions would be minimal
 2. Will keep the online version up to date
 3. Looking at Safe Distance guidance as possible amendments (will work with Dan)
 - iii. FBFRG long list of tweaks (hope to do in February)
 1. Haines/LAL removal
 2. NFDRS/CFDRS (work with Chris and Cheryl)
 - a. Updates this winter from Canadians
 3. FFamily Plus files that need update
 - iv. S-290
 1. Working fast and furious
 2. In 2 weeks Beta course will get taught
 - a. over half of content will be new materials and other half come from old U of I course
 3. Folks been reviewing units
 4. Scripts come with robo voice but eventually use human voices to record
 5. Mitch considers that course (in 2 weeks) a rough 1st draft but in December...hope to push to moving the course towards the final draft version
 6. Working with Articulate program
 - a. If there are new ideas/suggestions/photos/video in future years, this software makes it easier to update

- g. Matt:
 - i. Black Hills course taught during Missoula Mtg..got pretty good feedback
 - 1. Overall well received but...
 - a. Need to adjust pre-work
 - b. Tutorial for Behavior 7 likely needed from Lawen and Faith Anne
 - ii. Looked at the Black Hills feedback, discussions with Heather
 - iii. Flathead looking to use S-390 course form Black Hills in a few months
 - iv. Heather to hope to test another S-390 this winter
 - v. S-290 close to getting wrapped up while S-390.....just starting
 - vi. Meeting with Chris and Heather mid Jan in Moscow
 - h. Andrew:
 - i. They do S-390 every other year so this is the non S-390 year
 - ii. In March, meet with S-490 cadre and go thru it..last revamp was in 2018 (new exercises)
 - iii. Tami: new group nationally providing oversight on S-490 and Dennis Burns is the chair of that group
 - iv. Ben Curtis is chair of their S-490 and has been in contact with Dennis
 - i. Nate:
 - i. Getting feet under him but willing to help out
 - j. Tonja:
 - i. Trying to build a bigger bench for FBAN types in the region
 - ii. Have spent a lot of time on crisis landscapes...working with FMI on analytics
 - iii. One S-490 national cadre group with Dennis....potentially adding FLAMMAP to curriculum
 - iv. Will be teaching S-490 in Great Basin this year...Tim Flores is the lead
 - v. Figure out where she can fit in during the next few calls
7. Tami asked new members to add themselves to the Roster on NWCG Fire Behavior sub-committee site
- a. <https://www.nwcg.gov/committees/fire-behavior-subcommittee/roster>
 - b. Click on NWCG Roster Update Form near top
8. Tonja asked about getting notes from the FBS mtgs past 6 months...
- a. Nicole: Firenet site set up that has notes so will get that shared with Tonja
 - b. Tami: will make sure everybody has access to the Firenet site but there are some struggles with it
 - i. Some external entities don't have a profile so have to use guest database
 - ii. Hasn't been fully updated with everything
 - c. Rocco: added all of the new members to the FireNet site
9. Week of May 13th Mann Gulch Staff Ride and Spring Meeting (Tami)

- a. Please get dates on the calendar