

FENC Meeting Wed 3/2/22 Noon-1245 (C. Maxwell – Guest Notetaker)

Attendees: Nick Nauslar, Wes Hall, Katy O'Hara, Kyle Cannon, Cheryl Bright, Jen Croft, Chuck Maxwell, Tim Brown, Pete Lahm, Cole Belongie

- **NWCG Coordinator Update**

Katy – No major updates. Request to provide NWCG committee/subcommittee updated to exec board covered in next topic. Also, final budget requests are due at this month's meeting, with \$\$ approval pending at exec board meeting. Acknowledged the USFS has met a lot of funding needs. Lots of good communication recently.

- **NWCG Executive Meeting FENC Invitation**

Ask from exec board: Few months back, exec board leadership changed with Shane MacDonald now chair. Exec board chair has requested that NWCG committees/subcommittees check-in more frequently with them to help keep info flowing and surprises minimal to a minimum. They'd like to be kept current on some of the background of what's going on.

Nick will prep a brief for 5-10 minutes for the March exec board meeting. Jen, Cheryl, and/or Jon will join on behalf of FDSC. Nick will send out brief on his topics to FENC for comments/input before the meeting. Meeting will be hybrid, with in-person at the Jack Wilson building.

- **Predictive Services Short-Term Plan Update**

Per Nick: FMB supports the PS 7-Day STP (Short Term Plan). Activities are ongoing and dynamic. Nick is coordinator, Derek Hartman (PSOG Chair) is the lead, and PSOG will be overseeing implementation.

Jen C. comment: Short-term solution alone won't work. Need a more integrated, strategic plan...or we repeat the past.

Nick: FMB is going to prioritize the long-term plan (LTP) going forward, with the recognition that the STP is a mitigation and not really a solution. PSOG is tasked with this and would like something sooner rather than later. The intent is that folks involved in the STP can be leveraged to assist with the LTP. FENC will obviously be involved.

Nick had met with Rochelle and Gabriella from the data management/standards group and validated that we don't have a lot of data standards for fire danger or fire environment – aside from observation platforms and systems. There are little to no standards, for example, for outputs like fire danger metrics and their application. There is a need for a review of existing standards and consideration of new ones. Standards are needed to bound expectations and provide scientific accountability for fire environment monitoring and prediction.

Reminder from Katy that FENC and subgroups are “standards-based”, not focused on operational implementation. That is PSOG and/or other leadership groups.

FMB and other groups were surprised that there aren’t standards for fire environment application. Standards drive requirements.

Jen – CEFA/DRI helping to establish standards for RAWs data quality and availability. Matt Jolly is almost done with the v4 technical document, that will include some standards. Canadian (CFFDRS) system coming down as well, eventually.

- **FENC and Subcommittees Roster Updates**

Ask to all subcommittees to check and update SC rosters on NWCG pages.

Roster management link: <https://www.nwcg.gov/nwcg-roster-update>

- **Chair and Vice-Chair Succession Planning for FENC and Subcommittees**

Chair/vice-chair management: Term limits and succession planning needed.

Looking at drafting a 2–3-year rotation proposal for consideration. Need to foster opportunities for involvement. SC’s can bring any issues/concerns to FENC on the pending proposal. Support from Wes and Kyle for the plan!

- **Subcommittee Report Outs**

Wes – FECESC – Moving forward with webinar. Leaned on rest of SC to set things up. Using Zoom and trying to have breakout rooms and shorter/smaller topics.

Thoughts about a quarterly forum/meeting for these educational opportunities.

After WFDSS Nextgen, something like RT-190 might be in order for maintenance of analytical capability. Focusing now on the next webinar.

Kyle – FBSC – Working on finalizing FY22 budget obligations. Working on adult learning aid and associated budget request. Targeting next 590 for this. Still processing how new education methods and adult learning concepts will fit in. Safety zone research – now in an app. Draft of replacement for old Appendix B almost up and ready.

Jen/Cheryl - FDSC – Jen: Transition memo went out recently, deadline is still May 31, 2022, for end of the legacy system. NFDRSV4 only from June 2022 on!

March 17th is next monthly training set up on the WLF learning portal. WIMS training is also available on the WLF portal.

WIMS as a system is still being managed...and there may yet be some new, good things to help until FEMS. FEMS moving along looking good...demo for Fall 2022, but production not for some time. Trying to build capability. Also, working on a

communication plan for FDSC...have a need for operational>strategic communication connection and consolidation. (A bit beyond just standards)

Cheryl – FDCMU (FDSC curriculum). S191-S391 was approved by IPSC, so FDCMU has been refining objectives for 191/291 and starting on 391. 391 is nuts and bolts, 191/291 more info/application focused. S591 is still slated for 2023. Working with folks from University of Idaho to assist with rewrite of 591 at NAFRI later this month. Hopefully, a FD continuing ed unit will be forthcoming. A briefing paper in the works.

LVB – Nothing to report from FWSC (per email to Nick before the meeting).

Nick – GOES-T launched yesterday and should be providing products this summer to replace flailing GOES-West by winter 2022/23. Also: Will follow up with Katy on budget soon.

Dr. Tim Brown – Nothing to report.

Pete Lahm – Smoke/Air Quality

- Response program activities (air resource advisors) 4-page glossy report for 2021 coming out.
- Smoke – Lots of stuff. Submitted 8 funding proposals and hope to be successful.
 - Continuing work on smoke/air quality training app to keep up with changing regulations and information needs.
 - Working to update/replace a former BLM page that served as a smoke management resources map (including like ARA's, equipment, etc.). Planning to modify smoke committee piece of this (smoke and emissions portal) to support a fully interactive and updated map for communication & coordination.
 - Much research over the past several years: Proposal to update smoke emission planning tool in the works; update weather app that includes superfog thresholds (working with James River -U of MT); manuals for BlueSky program, including support for PVP program; updates to smoke management field users guide currently being reviewed by fuels and smoke committees; and work resuming on communication (video) of adverse impacts of smoke from wildland fire.
 - **June 13-17 Air Resource Advisor class** – call for training, open for 7-days, based on resume.

Cole Belongie – DMC rep to FENC. **Data Summit Apr 11 in Boise.** Identifying data and interagency fire, priorities, challenges, opportunities. Let them know if

attending in person. Lighting and RAWs discussions ongoing. Bringing smoke info into EGP another effort.

- **Action Items**

Nick will:

- E-mail group the newly revised STP for PS 7-Day
- Draft outline of FENC committee/subcommittee succession plan for review
- Ask all SC's to consider data and data standards under their purview.

- **Adjourn**

April 6th Wed Noon Next Meeting. Might be moved up to Mon 4th or TUE 5th.