



# National Wildfire Coordinating Group

## Fire Use Subcommittee Notes

5/19/2022 1200-1300 MST, 10:00-11:00 AK Time

### Attendees

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Casey Boespflug – BLM | <input type="checkbox"/> Josh O'Connor – USFWS               | <input type="checkbox"/> Mike Ward – USFS               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patty Johnson – NPS              | <input type="checkbox"/> Darryl Jones – State Forestry       | <input type="checkbox"/> Chad Bladow – TNC              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shaniko Cowie – USFS             | <input type="checkbox"/> Shawn Denowh – USFS                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Daniel Dyer – BIA   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deb Fleming – NWCG    | <input type="checkbox"/> Todd Rankin - USFWS                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chuck McHugh – USFS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jesse Bender – NWCG              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Angie Simpson – NWCG-FMC | <input type="checkbox"/>                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Others: Heather Heward           | <input type="checkbox"/> Tim Theisen – BLM NV                | <input type="checkbox"/> Mike VanHemelryck- NPS-FMC     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annie Benoit – NWCG              | <input type="checkbox"/> Eamon Engber – NPS                  | <input type="checkbox"/>                                |

### **1) RXB1/RXB2 Tasking-Discuss at end of meeting:**

- a) Updates from last meeting:
  - i) Continue to work with Heather to provide SME feedback, last call was 3/16/22. Need to provide feedback on 301/341 course agenda.
- b) 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.
- c) Task order extended to March 2022.
- d) 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.
  - ii) Chuck, Josh, Mike, Todd, and Casey continue to work with Heather, weekly calls on the RXB1/RXB2 Standards document.
- e) **Action Item: Identify individuals to assist with the Standards document review. Standing meetings each Wednesday for two hours to finalize the Standards document.**
  - i) Being looked at by FMC.

*Update from 5/19/2022 call. Currently most of the work is done on this item. All work has been sent to the FMC for review and comment. Angie Simpson – have extended the deadline for review by FMC to June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022.*

### **2) RT-300 Southern Area Burn Boss Refresher in Chattanooga, TN:**

- i) Southern Area Interagency Prescribed Fire Training Session a Professional Development Learning Experience June 13-16, 2022 Chattanooga, TN
- ii) Virtual RT300 available on WFLP (4 sessions).



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*Update from 5/19/2022 call. Don Ward on leave, but no new updates. Still planned to be delivered under the title and dates listed in item i) above.*

### 3) **RT-300 Video:**

- a) Decide on topic and start collecting videos and pictures.
  - i) **Action Items: Continue to solicit agencies for RT-300 topics.**
    - (1) **Topic Ideas: Prescription Parameters development video.**
    - (2) **Action Item: Ask for feedback from Virtual Prescribed Fire Plan Writing workshop to determine what feedback on topics they may have. Todd will check with presenters to see if they have other topic feedback.**
  - ii) <https://www.nwcg.gov/budget-guidance>.
  - iii) Funding for the video has been approved.

*Update from 5/19/2022 call. No new topics have been identified or information presented Todd was currently on leave.*

*Generally agreed that the focus should be on prescription parameter development and where the focus of the video should be.*

#### ***New Action Item from Angie Simpson:***

***During the PFTC steering committee meeting, it was brought up that there seems to be confusion or misunderstanding of the role's responsibilities of UAS pilot on Rx Fire Operations and the differences of a FIRB and a UAS pilot. There seems to be some confusion that a UAS pilot can be both the pilot and the FIRB. Confusion seems to surround smaller drones being used to assist with operations.***

***Typically, the UAS will have the FIRB standing next to them if the UAS is being used for aerial ignitions, FIRB will direct the UAS pilot. UAS Pilot should not be the FIRB and the pilot.***

***Opportunity for a short video explain all this, needs to involve the UAS group and Aviation people to assist, direct provide feedback in development of any video. Need to check the UAS Group site and make sure this type of video or information does not exist already.***

### 4) **Address corrections identified in PMS 424-1:**

- a) Need to update 424-1 spreadsheet to fix misspellings, column width/text type for usability.
- b) **ACTION ITEM: Jesse fixed the major issues. Some discussion on locking some cells from FUSC.**
  - i) **Would like feedback before next call to decide if we should have Jesse lock the formula cells.**
  - ii) No strong feeling from the call participants to lock the document.
  - iii) Chuck suggested we change the name of tab 1: to note printing instructions are included.  
*Done and completed on April 4, 2022.*

***Update from 5/19/2022 call. The first tab on the complexity rating guide spreadsheet has been changed to "PMS 424-1 General Instructions" by Jesse Bender and the new spreadsheet***



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*was uploaded to the <https://www.nwcg.gov/publications/424-1> on April 4th, 2022. No formal announcement was made about the change.*

*New Action Item: Discuss Including language in the PMS-484 (see pg 9 of the guide) for trainees to conduct Technical Reviews, under the direction of a Qualified burn Boss. Currently the PTB task 40 requires that for both RxB1 and RxB2 that a technical review be completed. However, there is no language in PMS-484 supporting or covering this. Needs to be reviewed for consistency.*

*The same language should be used for a burn boss trainee who is completing a technical review. Just needs some additional language in PMS-484 along the lines that a burn boss trainee can complete a technical review under the guidance of a qualified burn boss of the appropriate level for the burn plan that is undergoing the technical review.*

*Right now, Block 40 in the burn boss PTB directs them to complete a technical review as a trainee task. Yet the Prescribed Fire Planning and Implementation Guide doesn't say trainees can conduct a Technical Review.*

*Could be as easy as a copy and paste from the Burn plan review section into the Technical Review Section. May need to make sure there wasn't reason this was left out when the guide was updated in 2017.*

## 5) Action Items/Bin Items

- a) IFTDSS Burn Planning module may need reviewers. - FMC will have more information at a later date.
- b) Next Gen NFPORS may come on-line this summer for one Bureau to test, BIA may be the testing Bureau.
- c) <http://wildlandfiremodules.info/> Anybody know about this website and if so, who maintains it?

*Update from 5/19/2022 call.*

- a. *No changes or updates for IFTDSS review at this time.*
- b. *Dan Dyer is a Beta Tester for Next Gen NFPORS.*
  - i. *Angie Simpson, May 31<sup>st</sup> is the next planned series of sprint demos for Next Gen NFPORS.*
- c. *Had questions about who is operating this page.*
  - i. *Most of the information is out of date and most of this exists on the NWCG Wildland Fire Module page.*
  - ii. *Determined that the "webmaster" is Nathan Shinkle, he is currently the acting BLM Utah State Fuels Lead, [nshinkle@blm.gov](mailto:nshinkle@blm.gov).*
  - iii. *Action Item: Casey will reach out to Nathan and ask about the web page.*

## 6) Next call is June 16<sup>th</sup>, 1200, MST (1000 AK time).