

FENC March Meeting Notes Mar 27, 2024

Attendance

Nick Nauslar, Cheryl Bright, Chris Moore, Robert Clark, Jim Wallmann, Dave Schultz, Pete Lahm, Billy Gardunio

FENC...Nick

RAWS V1.1 QC/gap filled data available, but some issues found. Systematic error discovered with snow flag algorithm. Will be resolved in V1.2 to be available soon, and which will be communicated from/by FENC. 60+ stations to be added with V1.2. Documentation not likely to change much.

Haines/LAL update...lots of communication ongoing...Jim/FWS, Nick/FENC and others doing outreach and commo...trying to get feedback. Impacts to operations are recognized. NWS having impact meetings and discussions on their side as well. Jim has been contacted by several people recently, but no real "flood" of requests yet. Contacts: Jim, Darren C., Larry, etc.

FBSC change request to FENC to add S-491 as prerequisite for attend S-590 and become FBANs. Appropriate agency vetting hadn't yet occurred but has been ongoing recently, and seemingly successfully. Chris to join IPSC meeting in April to answer questions.

FENC reorganization had been being discussed. It was proposed that every agency is represented on FENC, with some subject matter expertise...but don't have to be the top dogs. FENC SC chairs could also be FENC reps. (See last meeting's notes). Bottom line: Want/need individuals on FENC that can do the vetting leg work, so when things leave FENC...they should go smoothly and not have to be vetted again. Reorg FENC membership to accommodate this, then move on to the subcommittees.

Round Robin...

Robert Clark (CALFIRE): Business is training season, fire danger and fire behavior. Record # of CALFIRE folks sent to S-590. Working to get a CALFIRE rep on the FDSC. 80 folks coming to CALFIRE FDOP workshop in APR, which has good support from national SMEs.

Chris Moore (FBSC): Met last week. Issues with certifying s-290...working to clear up miscommunication. S-390 course has had contractor procured for it, to kick off work in June. Had hoped for fall test course...but will see how that goes. FY25 funding requests...working with Dave Shultz/Katie Wood on why funding for SME work is problematic. In person meeting in May to finalize virtual staff ride for Mann Gulch. Material for critical fire weather patterns for Hawaii to be put in field reference guide.

Cheryl (FDSC): Dave Shultz there...we went over what happened at last FENC meeting regarding organization. Reviewed NWCG fire danger curriculum and noted how recent \$\$\$ from NWCG training was directed towards training tied to incident position quals, which doesn't cover fire danger very much. Considering having fire danger info inserted into the fire behavior courses. Reviewed and discussed basic fire danger definitions for FDSC...Shelby is leading that. Chuck reported that the NWCG fire danger

glossary/business terms are in disarray with duplicates and circular references and can see why FDSC is having issues. Chuck also said that pending guidance from the DMP re: definitions & business terms will be helpful.

Billy G. (PSOG): Next meeting tomorrow. Still talking about bucket #2 and bucket #3 and moving them forward.

Jim W (FWS): FWS looking at weather station platform standards...not sure there can be standards for every monitoring network, but what guidance can be provided? Looking at mixing height calculation and model performance in that regard. Putting together critical fire weather pattern documentation for Hawaii. Chuck sent the entire NWCG glossary owned by the FWS for definition/business term work that has been ongoing. Standardization of fire weather matrices use on incidents was deemed too heavy handed/inflexible and put on hold. Similar fire weather planning matrix for Rx being looked at in the PACNW.

Pete Lahm (SMoC): Curious who vice Nick Nauslar is/was...Jim asked Pete to send inquiries to himself and/or Steve Larrabee. Otherwise...been really busy. Fire and Smoke site (FS/EPA) v3 is current version, V4 is in beta testing now. Showing thousands of monitoring locations now in single place. Contact Pete to try. Video on IMT/firefighter exposure to smoke has been completed and will eventually be required for some positions. Talking with leadership about Importance of understanding when Rx's will be contributing smoke and on tracking/record keeping in that regard. [\(Missed a bit at the end...including question from Pete about smoke role on FENC?\)](#)