



NWCG Smoke Committee Conference Call 10/22/2020



Present:

Blane Heumann (TNC)
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)
Tammy Eagan (FL)

Action Items

- [Action Item All] If there are other webinars you want to see SmoC schedule contact Pete or Dave.
- [Action Item SmoC] January 22 will be the date to get fiscal year 22 proposed projects in for NWGG funding consideration.

Wildfire and smoke activity round robin

- Lots of Activity in CO, NM, AZ. Some activity in CA where the norther fires are declining. Red Salmon fire also appears to be slowing down.
- CO has several active fires including some long runs of fires outside of Boulder, high density fuels and a combination of beetle kill, etc. There have been some light snow but not enough to slow fires
- Monitoring cache is stocked.
- Wildfire is preventing any Rx fire activity in CO
- RX fire in NE and SE is picking up. A lot of Pile and Ag burning in FL. In GA however there may be shift from RX conditions to wildfire conditions in the next couple weeks.
- Some pile burning in R6, R1 small operational fires.
- FASMEE project, burn plans online to commence in UT in a few weeks. Jenn Croft and Linda Chappel are both involved in these efforts.

Next Call – Nov. 5, 2020,

Webinars

IFTDSS Webinar scheduled for Nov. 19, starting at 1200 MT time (second half of SmoC call).
[Action Item All] If there are other webinars you want to see SmoC schedule contact Pete or Dave.

NWCG Business

- Smoke Management Field Guide Effort –Call schedule will be put to Doodle poll to find best window in November to meet.



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- SOF#/MEDL/LOG# video progress – Contract assigns Red Inc to work with Smoc, End date is March 31 2021.
 - There will be some additional work on script content because there have been a lot of lessons learned this fire season that we want to make sure we capture.
- Revitalization of the SmoC Training Subcomm – Janice Peterson is working to arrange 50% of her time to SmoC efforts that will include Training Subcommittee engagement.
- PMS-477, this has been posted (YAY!!).
- PMS 420-3, no news since last call.
- Stand up of Mixing Height Work Group with FENC – Pete and Fire weather subcommittee will be getting an invite from the recommend chair of the task group. Group want to move forward on this.
- NWCG Connections meeting on Nov 3
- [Action Item SmoC] January 22 will be the date to get fiscal year 22 proposed projects in for NWGG funding consideration.
- NWCG is hiring a new coordinator in the next month or two. In the interim we get to work with Deb again.

Smoke and COVID Efforts – Trying to determine if there has been an increase in COVID hospitalizations in conjunction with increased smoke events. At the moment, we can say that among the fire personnel, the outbreaks of COVID have been controlled and limited, sanitization efforts and logistics have ramped up significantly this season, and we are seeing relatively less “camp crud” this season.

Upcoming Workshops-SmoC Participation

- Rocky Mt Regional Wildfire Smoke Symposium Nov. 13th.
<https://www.boisestate.edu/ceehs/rocky-mountain-regional-wildfire-smoke-symposium/>
- 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 out

Technical Topics

- No News

Training



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- No News

Round Robin

- We've been monitoring CO where possible this season and have employed sensors for this. CO/PM/and other pollutant monitoring in camps is an aspect that ARA are going to be encountering in the future, not just working with surrounding communities. We'll need to look at what monitoring devices are out there to support these efforts
- Roadway pocket card status- Now that smoke personnel are becoming available, we should resume progress on this.
 - . That final revision is ready to be sent to the group again. Some additional review/edits from Pete/Mark/Dave/Gary, then this will go SmoC for committee review.