

NWCG Fuels Management Committee

Meeting Notes and Decision Log

Microsoft Teams Meeting

Date: 9/14/22

Begin Time: 1300

End Time: 1630

Attendees

FMC Members

Present: Mike Van Hemelryck (NPS) Chair; Andy James (NASF) Vice Chair; Mark Jackson (BIA); Chris Marks (FWS); Frankie Romero (USFS); Bre Schueller (WFMEDA-Notes); Angie Simpson (BLM) and Sarah Lee (NWCG)

Absent: Kristy Swartz (DOI Liaison)

Guests

Kim Ernstrom (NPS-WFMEDA), Heather Heward, David Mueller

Decision Log

Topic: Role Call

Presenter: Mike VanHemelryck (NPS)

Discussion/Considerations:

Topic: Rx Burn Courses 341/301

Presenter: Heather Heward/Kim Ernstrom

Discussion/Considerations:

Heather gave an updated on where she is at with the revision of the Rx-301-341. The first offering of the revised courses will be in November (virtual) and December (R4-in person). Adjustments will be made after the first offering and that final revision will be submitted to NWCG. Heather would like more feedback from the FUSC. Discussion ensued about modeling requirements for the courses. Science and practice of using models and spatial modeling has advanced but the training has not. There is a desire to build something into the current curriculum that is purpose built for what is needed and it is acknowledged that this will be different than what it is now. Coordination between FUSC and FMC could benefit the discussion about spatial modeling.

Topic: Smoke Committee

Presenter: Dave Mueller

Discussion/Considerations:

Dave gave an update on where things are at with the review of Rx-410, smoke management field guide (final copy for review coming soon), and potential lowering of NAAQ PM 2.5 standards. The group discussed potential impacts to prescribed burning programs if this occurs.

Topic: Escaped Fire Commonalities

Presenter: Frankie Romero (USFS)

Discussion/Considerations:

The contract was awarded, and Frankie has met with the principal contractor and subcontractor that will be leading the project. A spreadsheet of candidate fires for review has been created and if any FMC members have fires/reviews that they want to add to the list, submit them to the Lessons Learned center (where the contractor can retrieve them) or get them to Frankie to add to the list. Another meeting with the contractor is scheduled to occur in a couple of weeks so it would be best to get additional fires submitted as soon as possible.

Topic: USFS 90-day Rx fire review

Presenter: Frankie Romero (USFS)

Discussion/Considerations:

Frankie gave an update on where the FS is at with the 90-day Rx Fire Review. USFS has announced that prescribed fire can resume according to 7 key recommendations in the report that came out this month.

Action Items or Assignments

Name(s): All FMC

Action/Assignment: Submit additional escaped fire reviews to Lessons Learned center or get them to Frankie as soon as possible so they can be added to the list for the Escaped Fire Review.

Date, Time and Location of Next Meeting

Date: Oct 12, 2022

Time: 1300-1700

Location: Microsoft Teams