



National Wildfire Coordinating Group Training Delivery Committee

Meeting Minutes

DATE: February 18, 2021

ATTENDEES:

Arnberger, Jeff, Liaison,
Bender, Jessie, Guest, Y
Buhrig, Chris, Primary Member, Y
Cota, Heath, Co-Chair, Y
Dalrymple, Daren, Primary Member, Y
Dillon, Tom, Primary Member,
Dinkel, Anna, Primary Member, Y
Dutchick, Peter, Co-Chair, Y
Fisher, Garth, Liaison,
Flanagan, Sean, Primary Member, Y
Frost-Madrid, Karin, Primary Member, Y
Guzman, Frank, Liaison,
Godson, Esther, Guest, Y
Hall, Darlene, Primary Member,
Haynes, Koreena, Primary Member, Y
Hughes, Jeff, Primary Member, Y
Jacks, Randy, Primary Member, Y
Jackson, Colby, Guest, Y
Leshuk, Victoria, Guest, Y
O'Hara, Kathryn, NWCG Coordinator, Y
Palmgren, Glenn, Primary Member, Y
Patterson, Stephen, Primary Member, Y
Phillips, William, Guest, Y
Sexton, Richard, Primary Member,
Skraba, Amy, Primary Member, Y
Snyder, Wade, Guest, Y
Stimach, Jaclyn, Guest, Y
Wegner, Melissa, Primary Member, Y
Prosperi, Alexia, Guest,
Sorensen, Rebecca, Primary Member,
Rick Gividen, Guest, Y

I. TDC Update on Current Actions:

- NWCG Update Jeff Hughes/Colby Jackson

Updates posted to TDC Trello board.

RX-301/341: Work is progressing, on track for April delivery.

S-390: Progressing, should be done March 1

Virtual S-420 group has what it needs to be successful.



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RT-372: FS Helicopter Operations Specialists are working w/ NAFRI and have built bones of refresher, 1st delivery early March, will be available in WFLP for other GAs

S-490: AK is delivering virtual course to 6 students the week of March 1, will make it available in WFLP collaboration library

S-130/S-190/L-180: Switching from Flash to Html 5, content is old but usable, uploading in portal, S-130 being tested this week

Remember to update lessons learned file in TDC sharepoint and post to ET COP in WFLP. For email updates on specific courses, add yourself to the individual course Trello cards.

Hughes: Changing/tailoring pre-course work to the needs of your course is acceptable. **(Add to FAQs)** Exam question can also be formatted for virtual (i.e. changing text questions to multiple choice for ease of grading). In the case of fixing erroneous quiz and test questions, fix and notify Jeff Hughes/NWCG. **(Add to FAQs)**

NR/Wegner: Consider slippery slope in making changes to NWCG certified courses, all changes should be supported in writing from NWCG/Jeff Hughes

- OWF Update Rick Gividen

Ops normal in registration and delivery of ET workshop

NW is currently doing heavy lift on M-410 w/contractor support

- NIMO ICS-400 Jaclyn Stimach
Field Command School class 2 has been on hold due to Covid-19, reengaging. Virtual delivery of ICS-400 March 2-4 with attendee list of 30 + 30 alternates from FCS, NATP, and GATR nominations. Cadre for session also delivered at TN/KY academy, applying lessons learned, working on ICS-300 for future). Delivering via FireNet Teams, due to lack of WFLP knowledge, but will add course to the WFLP.

Comments:

GB/Haynes: High need for ICS-400, 5 from GB in Jaci's course. NM DHS is offering both courses alternating months.

AK/Skraba: AK has 2 sessions of 300 and 1 of 400 coming up, full sessions.

NR/Wegner: Multiple NR zones are delivering both courses



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NW/Buhrig: NW has a need.

II. Discussion NWCG Memo No. 20-008

Cota: Original objective of TDC was to convert to virtual training, we're about 75% there (in draft form)

What's next...

Hughes: Development/revision plan fell by the wayside during tactical pause. Curriculum management plan, phased checklists are underpinning of NWCG process, currently updating those, determining modularized components of training, addressing old courses and bringing them in to modular training based on positions.

Cota: How does this group fit into master plan, support Training Delivery Program?

Hughes: See NWCG Systems Improvement on NWCG site, drawing connection between standards and IPDs and creating modular training, finding commonalities.

Training Design Process- PSAT performance support analysis tool used to determine approach to specific elements.

Cota: This is something we all need to wrap our heads around/revisit often to determine how to engage, we're entering at the maintenance and implementation phase. Would this committee be involved in the revision cycle and revision prioritization?

Hughes: We haven't had a good feedback loop in the past, trying to implement via the database, but wouldn't necessarily wrap TDC into that.

NW/Buhrig: In the past deliverers weren't involved in development, this committee closes that gap. This committee can play an important role in evaluating how the class pertains to the job. In determining priorities, consider what is the most broken and most in need of revision.

SW/Frost-Madrid: To gather feedback from this group or course coordinators maybe use a standing survey in Trello or another location, to upload feedback immediately after delivery of courses.

II. Future Intent:

Dutchick: Feedback and collaboration between GAs and NWCG will be critical moving forward. How can we best do that in this committee?

AK/Skraba: Need to focus on delivering training between now and May, bandwidth isn't big enough for big picture at the peak of training season.



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Dutchick/Cota: Include lessons learned in the TDC lightning round, including lessons from any platform, not just WFLP. Need to share on how to organize classrooms, how to get the most out of students, etc.

Cota: We don't want to sit in comfort zone and expect that things will go back to fully in-person. Virtual training is here to stay. Should we continue improving VILT content in case we're still virtual next training season?

NR/Wegner: We still need to work on making virtual better, make virtual training muscle memory just like in-person. We need to focus in on delivering our classes, pump the brakes a little on what we need next year, maybe revisit in April/May.

Heath: Consider which classes are priority to transition to virtual for the 21/22 training season? What can we improve on from this training season?

III. ETWG Transition:

Still underway, talking with group liaisons, mentioned at executive board brief-out, transition paper posted in sharepoint, will start process officially in next week or so.

IV. Waiver Update:

FS Waiver: Time-sensitive, individuals will still be required to attend the courses, but will be granted competency until Dec 2022. Don't want to devalue the training in any way, to stay true to standards, but this is an available tool. Should be out and available soon.

BLM Waiver: Came out 2/18, doesn't list courses, competency granted until June 2022.

NPS/FWS don't plan to send out matching letter, will be on a case-by-case basis. Waiver is an option, but less of a formality.

VI. Lightning Round:

AK: Moving forward with virtual deliveries, one RT-130 already delivered, cancelled RX-410 and L-381, moving forward with L-380 with a different vendor, bulk of courses in 1st 3 weeks of April, much more prep work required this year.

NW: Good success with virtual, extra time is required for students to complete, moving ahead with in-person classes including L-courses, S-420, GENGAC, will add S-357 and S-340/RT-340 to Trello and WFLP library, kicking off M-410 next week and will make available to anyone who wants to take a look. Will add M-581 lessons learned to TDC sharepoint.



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CA/North Ops: Starting VILT deliveries next week, have M-410 cadres identified, all over the board as far as what we think should be in-person/virtual, doubt that many courses will ever be better virtually, folks may be valuing the certificate over the course.

CA/South Ops: Still working on dozer academy, putting together ICS-300/400 with South Ops cadre, still have decisions to make for academy type courses

SW: VILT M-581 next week w/SA, have delivered S-300 and RX-310 successfully, RT-130 on deck for various zones, ESF#4 session postponed due to cadre vaccine support mobilization, aggressively pursuing ET workshops for coordinators, planning for virtual to make it natural moving forward, exploring the functionality in the portal, planning for SW GENGAC employing elements of VILT, have compiled a list of tech equipment to provide for instructors/iPads for students w/o laptops.

NR: Zones are doing great, zone reps are not primary training folks but have accomplished a lot, Matt Gibson's office hours for any platform was well-used.

RM: Moving ahead with in-person L-381 in March, L-380 in April

SA: Planning for M-581 next week, finance academy moving forward in March and April, S-491 April, May virtual Arkansas Academy, aggressively moving forward with virtual

Glenn Palmgren: Mid-Atlantic compact academy moving forward with a mix of virtual/in-person, planning virtual RX-410, considering M-410, numerous 200-level classes virtual this year

Cota: Course delivery tempo is currently very fast, propose to hold meetings 1/month until the bulk of courses have been delivered (group concurs).