



National Wildfire Coordinating Group

Fire Use Subcommittee Agenda

11/18/2021 10:00-11:00 AK Time

Attendees

- ☒ Casey Boespflug – BLM
- ☒ Josh O'Connor – USFWS
- ☒ Mike Ward – USFS
- ☒ Tom Garcia – NPS
- ☐ Darryl Jones – State Forestry
- ☐ Chad Bladow – TNC
- ☐ Shaniko Cowie – USFS
- ☐ Shawn Denowh – USFS
- ☒ Dan Dyer – BIA
- ☒ Deb Fleming – NWCG
- ☐ Eric Kronner – BLM
- ☒ Chuck McHugh – USFS
- ☐ Jesse Bender – NWCG
- ☒ Angie Simpson – NWCG-FMC
- ☐ Dave Mueller – NIFC-BLM
- ☐ Eamon Engber – NPS
- ☐ Tim Theisen
- ☒ Mike VanHemelryck – FMC chair
- ☐ Adam Toomey - BLM
- ☒ Frankie Romero – FMC USFS
- ☒ Annie Benoit – NWCG Training
- ☒ Heather Heward – contractor

1) RXB1/RXB2 Tasking

- a) Annie, Lori, Jeff, Deb, Mark, Heather, Mike and Casey discussed another way to get information and RXB input due to limited SME availability. Heather is going to meet with Burn Bosses on site as a group to gather information needed. Then follow up with current SMEs identified as needed. SMEs started working with Lori Glaeser
- b) Task order extended to March 2022
- c) SME's assigned from FUSC
 - i) Chris Otto BLM, Lann Moore BLM, Richard Sinkovitz NPS, Richard Gustafson BIA, Shaniko Cowie USFS, Brad Donahue, Darrel Clairmont-Continue process until March 2022
- d) **Action Item: Discuss FUSC availability and involvement in assisting FMC and Heather Heward on RX301/341 course revision. No objections were voiced in supporting this process. FUSC will**



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support as SMEs and facilitate SME involvement. Charles McHugh, Tom Garcia, Mike Ward, Josh O'Conner and Casey Boespflug volunteered to assist.

- e) Heather will be facilitating a course delivery this December, with revisions.
 - i) FMC looking to FUSC to help provide some potential SMEs to round-up participations across the country and through the NWCG Agencies.
 - ii) FUSC needs to be part of development of 301/341 which needs to be finalized by March 2022. Get caught up with course revision work and provide feedback to revisions of the coursework.
 - iii) Looking for SME's who can provide 20 hours a month of support to the 301/341 course development.
 - (1) Is course length appropriate? Currently two weeks' worth of coursework, 44 hours recommended class time in current version.
 - (2) Adjusting schedule and time commitment.
 - iv) Heather worked with NWCG on PSAT process to revise the coursework for RXB2/1.
 - v) Need SME support to review the Standards document developed for Burn Boss by PSAT process.
 - vi) Training will be provided online through wildlandfirelearningportal.net
 - (1) Reach out to Heather to get access to 301/341 course on WFLP
 - vii) Looking for coaches in December offering of 301/341.
 - (1) If you have time and would like to help reach out to Heather.
 - (2) May be able to add additional "observers" to be included in revision process.
 - viii) NAFRI putting on this course as a national beta test in February
 - (1) Additional offerings in March.
- 2) Expect an email out to modules to update NWCG Module website list.
 - a) Action Item: Annie will follow up with NWCG (Deb) to make sure email is produced and sent out. COMPLETED and posted to the NWCG website
 - b) WFM should send to the GACC, forwarded by GACC to NMAC, copying NWCG and FUSC.
 - i) GACC is usually the hold up to get information processed up to NMAC and NWCG.
 - ii) Work with Jesse to work on possibly automating the process once we have a better understanding of what the process should be.
- 3) RT-300 Southern Area Burn Boss Refresher in Chattanooga, TN
 - a) Refresher has been rescheduled.
 - i) **Cancelled to reschedule June 2022, working title "Interagency Prescribed Fire Professional Development Training Event. June 2022 Chattanooga, TN"**
 - ii) **Virtual RT300 available on WFLP (4 sessions). Mike Ward with more information.**
- 4) RT-300 Video with EDP
 - a) <https://youtu.be/7nDeJkDQTmw>
 - b) <https://www.nwcg.gov/publications/training-courses/rt-300/course-materials>



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- i) Action Items: Start collecting RX footage for next year.
 - ii) Action Item: Find out if funding available and assigned for future RT-300 videos. If no funds are available next opportunity to request funds would come in winter of FY22 to produce a video in FY23. Work on outline and topics for future video(s).
 - iii) Suggestion from Jesse: Provide a tips/best practices document to firefighters/fuels specialists from media producers to help improve future footage. Deb will reach out to Jesse
 - iv) Action Item: Budget request went out-due January 21, 2022. Volunteer to assist with the funding request?
 - (1) Deb will send the past proposals to Casey to help develop the request.
 - (2) <https://www.nwcg.gov/budget-guidance>
- 5) IFTDSS Burn Planning user needs reviewers.
 - a) Casey has asked if the program needs additional reviewers, but last response has been "not at this time."
 - i) Action Item: Casey will check to see if IFTDSS is still seeking additional users to test and review the Burn Planning module and will reach out to group for additional reviewers.
 - (1) Have not heard back from IFTDSS. Mike will provide what the ask is for IFTDSS SME/reviewers. Need SME/reviewers by tomorrow.
- 6) PMS 484 and 484-1, question came up as to adding a fillable signature packet.
 - a) At this time the members on the call don't feel this is a needed change but may explore developing instructions for developing a package that can easily be signed digitally.
 - i) Should we just develop instructions to include with the 484-1 document on how to create a digital signature ready PDF from the word document.
 - ii) If we do feel we need to revise the 484-1 (Burn Plan Template) to include instructions for digital signatures we should review the whole document and make any other changes that might be necessary.
 - iii) Action Items: Casey will touch base with Jesse to close the loop.
- 7) WFM Annual Status Documents
 - a) Who do they submit them to, FUSC or just local GACC?
 - i) Action Item: Clean up language and process for certification and annual certification in PMS 430. (Casey will follow up with FMC, will provide language this winter)
- 8) FMC update
 - a) Heather development process, RX301 to a 34 hour course, rest OJT. Geographic areas getting involved.
 - b) Prescribed Fire Escaped commonalities may contract out. FUSC may be involved with SME or assist. Lessons Learned Center is a good first-stop for information on Escaped Prescribed Fires.
 - c) USFS working with fuels academy, expanding it with Interagency. Potentially 2023, either RX training module or academy out west.



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9) Action Items/Bin Items

- a) Josh-coordinate with FWS introduce new fuels specialist to join FUSC

10) Next call is December 16th, 2021 1200 MST (1000 AK time)