



National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG)



Hazard Tree and Tree Felling Sub Committee May 9, 2023, TEAMs Call

Present:

Mack McFarland, NPS, Chair
Cory Berkebile, BLM
Kris Bruington, BLM
Logan Blankenship, BLM
Aaron Pedersen, USFS
Kristen Chadwick, USFS
Brian Billie, BIA
Mike Guarino, NPS
Ben Webster, State Foresters
Godot Apuzzo, USFS
Pete Duncan, USFS

Announcements:

- April Meeting notes approval
- Performance Support Package tasking memo (23-002). IPD, Standards, PTBs.
 - Dave and Heather are beta testing the Crew boss curriculum PTBs for adoption. Heather is the training development lead and has responsibility for task books.
- Incident Strategic Alignment Process – FYI Tasking assigned
- PMS 560 – Standards for Wildland Fire First Aid – approved
- Redbook – Mesh eyewear language cleaned up and back in the PPE section.

NWCG Training SME Update:

- Will need to develop a transition plan for the 3-course concept. This should be pretty straight forward and from the perspective of the 310-1. Should also outline where agency direction is required for qualifications. McFarland will initiate the first draft.
- Last month Cory presented to the BLM FOG the 3-course concept with general support.
- Added Dave Roy (Snake River IHC assistant supt) to the SME group.
- S-112 just about done with Unit 6 on the web based training. Learned that the 360 imagery for the falling section can't be used to assess the lean at all with the imagery. We will build image packages for each tree. Cory is going to put the tree packages together to include a lean diagnosis. NWCG is going to check out cameras to different crews to capture field images.
- 1 unit left in web-based training. Web based is self-paced and should be about 4-6 hours.
- It is expected the instructor led training will move pretty quickly due to the work completed on the web-based training.
- Lots of work with the illustrator. Going really well.
- We are working to better understand the vetting process for the new course. This will follow standard NWCG procedures and involves instructors unfamiliar with the current course material.

Glossary Terms:

- No review requested

Upcoming Work:

- FELB – IPD, Standards, PTB – Ben Webster is going to do an initial look at the current FELB package and report out on what is found.
- HTTFS Charter – Late summer early fall target for completion
- HTTFS Webpage re-organization. Kristen and Kris will look at this into the Fall/winter.

Round Robin:

- National Technology and Development Program
 - Helmets – NFPA 1977 incorporating lateral protection in our helmets. Looking at European helmets and how they are meeting the standards.
 - Chaps - Leg protection – new chaps are out and starting to go into caches. 36” and 32” chaps are available in DLA now. No info on 28” or 40” yet but expect to see these models out soon.
 - Gloves – New glove may be available with a gauntlet style. Looking at other options.
- States: R9 meeting coming up in June. States are using a combination of USFS saw training and the S-212.
- BIA – no report
- USFWS – no member
- BLM – BLM chainsaw task group is backing the NWCG effort with good feedback. Policy and evaluator work. 1 more meeting coming up to discuss FAL1 evaluator position.
- NPS – Some questions about minimum instructor qualifications for existing S-212. This is agency directed and instructors must be approved at the local unit.
- USFS – Thinking sawyer delivery is receiving lots of feedback from the field.

Next Meeting is June 13th, 2023

TEAMS