

NWCG READ Subcommittee meeting: 11/22/2021

Present:

Linn Gassaway, Tim Kramer, Cedar Drake, Brian Van Druten, Juliette Jeanne, Kendra Fallon, Stephanie Velasquez, David Callery, Marissa Anderson, Joanna Blanchard, Martin Hutten (taking notes)

Previous meeting notes:

Cedar: issue with spelling errors (not content) in notes on WWW, would like cleaner notes. **Linn,** all approvers have the responsibility to correct. **Brian:** issue notes on the web pages have not been approved. **Linn:** we have a process issue to address on how notes get posted.

Meeting notes approval: Approve retrospectively: June (Brian), July (Tim), October (Cedar)

REAF Working Group Report: met last week, productive mtg. for an hour and a half.

- Looked at new NWCG (September 2021) standards for Requests for Change.
- REAF IPD: In draft until it is shared with entire NWCG READ SC
 - Working group has broken up into smaller subgroups to address components.
- Brian: working on data how the positions have been used. Will work data into a one pager description from current Excel table.
- Cedar, Melissa, Dave, working on the REAF Task book
- Jun. K.: working on the justification on the need for new positions. Thinks he has sufficient information from a past iteration. Should it be overarching OR separate justifications per position? This is to be determined. Linn mentions everyone is expecting a package (so perhaps single justification?)
- Brian is working on the transition plan, grandfathering in the currently qualified. Could not find SC past notes on this topic (meeting with Stu). Linn mentioned from earlier meeting: one idea is to get everyone with current quals grandfathered for 5 years, then new taskbook applies.
- Training needs for REAF for PMS 3.10-1. 90% done.
- Recommended for READ L-280).
- Discussion on REAF arduous or moderate, no decision made.

-Discussion: On by going into the 310-1, we are departing from the Agency level control. and NWCG will be the controlling level regarding REAF quals. The trainings are under our discretion and we can make the online DOI class equivalent of N-9042 or not.

-Stephanie: asked about maintaining quals. Cedar reports that the subgroup is leaning toward REAF maintains quals for READ (NOT VISA VERSA). LeadREAD maintains qual for REAF (presuming work capacity).

ARCH Working Group REPORT. did not meet recently.

Is further along, has draft Task book, and recommended trainings

Lead READ Working Group REPORT. Has not set up a meeting at this time.

READ SC Website: primaries voted on images.

Duty Level for REAF

-Juliette: IBM discussion. Must be Arduous to get HazPay. Linn: No, this is a common misconception about Arduous being the only line qualified staff. This is not related. SOFR and FOBS are single resource line qualified and also rated as Moderate.

-Linn: dictating pace and amount of weight being carried is the essential difference. We don't carry saws and fuel.

-Brian: finds weight irrelevant. DIVS are arduous and carry no weight. We are independent and isolated and when and need fitness when fire behavior dictates, REAFs need the fitness. We are also fighting the perception issue. Being arduous duty helps. Would like us to consider having both REAF arduous and REAF moderate.

-Stephanie: likes Type 1 REAFs idea

-Tim: thinks having arduous REAF may be important

-Kendra: if REAFs are not escorted on the fire line we might need to up the ante a little bit.

-Linn: we should not equate arduous with getting ourselves out of a tricky situation. That can be dangerous. Your safety net is your knowledge. We need more training. There are lots of OPS moderate duty level quals that go on the line. Kendra concurs.

Linn: ARCHs landed on Moderate. Because we are not crewmembers, we cannot do Arduous.

-David: leans like Brian.

-Martin: we would still have the ability to have arduous REAFs. Those of us that keep FFT2.

-Linn: we should promote continuing education and training.

-Stephanie: agrees more training opportunities are key. FOBS are moderate that is most similar what we do.

-Cedar: having arduous still doesn't make it likely that a REAF can keep up with a hotshot crew that has been training all season. Cedar is in strong support of Moderate.

-Brian: how do we order an arduous REAF going forward with 3.10-1. Linn, there is currently no way to do that either. We've self-defined it and you currently cannot ask for it on paper. IOW you cannot ask for an arduous REAF nor an Arduous FOBS. You can only name-request someone you know that has it.

-Marissa: struggling with this.

-Cedar: we should not underestimate the potential impact Arduous could have on limiting the REAF work force.

-Marissa: we can't really calculate what would happen with numbers of folks available for assignments if we went from Mod to Arduous

-Linn: we need not decide this right now. We will sideline this for a future meeting to decide.

MIST: definition was submitted.

Values as Risk: unchanged

Sideline: N-9042, Facebook storage of video (not NWCG related) Brian suggest there is a lot of great stuff there useful for training. Linn, can be saved (discussion sidelined)

Next meeting Jan 24rd (we are cancelling the December meeting)