



NWCG Smoke Committee Conference Call October 8, 2020



Present:

Gary Curcio
Mary Uhl
Pete Lahm
Mark Fitch
Peter Teensma
Blane Heumann
Colby Jackson
Doug Whisenhunt
Lou Ballard
Shaina White

Action Items

Wildfire and smoke activity round robin

- Lots of ARAs still out on assignment
- Outlook on Oct. 1 indicated continued dry conditions in Great Basin, Southwest and California
- Lots of emissions due to dry conditions through the west
- 12 monitors are available for deployment
- Some active fires do not have an ARA assigned
- FS Region 8 is not performing any prescribed fires due to lack of resources

Next Call – October 22, 2020

Upcoming Webinars

- IFTDSS when Dave returns

NWCG Business

- Smoke Management Field Guide Effort –Call schedule established, but many participants are out
- SOF#/MEDL/LOG# video progress – still working on this
- Revitalization of the SmoC Training Subcomm – Funding procured for update of Smoke and Air Quality for Land Managers – Review needs to begin
- Pete submitted NWCG Guide for Prescribed Fire Smoke Management (2020) PMS 420-3 version and Smoke Roadways and Safety Guide PMS 477 to Jesse for final versions. Status-Jesse returned PMS 477 for final review and posting.
- Stand up of Mixing Height Work Group with FENC - Fire Weather Subcommittee – Pete needs status update; Gary to follow up to see what is going on
- RX-410 and 310 will be proved online. Working on this now.
- Status of SmoC comments in IPD's – these have not been looked at yet.
- Technical documentation from Fire Danger subcommittee on how modeling program works – this has still not been delivered. Colby will raise the question with the coordinators to find out the status.

Wildfire Smoke-COVID-19 Efforts – Pete

Interesting articles have been published, nothing conclusive. The COVID precautions seem to have helped prevent other respiratory illnesses as well.



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Monitoring CO at a few camps; have seen mixed CO at greater distances from camps, although monitoring logistics are challenging.

Upcoming Workshops-SmoC Participation

- 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=odeimcmailchimp&mc_cid=1344be7ef2&mc_eid=49682404c9
 - These sessions are available in recordings.
- International Smoke Symposium will be in April 20-24, 2020. Location Raleigh, NC and Davis, CA. <https://www.iawfonline.org/event/3rd-international-smoke-symposium/>
- Plans and Special Issues
 - 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-virtual-symposium/>

Subcommittee Roundup

- Nothing to report

Round Robin Topics

- Wildland Fire Leadership Council document has been released on prescribed fire and wildlife to NACO, NGA
- Gary Curcio noted that as we head into fall, there will be more natural fog on the roadways, so the addition of smoke will be an issue. The NWS has an hourly product that could be used to address this with some additional modification from Susan O'Neill and Bill Malm.