



RMC Members Present: Tim Blake (BLM), Darryl Jones (NASF), Troy Phelps (BIA), Ric Smith (FEMA), Molly West (USFS), Corey Bulter (IOS), Richard Evoy (NIOSH), Kelly Woods (LLC), Darryl Jones (NASF), David Maclay-Schulte (USFS), Eric Fransted (FWS-RMC Acting Chair).

Katy O’Hara (NWCG Coordinator), Darci Drinkwater (Executive Secretary)

Guests: Stu Rodeffer, Kenneth Scott (CDC), David Vitwar (CDC), Kaitlin Wingate (CDC), Alejandra Ramirez-Cardenas (CDC), Tyler McCowan (EMC),

Topic & Notes	Decision
<p>Wildland Firefighter Exposure and Health Effects Study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content of this presentation is based on an article published in the peer-reviewed journal <i>Annals of Work Exposures and Health</i>. • Information on wildland firefighter exposure and health outcomes is limited. • Why this study: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Wildland firefighters are exposed to psychosocial stressors that could affect their mental health. ○ Previously reported high prevalence of smokeless tobacco use (37%) and binge drinking (57%). ○ Substance use behaviors may change during fire season. • Six crews from Idaho and Colorado were recruited. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 138 were eligible. ○ Participants completed up to four questionnaires before and after two fire seasons. ○ Most respondents identified as under 35 of age, male, white (non-Hispanic) and within a healthy weight. • Substance use reporting at baseline: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 90% had an alcoholic beverage. ○ 52% used smokeless tobacco. ○ 26% used cigarettes. • Findings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Use of tobacco and energy drinks increased during both fire seasons. ○ The number of days those participants reported using alcohol decreased during fire seasons. • Health behaviors postseason to pre-season: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Smokeless tobacco use was 3x higher. ○ Daily energy drink use was 4x higher. ○ Cigar use was 4x higher. ○ 5 fewer days of alcohol use. • Smokeless tobacco use and binge drinking were prevalent among participants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Smokeless tobacco use was 3x higher than highest industry-wide prevalence. ○ Binge drinking was 2x higher. • Reasons for frequent smokeless tobacco and alcohol use are complex: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Post-traumatic stress disorder 	<p>Fransted will share the link and presentation slides with the Mental Health Subcommittee.</p> <p>RMC members review slides and see if there are things we can act on.</p>

Additional information beyond these meeting notes (i.e. handouts, presentations, maps, etc.) will require a FOIA request to ensure proper privacy regulations are followed. Please request via FOIA Online website at <https://www.doi.gov/foia/make-a-request>



Topic & Notes	Decision
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Using substances to bond ○ Targeted tobacco and advertisements ● NIOSH’s Workplace-Supported Recovery Initiative: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Prevent workplace factors that could cause or prolong a substance use disorder. ○ Lower barriers to seeking and receiving care and maintaining recovery. ○ Reduce stigma. ○ https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/opioids/wsrp/default.html# 	
<p>Ongoing Taskings and Projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Incident Strategic Alignment Process (ISAP) Tasking Update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Two groups working on the ISAP tasking; Skills Gap Group and Curriculum Review Group ● Rum Creek and Big Swamp Taskings Update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ TM-24-002: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tasks RMC to lead and coordinate, with M-581 and M-582 Course Steering Committees, EMC, and NWCG Training to evaluate the need for a tool for Agency Administrators on understanding the risk acceptance and mitigation, including the employment of rapid extraction resources. ▪ Active ISAP Tasking ▪ WFSTAR Short Haul video is complete. ▪ Active Rapid Extraction Modules Tasking ○ TM-24-003: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tasks EMC to lead and coordinated with RMC and the National Interagency Aviation Committee (NIAC) to consider whether additional factors should be included in the Medical Incident Report section of the NWCG Incident Response Pocket Guide (IRPG), PMS 461. Evaluate and update as necessary the Medial Plan (ICS 206 WF) to improve understanding of the medical capabilities of aircraft. ● Safety Officer Field (SOFF): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Training design plan complete. ○ Next step is to finish the Next Gen Taskbook. ● Fatigue Project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Wildland Fire Medical and Public Health Advisory Team (MPHAT) has the lead. ○ Looking to better define the problem before moving forward. ● Environmental hazards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Identified current mitigations and gaps. ○ Creating a summary of findings. ○ Looking to improve mitigations. ● OSHAA standards: 	<p>Stu Rodeffer and Eric Fransted volunteered to assist Tim Blake with the Rum Creek and Big Swamp Taskings.</p>

Additional information beyond these meeting notes (i.e. handouts, presentations, maps, etc.) will require a FOIA request to ensure proper privacy regulations are followed. Please request via FOIA Online website at <https://www.doi.gov/foia/make-a-request>



Topic & Notes	Decision
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Need to compare OSHAA standards for wildland firefighters to our agency standards. ● Respirator Memorandum: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NIOSH has reviewed. ○ Final draft needs to be submitted to O’Hara by the next week. 	
<p>SAFENET Administrator Recruitment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Blake is the current administrator. ● Look into setting up a rotation. 	Requesting volunteers to assist with SAFENET.
<p>RMC Website:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Waiting on a few items to be updated in the toolkit. 	N/A
<p>NWCG Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● New Connections Calls format, Subcommittee Chairs will be invited. ● Setbacks to the web migration but should go live next week. ● Upcoming Incident Performance and Training Modernization (IPTM) rodeo with analysis for sixteen positions. 	Following the web migration please navigate around and report errors or broken links to the NWCG Webmaster.
<p>Subcommittees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mental Health Subcommittee (MHSC): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Working on Suicide Prevention Week materials. ○ Budget request for support. ● 6 Minutes for Safety (6MFS): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ben Evans is the new chair. ○ Recruiting co-chair. ○ Developing Week of Remembrance topics, drafts should be complete next by the next meeting. 	
<p>LLC - Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● New Two More Chains Two More Chains Wildland Fire Lessons Learned Center (wildfire.gov) ● Presumptive Illness podcast out. ● Testing phase two of the website updates. 	N/A
<p>Tech and Science - Updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Carcinogen Study: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Received comments and working on edits. ● CAPS Project (Forest Service): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Five new projects. ● Fire shelters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Non-spec seller in Arizona. ○ No federal prosecution. ○ State is looking at the case although it is a low priority. 	Requesting volunteers to compare OSHAA standards.

Additional information beyond these meeting notes (i.e. handouts, presentations, maps, etc.) will require a FOIA request to ensure proper privacy regulations are followed. Please request via FOIA Online website at <https://www.doi.gov/foia/make-a-request>