



National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG)



Hazard Tree and Tree Felling Sub Committee March 14, 2023 - TEAMs Call

Present:

Mack McFarland, NPS, Chair
Cory Berkebile, BLM
Godot Apuzzo, USFS
Brian Burbridge, USFS
Kristen Chadwick, USFS
Mike Guarino, NPS
Ben Webster, State Foresters

Announcements:

No Announcements
Feb Meeting Notes Approved – no changes

NWCG Training SME Update:

Actions Item from Feb:

- FAL2 proposed as minimum quals for S-212 Lead Instructor
Cross referenced PMS-901-1 – no conflicts with the proposal
States were asked about the impacts of this proposal and our state rep received 19 replies with 2 states not in full support.
 - Florida was concerned that this would potentially limit the number of S-212 courses available.
 - New York would like to see FAL1 as minimum requirement for lead instructor.Committee voting members voted to add FAL2 as minimum qualification for lead instructor of S-212. Yes votes: USFS, BLM, NPS, States. No rep from USFWS. BIA rep not on call.
- Name of the new Chainsaw Training curriculum:
Decision on the numbering and naming convention deferred until the SME group identifies how many courses will be presented to meet the needs of Incident Performance and Training Modernization (IPTM).

Chainsaw Training SME Group Update:

- The SME group has reviewed the PMS-212 and broken the standards into 3 groups to help inform the instructional design. Additional work to determine the number of courses will need to be completed and the SME decision rolled up to the NWCG coordinator if there are more than 2 courses identified.
Action Item: Review the 3-column document and provide feedback to the SME group prior to the April HTTFS meeting.
- We expect that M-410 would be required for instructors for any courses at the 300 level or above.
- To help with the combination of the USFS Developing Thinking Sawyers into NWCG

Chainsaw Training we have added 2 additional SMEs to the group from the USFS Technical Advisory Group (TAG) that were part of Developing Thinking Sawyers from the beginning.

- The SME group is working on completion of Unit 5 and has begun initial work on Units 6 and 7.
 - USFS content has been uploaded to the Softec file site in Teams to help provide Softec the photo content used by the USFS.
 - The SME group agrees that the current Task Books for the sawyer positions will need significant updates. This would include adding something very similar to the Faller Evaluation sheet that the USFS currently uses to evaluate sawyers as they challenge the next complexity level of Faller Qualifications.
 - Proposal to add new size up language and procedure to the PMS-212.
- Action Item:** Develop draft language for review by the sub-committee for amendment to the PMS-212 specific to a systematic top-down/bottom-up size up methodology. Benkula is lead. No timeline was determined.

Next Meeting is April 18, 2023
TEAMS