

NWCG Fuels Management Committee

Meeting Notes and Decision Log

Microsoft Teams Meeting

Date: April 9, 2025

Begin Time: 7:13 PM

End Time: 7:53 PM

Attendees

FMC Members

Present: Chris Marks (FWS); David Schultz (NWCG Training); Angie Simpson (BLM); Mike VanHemelryck (NPS); Brad Shoemaker (FWS)

Absent: Mark Jackson (BIA); Andy James (NASF)

Guests:

Casey Boespflug (FUSC);

Decision Log

Topic: Fire Refresher Videos Visibility

Presenter: David Schultz

Discussion/Considerations:

- Discussed strategies to promote Fire Refresher videos.
- Noted this need has been discussed for several years without major progress.
- Brainstorming needed for better distribution and awareness.
- Options discussed included publishing on agency websites, incorporating into annual training bulletins, and increasing visibility on NWCG platforms.

Topic: Funding Approvals FY26

Presenter: David Schultz

Discussion/Considerations:

- Fire Use Subcommittee project approved for FY26.
- Overall project funding limited; only a few projects were approved due to tighter budget constraints.
- Committees encouraged to prioritize essential projects moving forward.

Topic: Finalization of Firing Boss (RXB2) PTB and Position Standards

Presenter: David Schultz

Discussion/Considerations:

- Fatal flaw review completed.
- No major issues found by committee or SMEs after multiple review rounds.
- SMEs and Publications staff completed final edits and formatting.
- Quorum was achieved; committee voted to approve finalization, pending final email confirmations from absent members.
- Emphasis placed on minimizing further edits to avoid restarting the publication process.

Topic: S-219 Test Course Update

Presenter: David Schultz

Discussion/Considerations:

- Wyoming test course was canceled due to difficulty coordinating both instructional and evaluation cadres.
- New test course scheduled June 9, 2025, in Eastern Oregon.
- Preparing a cadre to teach and evaluate under the new performance-based system remains a challenge.

Topic: Redbook Updates

Presenter: Mike VanHemelryck

Discussion/Considerations:

- Edits submitted by BLM and NPS on time, Friday prior to the deadline.
- Care taken to ensure no conflicts with non-responding agencies.
- Clarifications confirmed on recent additions, like the NPS-specific reporting bullet.

Topic: IFTDSS Pre-Work for RX-300

Presenter: David Schultz

Discussion/Considerations:

- Primary introduction module link remains active.
- Secondary module (advanced burn plan preparation) link broken and not replaced.
- Discussed NWCG Learning Portal limitations on agency-specific customization.
- David Schultz to investigate further options.

Topic: FEMO Training Requirements Review

Presenter: Chris Marks

Discussion/Considerations:

- Agencies encouraged to update spreadsheet with current requirements.
- BLM reviewing prescribed fire policies tied to historic Loudon Ranch incidents.
- Target for FEMO update completion is Spring 2026; SME group likely formed in Fall 2025.

Action Items or Assignments

Name: Chris Marks

Action/Assignment: Follow up with absent FMC members (Mark and Andy) for RXB2 confirmation and sign-off.

Name: David Schultz

Action/Assignment: Submit finalized RXB2 documentation to Publications; pursue Learning Portal questions.

Name: FMC Members

Action/Assignment: Update FEMO training requirement spreadsheet.

Date, Time and Location of Next Meeting

Date: TBD

Time: TBD

Location: Microsoft Teams