

# NWCG READ Subcommittee

October 25, 2021

Present:

**Primaries:** Linn Gassaway, Tim Kramer, Juliette Jeanne, Brian Van Druten, Stephanie Velasquez, Cedar Drake, Johanna Blanchard

**Associates:** present

Marissa Anderson, Kendra Fallon, Martin Hutten (taking notes), June Kinoshita, Anne Poopatanapong

**New Agenda items:**

New items: NWCG READ SC WebPhoto Need

## AGENDA

**-Approval of Meeting Notes from June and July, 2021:** Brian has sent to Tim. Have not been sent to be approved NEXT meeting

**-READ Resources Ordered** Brian (presenting data on)

- Fills

- UTF (low due to name requesting)

- Spent some time discussing why so many fewer qualified REAFs than READ in early 2021

- (Brian will assign dates to indicate when data was pulled)

**-REAF IPD:** (Cedar) Working Group report and alignment with ARCH IPD

- removed some language regarding that REAFs are not in a leadership role

- IPD nearly complete. Needs to be finalized. Will go back to the working group for a final look.

- Need to look at required training and duty level certification, taskbook 310-1 worksheet

- <https://www.nwcg.gov/publications/pms310-1#collapse4> .

- (Deborah Flemming adds: 310-1 RFC packet submission is currently a January due date. Will go to a “no-date” deadline in the upcoming year.”

- Linn comments that the workgroup can move to other items than the REAF IPD

**-Arch IPD:** (Linn) Development has not moved further. Have talked about office Arch and line Arch. We need to have another talk with NWCG to understand how to move forward with differentiation. Deborah suggest NWGS is open for our suggestions. They do have line and non-line Safety officers.

**-IDP due date.** We can't meet the January deadline with all 4 IPD's so how to proceed: Extended discussion on what IDP change documents to have ready in January. Sidelined for future meetings. But we will move them forward together as a group of 4. We will get all 4 going through dedicated work groups. Primaries agreed to start a READ working group now. We will identify a lead later.

**-Arduous certification for REAF's.** Topic tabled until next meeting.

**-MIST:** MIST definition paper, Cedar submitted to Linn, Linn submitted to NWCG. Need to follow up at the next meeting.

**-“Rehabilitation” term:** the NWCG Operations Subcommittee has responsibility of this term. Operations subcommittee is offering the term should be housed by the READ subcommittee. Linn points out the term is applicable to long-post fire in a management context. Subcommittee had an extended discussion about Suppression Repair Rehab and the confusion in the present use of the terminology. The responsibility of defining it should stay in the planning realm. Primaries voted and unanimously support to not take on the term and to keep it housed with the NWCG Operations Subcommittee.

**-Resource values at Risk:** Question from Missy to be discussed at the next meeting.

**-Hazard Pay:** During 2021 fire season, many REAFs were denied hazard pay in two different Regions (R5 California & R6 PNW). H-pay was denied on 4 incidents in California even when AAs (three from the Dixie fire) wrote letters in support of READs receiving H-Pay. R5 and R6 have responded and pushed this up to the USFS nationally who then wrote a letter supporting H-Pay for REAFs. Deb suggested that someone from the NWCG Incident Business Committee join us next time to voice our concern. Deb can facilitate a member of this committee joining us or the READ SC joining on their agenda. Every agency has a representative on the NWCG IBSC.

**CONCLUSION:** Primaries to collect talking points from their agencies about this issue, then at our next SC meeting we will finalize talking points to present to the NWCG IBSC.

### **2021 Fire ordering issues:**

The READ Cohort assisting with READ/REAF/ARCH name requests lead to some problems (rather than going through the ordering system). Primary issue is that many READs are being ordered via name request rather than by general request resulting in some individuals being available in IROC but not picked up for assignments.

This will be a continuing discussion. Linn: READs are NEVER on the critical needs list. There is no good reason for that. This year the ordering was mostly in R5 & R6. The NMAC group was prioritizing critical needs above the GAC (e.g. moving teams around). This will be a continuing conversation.

**Facebook info sharing:** How can we preserve some of the great videos? Cedar: Cloudvault with a series of links? We may be able to talk to the “lessons learned group” about adding a focal option.

**N-9042 training:** Core content? Table discussion for the next meeting.

**Webpage:** Cedar: New webpage photos didn't make it up. Linn said they were submitted but that one photo needs to be replaced because it is landscape instead of portrait format and shows firefighters without PP. Forward images to Cedar post in our Teams channel: Webpage working group folder.