



**NWCG Risk Management Committee  
Conference Call Meeting Minutes  
February 14, 2019**

**Call Participants:**

Mark Goeller	OK Forestry Services, Chair	Bodie Ronk	BLM, NIFC
Ted Mason	FWS, NIFC	Leon Ben	BIA, NIFC
Wesley Keller	Penn. Bureau of Forestry	Kathy Komatz	NPS, NIFC
Miranda Stewart	NPS, <i>(Sitting in for Chad Fisher)</i>		
William Troup	US Fire Administration		

**Not on Call:**

Tim Blake	NWCG, NIFC	Chad Fisher	NPS, NIFC
Joe Domitrovich	USFS, NTDP	Tess McCarville	USFS, NIFC
Steve Holdsambeck	USFS, NIFC	Alex Viktora	USFS, LLC
Corey Butler	NIOSH	Mike Degrosky	Montana DNRC

**Opening/Introductions (Goeller)**

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- Roll Call

**NWCG Updates (Blake)**

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(Kathy Komatz relayed Tim Blake's NWCG updates)

- NWCG coming back up to speed after Gov't shutdown
- Annual Meeting (cancelled due to shutdown) may be rescheduled for April. Meeting will be virtual hosted by NWCG Connection.
- Incident Position Description organization will be re-worked. More info coming.

**US Fire Administration Updates (Troup)**

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- National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) Update – System now has over 27 million reports.
- Occupational Health Study of the Female Firefighter now complete. Results possibly out for distribution in March.

## NTDP Updates (Petrilli)

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- Wear test for new Fire Shirt is complete. The shirt has undergone some minor changes (e.g., elbow patches, reflective striping). Results of the wear test and changes to shirt are included in a report to Equipment Technology Committee (ETC). Once ETC has reviewed the document it will be sent to the RMC.
- New project underway for possible revisions to the USFS-spec Fire Pants. The project is concerned with the form and fit of pants. The study will also ensure that male and female fit needs are addressed.
- Fire Shelter PowerPoint has been e-mailed to the RMC. The PPT covers the recent Fire Shelter review and testing.

## Fire Shelter Subcommittee (Petrilli/Mason)

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- A recommendation will be made to the NWCG Executive Board to stay with current fire shelter model.
  - This recommendation will outline the trade-offs of staying with the current model shelter (additional survivability time vs. size/bulk).
  - There is a downward trend in shelter deployments noted. Statistics show two deployments in 2018 and two deployments in 2017. Prior to 2010 there were years with 20-25 deployments.

## Subcommittee Updates

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- **IEMS** (McCray)
  - Committee has not met since Gov't shutdown
  - Changes to the Cache Medical Kits has been communicated to the field via NWCG Mail Chimp and posted to ETC and RMC websites.
- **HTSC** (McFarland) – No update
- **6 Minutes for Safety** (Komatz)
  - Work is beginning on materials for the Week of Remembrance. One idea is *Day in the Life of a Forestry Tech*

## SafetyGram Update (Viktora)

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- Finalization and posting of the CY 2018 SafetyGram delayed due to Gov't shutdown.
  - No update on SafetyGram as Viktora was not on the call.

## Safenet Update (Goeller)

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- One Safenet submitted from CA. CalFire has asked that it not be posted due to the content being hearsay, submitted by a third party that was not at the incident addressed in the Safenet submission. Goeller will send the Safenet to the RMC for review.

## **RMC Website Update (Goeller)**

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- Cache Medical Kit Change memo posted on *Hot Topics*

## **RMC “Winter Message” (Goeller/Stuart/Komatz)**

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- Messages are posted on 6MFS site
- No feedback on messages due to timing of posting/distribution with the Gov’t shutdown

## **RMC Mental Health Subcommittee Update**

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- Subcommittee Charter Draft reviewed by Committee; all approved.
- Need to determine scope of subcommittee at a future face-to-face meeting.

## **Spring Face-to-Face Meeting – California Wildland Fire Risk Management Summit**

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- Location – San Diego, CA
- Dates – April 9-11, 2019 (Travel Dates 8 April & 12 April)
- Lodging – Humphrey’s Half Moon Inn
- Need to reserve room by March 15<sup>th</sup>
- RMC to provide presentations on “The Black” by Joe Sol and “Firefighter Long-term Health Study” by Corey Butler or Joe Sol
- Some speaker opportunities still available
- Additional logistical items and conference registration info to be sent out as soon as it’s available.
- Agenda items:
  - TUESDAY- Regular Committee Business including developmental work on the formation of the Mental Health Subcommittee as well as attend Conference Sessions.
  - WEDNESDAY/THURSDAY - Regular Committee Business including developmental work on the formation of the Mental Health Subcommittee as well as attend Conference Sessions.

## **Round Robin (All)**

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**Ted Mason (USFWS)** – Overall accidents are down in the FWS. Catching up on work after the shutdown.

**Bodie Ronk (BLM)** – Bodie is the acting Fire Safety Manager for the BLM-NIFC. Shelby resigned from the BLM and started a new job with private industry in January.

**Miranda Stuart (NPS)** – Wildfire Lessons Learned Center Director position is posted. Also, the NPS Safety Specialist at NIFC will be advertised soon.

**Leon Ben (BIA)** – Looking for a BIA Safety Manager. Joel Kerley and Leon Ben will cover until a candidate is found.

**Mark Goeller (Southern States Rep)** – Very wet across the south. Hurricane Michael damage in Florida and Georgia will pose incredible safety challenges for fire and hazard mitigation operations in the future.

**Wes Keller (Northeastern States Rep)** – Keller presented a program on RMC activities to the NE Forest Fire Compact meeting in Maine in January. Over 150 attended the meeting with reps from the NE States and Canada. Quebec was very interested in the RMC activities and may be looking for guidance and help on risk management issues.

**\*\*\*Next Conference Call – March 14, 2019\*\*\***