

FENC November Meeting Notes (November 20, 2024)

Attendance: Nick Nauslar, Chris Moore, Billy Gardunio, Cheryl Bright, Darren Clabo, Dave Schultz, Mike Falkowski, Robert Clark, Travis Verdegan, Casey Teske, Tim Brown, Jim Wallmann

Agenda

- Haines/LAL removal
- Lightning contract
- 90 series revisions
- Safe Separation Distance
- Annual meeting
- Round Robin

Haines/LAL Removal (Nick Nauslar)

- SPT vote passed so another hurdle cleared
- Script is underway and working with NWCG on recording it to be part of RT-130s next year
- Waiting on official NWS word and NWS still working with technical aspects of removal

90 Series (Chris Moore)

- U of Idaho submitted final edits for S-290, waiting on final approval
- Considering name changes but would need to go through IPSC?
- S-390 moving along
- S-490 started few months ago. Few SMEs dominating conversation. Making sure everyone's voices are being heard and making sure we don't just rubber stamp current course or what those people want.

Safe Separation Distance (Chris Moore and Nick Nauslar)

- Roadblock. Not much feedback
- Wildland fire management chicken between field and leadership
- Dan burned out working with Cal Fire and Technosylva. Given a lot of talks
- FENC will issue memo maybe with Risk Management support

Annual Meeting (Nick Nauslar)

- Please send topics and spring availability for annual meeting by Thanksgiving

FDSC (Cheryl Bright)

- Putting together talking points about what is going on and new
- Period of record RAWs data set from DRI. We were replacing too many values, especially RH and precipitation. V1.1 keeps flags but doesn't replace anything even impossible values. Will still need checking
- Need analysts to explore validation dataset and see if FF+ is still workable or if other options are needed
- FEMS/Chuck crew is focused on science, data, and analysis but FDSC is focused on products being created, how to use it, and how to incorporate into plans
- There is a lot of change and struggle to communicate that change even in small groups
- Robert: how are we going to train dispatch and local unit levels on new fire danger and removal of WIMS?

- Cheryl: standardized system management should allow for people to look for information. Much easier than WIMS. People who need to do analysis, this is where we are struggling. A lot that has been taught, won't be applicable anymore. Need true analysts to do the analysis for the tools and plans that the field needs. Not sure who those analysts are and how many there are that can effectively do that and not getting a lot of feedback/names. I wouldn't expect dispatch people to do this.
- Will we get S-591 in 2026 or wait to 2027?
- Not sure if that is the correct path. Maybe just set up small groups in different areas/regions for train the trainers? Let Travis or Cheryl know if you have names that could do this for your agency/area
- Robert: we are ready to go once you are ready for it to be useful
- Maybe we will use California as a test group in early 2025
- Nick: What is the big issue with reanalysis? Just new data
 - Travis: I have concerns with FF+. I want one calculator. Fire associations/data would be better in separate software as more flexible than trying to do everything in FF+
 - Matt Jolly made updates to code on Github so already different than FEMS/FF+, including with live fuel moisture. So considering only using dead fuel moisture dominant fuel models with some other decisions to minimize impact or need for calibration. FEMS = March 2024 FF+
 - Good topic for in person annual meeting (weather data, fire danger calculations, analysis, and applications to field)

FBSC (Chris Moore)

- IPTM FBAN/LTAN in early February. Good list of SMEs and made selections from applications last week based on experience and geography

Round Robin

- Casey: nothing. New and learning. Past notes? I will get them up
- Robert: nothing new
- Tim: nothing to report
- Billy: PSOG in person meeting last week tied to PS Annual Meeting. Trying to reengage
- Dave: Chris covered IPTM work. FBSC did a great job selecting SMEs and to work with. NWCG annual meeting is February 18. It is virtual and only last half day. Working to finalize agenda. Committee and subcommittee chairs and vice chairs.
- Nick: Steve Shaw conversation about FBAN quals and availability. Good to address with IPTM and will address.