

Fire Environment Committee

Conference Call Notes

June 2, 2020

On the call:

Robyn Heffernan
Larry Van Bussum
Tim Chavez
Billy Gardunio
Wes Hall
Deb Fleming
Marley Marshall
Jon Wallace
Mark Fitch
Tami Parkinson
Cole Belongie

PMU Updates – Fleming

- Marley Marshall (BLM) is detailing into Paul Schlobohm's old position for 120 days (NWCG PMU Branch Coordinator) and Steve Shaw (BLM) is detailing into Sean Cross's old position (NWCG PMU Manager).
- Working on new SOGs for the NWCG training subcommittees.
- Annie Benoitt has been promoted in NWCG training (Congratulations Annie!) and may no longer be our liaison. Marley is checking into this.
- NWS as an Associate Non-voting member of NWCG Executive Board as of May, 2020
- NWCG budget approvals – Able to fund a couple of FY21 projects in FY20. Working with Tami and Larry on the transfer of these funds.
- DMC external glossary requests (i.e. AMS, WMO, etc.)– please respond directly back to the email with a cc to Robyn Marley.

FireNet – Heffernan

- Still waiting for my account so that I can start hosting FENC business. I will keep you posted.

FBSC PD review of FBAN and LTAN – Parkinson

- It is up to the FBSC to determine how long to leave the feedback period open.
- Marley to compile and send to Tami.

FWSC New Unit – Van Bussum

- Mixing Height study by Desert Research Institute has guided recommendations to mixing height calculation methods. Not all NWS offices are using this new method as of yet.
- NWS National Blend of Models is running the new calculation methodologies.
- Would be a task team – the FWSC can charter this themselves.

- Working with the SmoC to draw up a charter for a working team to focus on mixing height research...sensitivity analysis to determine impact to users of outputs from new calculation methodology.

Subcommittee Report Outs

- Jon Wallace FDSC – Virtual FDOP workshop this week. Hoping to continue this model in the coming weeks and months to complete the series.
- Tami Parkinson – 95% done with agreement with SD School of Mines, Deb helping to move money for the videos (going to tap into the FWSC for assistance in development).
- Tim Chavez – New set of virtual workshops...all 22 units in the next 8 months.
- Wes Hall – Working on plans for fall webinar. Possibly something COVID related. First Wednesday of November, the 4th. Please send topics to Wes.
- Cole Belongie – Running the manual ingest for lightning for EGP. It is contracting issue with Earth Networks.
- Larry Van Bussum – Going to spin up a Lightning Working Group to assist with the lightning data, requirements, and contracting side of things. Cole volunteered to assist from the DMC side – thanks Cole! This would likely be a Unit – will require an official web presence and work with the PMU for assistance.

Next Call: Noon MDT on Wednesday, July 1