



NWCG Smoke Committee Conference Call 09/24/2020



Present:

Colby Jackson (NWCG)
Dan Chan (GA Forestry)
Doug Whisenhunt (NRCS)
Josh Hyde (Univ of Idaho)
Mark Fitch (NPS)
Nick Yonker (OR)
Pete Lahm (FS)
Janice Peterson (USFS)

Action Items

Wildfire and smoke activity round robin

- Several ARAs out. A lot better air quality in portions of OR
- Smoke monitoring cache – still several monitors out. Some caught in Beachy Crk Fire but probably get all back intact
- CA still has quite a bit of fire activity and there is a dry forecast which is causing concern for the next few days
- CO fire activity, and a couple big burn outs in Region 2
- Mullen fire does not have ARAs (working on that)
- A couple EPA members doing ARA work
- CO concerns – this came up especially in capping conditions in steep valleys, so that is coming into the ARA purview was well.
- SE is starting to experience a dry pattern and potentially moving into wildfire season. Dan said this was true until last week, Hurricane dropped a lot of moisture, but in the long term the winter is forecasted to be pretty dry
- OR still has 6 fires over 100K acres. Lions Head/Beachy Crk is the largest currently.. Caused the most smoke we've had in Willamette Valley, very unhealthy to hazardous for 11 days. One afternoon it was literally dark in the middle of the day.
- WA has had a couple large fires but the smoke effects were mainly from OR and CA

Next Call – Oct. 8, 2020,

Webinars

Waiting to coordinate with FMC and IFTDSS until after Dave gets back from Fire Assignment. Was scheduled from today but pushed back due to fire activity, trying again in another 4-6 weeks.

NWCG Business

- Smoke Management Field Guide Effort –Call schedule established
- SOF#/MEDL/LOG# video progress – Pete has been working with unit leaders to get some information put together for this, it was captured on video and other clips have been collected as well.
- Revitalization of the SmoC Training Subcomm – Janice has been busy with Fires
- PMS-477, Jesse is out on assignment, have not heard about 420-3.



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- Stand up of Mixing Height Work Group with FENC – Robyn was reaching out to NWCG members, have not gotten a lot of traction on that yet with so many folks busy.

Trying to secure rad57 carboxyhemoglobin devices. Working to get other monitoring efforts underway of Carbon monoxide concerns.

Testimony including smoke given to the Ag committee in House.

Smoke and COVID Efforts – substantial

Upcoming Workshops-SmoC Participation

- American Geophysical Union – Dec 1-7 <https://www.agu.org/fall-meeting>
- Meeting on Purple Air data validation, this meeting is mainly for state and local authorities and air professionals.
- National Academy of Sciences Smoke Efforts, Pete will present
- WESTAR Fall meeting is sept. 22-23. Nothing specific to smoke on this remote meeting, happy to have people join and there is a draft agenda on the westar website.
- Webinar: Development and Performance Validation of a U.S.-Wide Correction Equation for PurpleAir PM2.5 Sensor Data by EPA, Wednesday, September 16, 2020. Time: 2:30 to 4 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time Limit of 250 participants [Join Microsoft Teams Meeting +1 984-444-7480](#) United States, Raleigh (Toll) Conference ID: 688 606 536#
- Workshop on Wildland Fires: Towards Improved Understanding and Forecasting of Air Quality Impacts, September 23-25. Agenda: https://www.nationalacademies.org/event/09-23-2020/wildland-fires-towards-improved-understanding-and-forecasting-of-air-quality-impacts-a-workshop?mc_cid=1344be7ef2&mc_eid=49682404c9
 - Register: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wildland-fires-understanding-forecasting-air-quality-impacts-a-workshop-tickets-116899781393?aff=odeimcmalchimp&mc_cid=1344be7ef2&mc_eid=49682404c9
- American Geophysical Union – Dec 1-7 <https://www.agu.org/fall-meeting>
- Air Sensors International Conference April 27-30, 2021 <https://asic.aqrc.ucdavis.edu/>
- American Meteorological Society (AMS) 13th Fire and Forest Meteorology Symposium. May 11-13, 2021. Palm Springs, California. <https://www.ametsoc.org/index.cfm/ams/meetings-events/ams-meetings/13-fire-and-forest-meteorology-symposium/>

Subcommittee Roundup

Smoke Managers

- Seth is on assignment.

Technical Topics

- No News



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Training

- No News

Round Robin

- Air Curtain Incinerator rule comment period open until Oct. 15
- Josh out week of the 5th, will not be on the call
- A lot of hits on the fire and smoke page