

NWCG Smoke Committee Conference Call 05/05/2020



Present:

Blane Heumann (TNC)
Colby Jackson (NWCG)
Dan Chan (GA Forestry)
David Mueller (BLM)
Deb Fleming (NWCG)
Doug Whisenhunt (NRCS)
Gary Curcio (IPA)
Josh Hyde (Univ of Idaho)
Lou Ballard (FWS)
Mark Fitch (NPS)
Mary Uhl (Westar)
Pete Lahm (FS)
Shaina White (BIA)
Seth Morphis (USFS)
Janice Peterson (USFS)

Action Items

- [Action Item Pete] Send Gary's weather/indices presentation material to SmoC.
- [Action Item Colby] Send Pete updated version of the Med Unit Video Charter

Roster

Welcoming Janice Peterson, USFS, much past work with smoke, detailing and working to revitalize the Training Subcommittee, among other activities.

Time: 1000PT 1100 MT, 1200 CT, 1300 ET

Wildfire and smoke activity round robin

- A couple 1000+ acres in N. FL and a couple fires in AL.
- N Cal is in draught condition currently.
- FS Rx fire activity is being considered in R8,3, possibly 2.
- Dry lighting forecasted for SW US this weekend.
- Monitoring cache has a position selected, start date pending.
- Nebraska had a lot of weather preventing rx fire this year, and now the window for activity is closing
- BLM had a couple large rx burns scheduled, Rx window is pretty well closed in OR and N Cal. Had some wildfire in southern Great Basin, but no big ones yet.
- GA has been dry over the last couple weeks. Activity is beginning to pick up, but no large fires

Next Call – May 21, 2020 – Presentation on INFORMS – Dianna Sampson (BLM)

Upcoming Webinars

• Air Quality Sensor Update – removed, nearly all of us saw a similar presentation in ISS3 a couple weeks back, no longer need this on the agenda.

NWCG Business



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- IDP changes needed for SOF# and MEDL Comments being addressed through our Video Workgroup.
- Smoke Management Field Guide Effort Next call? NWCG Illustrator engaged. Next call is on the 28th of May.
- SOF#/MEDL/LOG# video progress Submitted Outline and Charter to NWCG
 - Colby sent this to the person that does the task order. All looked in Order. A revision to Charter was to get Ron in there and to assign the storyboard being a task for the vendor. Colby will send these changes to Pete
- Develop a Smoke Pocket Card The working group have sent initial email discussions As we start working on this the main objective will be roadways. Keeping the S.M.O.K.E. acronym from Claudia's Standish's work. End product must fit in shirt pocket.
- Revitalization of the SmoC Training Subcomm Funding procured for update of Smoke and Air Quality for Land Managers – Review needs to begin. Procured 15K for the smoke managers course.
- Engage with partners on creating guidance on NWS Annual Operating plan and parameters that support smoke (WF and Rx) and prescribed fire operations.
- Pete submitted NWCG Guide for Prescribed Fire Smoke Management (2020) PMS 420-3 version and Smoke Roadways and Safety Guide to Jesse for final versions. Status? No news currently.
- New Definitions sent to NWCG, we'll need to update the Roadway Safety guide with a couple of these.
- Stand up of Mixing Height Work Group with FENC Fire Weather Subcommittee
 - o Still following up on methodology, and the terms used to define mixing height.
 - We need to address validation and direct and indirect impact to other indices.
- Have a detailer to take Paul Schlobaums position, for at least 120 days.
- Version of S-130 is out for field review.

SmoC Interactive state map of smoke contacts and program information – Status

- SMP's and MOU's from SE and West now being included Filling gaps? Local and Tribal smoke contacts? –Tasking of Smoke Managers Subcomm. –status
 - o Have some volunteers to update this list and send back to Josh to update the website.

Upcoming Workshops-SmoC Participation

- International Smoke Symposium 3 everything is posted and available, had ~550 registrants, had 450 online concurrently at one point.
 - AAR with program and steering committees. Some lessons learned and overall this was
 a big success and may be used as an overall template. Poster sessions, networking, and
 having enough time to get from session to session were the areas where the most
 adjustments may need to be made.
 - o Plan to open the COVID/wildfire smoke panel, working through the logistics of that.
- NAS Webinar on Environmental Extreme Events and COVID-19 in 2020: A Discussion of the Social Science Aspects of Decision making for Compound Events – May 13 https://www.nationalacademies.org/event/05-13-2020/webinar-on-environmental-extreme-events-and-covid-19-in-2020
- Air Sensors Summer Series UC Davis May 14, June 18, July 16 https://asic.aqrc.ucdavis.edu/summer-virtual-series



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- Air Sensors International Conference In Person part of May 12-15 2020 conference is postponed. Pasadena CA. https://asic.agrc.ucdavis.edu/
- American Meteorological Society (AMS) 13th Fire and Forest Meteorology Symposium.
 Postponed until next spring. May 11-13 2021 Palm Springs
 https://www.ametsoc.org/index.cfm/ams/meetings-events/ams-meetings/13-fire-and-forest-meteorology-symposium/-

Subcommittee Roundup

Technical Smoke Topics

No News

Smoke Managers

• Next session will be July 14th 0930 PDT

Training

• Revitalization plans (How does S-190 and above address smoke and how are we training our agency administrators and PIO's about smoke)

Round Robin Topics

- Geographic Area Wildfire Response Plans posted Smoke and COVID-19 Appendix https://www.nifc.gov/fireInfo/covid-19.htm
- WESTAR Spring Business Meeting Week of April 20-24, 2020 Mary
 - WESTAR had a short meeting, information is posted on Westar.org. OAQPs presented, and Regional Haze was discussed.
- Ed Brunson will be JFSP lead.
- FENC had a virtual meeting this week.. Discussed in the meeting: FEMS, Covid responses, WFAS and GACC support, finding a home for WindNinja.
- Saw a presentation on satellite products.