



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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December 27, 2000

In Reply Refer To:
9210 (P)
CA- 943

EMS TRANSMISSION: 12/27/00
Information Bulletin No. **CA-2001-011**
Expiration Date: 09/30/02

To: All DSD's, CDD District Manager, All Field Office Managers
(ATTN: District, Regional and Field Office FMOs)

From: DSD, Support Services

Subject: 2000 Post Season Fire Meeting Minutes and Action Items **DD: 01/22/01**

Please find attached the minutes from the 2000 Post Season Fire Meeting held November 1-3, 2000, and the Action Items developed from the meeting. Three Task Groups were identified and established at the meeting. The Task Group Leads need to provide the State Fire Operations Specialist, Doug Waggoner, with the names of the personnel comprising their task groups, estimated progress schedule and dates for completion by no later than **January 22, 2001**

If you have any questions, please contact Doug Waggoner at 916-978-4437.

Signed:
Lance Bishop
Acting DSD Support Services

Authenticated:
Liza Raymundo
Records Management

Attachments (2):

1. 2000 Post Season Fire Meeting Minutes (5 pp)
2. 2000 Post Season Action Item List (2 pp)

November 1, 2000 - Lake Natoma Inn

Welcome and introductions by Ed Wehking, those present are as follows:

Ed Wehking	Lynda Roush	Tim Burke	Les Matarazzi
Ron Fellows	Julie Mendenhall	Tony Sarzotti	Joe Bates
Jim Dawson	Tom Reid	Paul Whitcome	Garth Jeffers
Dick Franklin	Ron Wyoachak	Kevin Chambers	Chuck Judd
Jim Brown	Kevin Dempsey	Carl Rountree	Jim Francis
Doug Waggoner	Annmarie Carlson	Lois Cunha	Chuck Schultz
Tom Patterson	Leonard Wehking	Ray Brown	Bobbie Scopa
Debbie Santiago	Dennis Adams	Brandall Horney	Wayne Cannon
Karen Barnette	Linda Hansen	Kurt LaRue	Kenny Hood
Dean Swickard	Victoria Smith	Tracy Jones	

Dean Swickard welcomed all attendees to the Folsom Field Office. He identified that this area he manages engages a community plan to achieve cooperation to accomplish fuels and health land resource issues. Dean reminded us that leadership is a key ingredient to a successful program geared to accomplish management objectives. The challenges of the work we engage in requires leadership qualities.

Carl Rountree, DSD Resources, welcomes everyone and offers his views on the management of resources and fire suppression activities and accomplishing land management objectives. We are embarking on a very challenging time in incorporating all of land management plans for the better land management.

Karen Barnette, DSD Support Services, advised us of the President's Plan (PP) and the Implementation Team that has working to facilitate the administration of the huge undertaking since the added funding appropriated by Congress. Special assignments have been encumbered by various managers to ensure that we are able to implement and meet objectives for this plan.

Jim Francis **B FUELS PROJECT** handout with emphasis on how the Urban Interface and Forest Health issues will be managed together to accomplish objectives. California's funding will be at \$3.5 million. Second handout is a contact list at each of Field Office for assist in getting figures into MIS system. Fire Reports, projects numbers ensure that you read information to complete and close out these reports. Ensure you are able to identify these reports so there is no duplication of numbers and miscalculation of funds and accomplishments.

Uniform Smoke Plan -- which will include permit under Title 17, with a fee structure. The Air Resources Boards are asking agencies for objectives for burn plans. We are also working in the Smoke Management group to review the fee structure of Air Resources Boards.

Course to be identified by the National Office for the writing of Burn Plans. In as much as we have a policy, the burns indicate inconsistencies within the fire program. This course will be presented in California as soon as available.

Draft for clarification of the Complexity Guide of the Burn Plan. Written criteria will be identified to ensure clarification and complete adherence to policies. (handout)

Policy Guide **B** all burn plans are to be reviewed by the State Office. (handout provided) Under the state re-certification as a result of the Lowden Incident, we will review all burn plans to ensure that all is in compliance with a complete plan. Recommend 6 way folder is used accommodate all the information required for a complete plan. Turnaround time is has been great, but perhaps we should identify qualified individuals to review these plans to enhance a expeditious handling and turnaround time.

Field user feels that a flaw in the process is at the National level regarding the signing of the plan for **Ago** ahead, for burning.

In working with the cooperators, in particular CDF, can we provide in kind benefits: i.e., fuels, chainsaws, chain bars, etc. Through the PP's plan there will be opportunities and funding to facilitate reaching these goals. Local Fire Councils will be substantial players in achieving the community issues identified in the PP. The interagency group is addressing the funding issues so agencies in the field may directly benefit to a ranger unit, or conservation camp, etc.

Adjourn at 1630, to reconvene tomorrow at 0800.

November 2, 2000
Lake Natoma Inn

Jerry Wheeler **B** Engine Captains Committee, overview of their meeting this week and shared with us their charter and the following:

DOUG **B** SCBA's, in response to the FRR and the requirement to update our policy. Engine Captains Committee is working on this equipment need. The National Office that this is a very viable program. A white paper is being done on this equipment and its uses by other states. Currently this does not look like its going to be in use Bureau-wide. Pat Stone and Dave Brinsfield are leads from the Engine Committee. Rick Jensen is the lead out of the NO. Compliance does include meeting OSHA and NEPA requirements.

Utah and Arizona are interested in the use of SCBA's as well.

Type III Retrofit (handout) schedule discussed.

Model V replacement, we are working to replace all of these with Model 14's.

Light Engines with 5K GVW **B** if you are not in compliance, you need to download them. We have about 8 in our inventory (statewide). Jim Brown raises the issue that they would like to hang onto them for fuels work. However at this time, this is not the plan of thru the National Office.

Sarzotti, brought up the fact that we could use these vehicles with remaining life cycles for our prevention requirements. Prevention has been included in the fire management plans.

Code 3 driving **B** need to review this statewide, recommendation from the SFMO that we need to have the Engine Caps Committee address. CDD FMO recommends a statewide policy. Ken is asked to assist the ECC to update this guidance.

BREAK

Agenda change **B** Francis, back to Fuels with further direction from the NO. Francis provided draft complexity guide (handout). Please review with comments and return to Jim. Also, standardized PD's information (handout). Fuels Meeting agenda (handout), as result there a things that will take place which will be a review of the 9214, Pile Burning, check list procedure and sign off. I would like your input November 8, Wednesday. These PD's are tied to engine types.

I also need your input/comments for any changes on the fuels modules. These crews will be composed of 10 people. There is concern that over the possible confusion of a fire crew and fire use modules (fuels crews) due to the qualifications of modules and type of training of the crew itself. It hopeful that this will give us an opportunity to increase our ability to respond to our needs when preparedness levels increase with increased risks.

Aviation **B** Doug (handout from earlier). California is getting an aircraft and it is going to be split use with Alaska. The SO is going to hire a pilot. This module is going to replace the OV-10. The type of aircraft is a King Air.

Helicopter PD's assistants and leads have been signed, get to Gary if you haven't already received them. Aviation Operations Plan has been completed as an action item from the national FRRs. Jim Brown has voiced a serious concern with aviation use and law enforcement. When the LE group disseminates their draft aviation plan, ensure that the District Aviation Officers review it.

Helicopter training **B** get to Gary with your needs. Refer to your handout.

Contracts that are up are Keene. Kern is acquiring a second helicopter. Jim Brown is going to put in for an upgrade of their current aircraft.

CDD with the acquisition of a new monument, there has been a helicopter identified for this area (heads up).

LES - expressed concerns for identifiers which is very realistic concern at the GACC's in the State, in particular in Northern California. After much discussion, Doug recommends a memo from the State Office.

BREAK

NATIONAL OFFICE CONFERENCE CALL **B** Ed. Vice Ed Shepard, Tim Murphy. New data call, on how many positions by Monday. Quick Hire is going to happen out of Denver. Bill Mitchell wants figures for add-ons. Don't plan to use your excess leave, advise managers to ensure your leave is carried over.

Parting words by Ron Dunton is that the Bureau does intend to do their own academy.

DOUG **B** 14 day assignments and R&R. Interpretation of these new policies has been difficult at best. How did this work, we need to take our concerns back to the NO. The coding of R&R (Admin Leave 060) since we don't have a mechanism for this issue. We are hanging out, due to us not be able correctly code this period of time. There was no consistent application of this rule/policy by IC teams.

BREAK

DAVE NOBLE, Training Officer of Northern GACC and Zone Coordinators with presentation on modernization of the training calendar and courses. Information handout with Website addresses. Every training center is linking to a website.

Recommends that everyone access a website and become familiar with this approved registration of nominations of training candidates.

Ensure that supervisors are authorizing officials. No more 182's for any Bureau employees at the training sites listed. CA 943 covers costs for training at these centers, but you must check with Zone Coordinators and get proper authorization to go to training.

BREAK FOR LUNCH

DOUG - There was discussion on the time frame of FRR inspections, it was agreed that we would remain on the same schedule.

1202's and the submission of them. Centralized point of contact will be identified for reporting to coordinate with MIS numbers. All fires 10 acres and more should be identified for input for reporting to Boise.

Discussion on GIS, Tom Patterson has been identified to establish a task group to develop data standards or program for this course of work. Each of the districts/regions should identify/recommend employee to be a part of this group. Get names to Tom, NPS. Dick Franklin agreed to convince Tom's supervisor that this is needed and will benefit both BLM and NPS.

Fire Reimbursement/Trespass **B** We have not been reporting this was due to early fire season. We need fire names and numbers to identify this to CDF. Time period of reporting for reimbursement is 12 months. Identify someone to report on May 5th to Annmarie. Do we have an idea, for trespass for BBD 8 with 30 imburseable fires . Fire Trespass Handbook is out, access the NIFC website.

Annemarie **B** MIS is not completed for 2001; however, the billing packages will be amended. Tentative dates for training Jan 30 and 31 and Feb 6 & 7. We will have a standard billing package on software.

DISCUSSION: Why are we using the 1202 to track trespass. There is a trespass system why are we not using it. Field needs help to relay to the NO we should utilize the trespass system to keep these use of numbers clean.

MIKE POOL **B** He has been out in the field to meet with some of the fire programs personnel and becoming familiar with the workforce in general. Interagency cooperation and opportunities is high priority, lets be innovative in our thinking.

LARRY HAMILTON - He asked for a round of introductions. He said we are going to experience changes through administration.

QUICK HIRE **B** Ed, are we reverting backward with this system and its affects on our outreach for diversity.

H: This will be a work in progress. Linda Sedbrook and Jim Knox will be the contacts. Be sure to raise your concerns.

This system does not appear to be conducive for our states hiring. SD feels we should stay with present seasonal hiring practices.

RAWS **B** permanent for the Hollister area. Funding, lets identify the needs throughout the state, but remember to include the annual maintenance funds required. Micro RAWS, should be placed throughout the state and train up personnel in order to have this equipment available for use. Follow through with needs list to your DFMO on up to the state office.

FRANCIS **B** RAMS/FATE fire planning. We need to identify training dates January 15 through 19. We need three to four days. Please have some pre-work before you get to this training. This is a NO requirement. Our community projects will be prioritized with these plans.

FIRE PREVENTION- -We need to take a more pro active approach to include attending workshops and conferences.

TRAINING- Red card issues on seasonal employees. Can we get this changed in the RED BOOK. Firefighter I and II should not be mandatory. Presently, career seasonals are inputted while the temps are signed off by the local FMO.

Personnel issues, be sure to document when an employees resigns. This has everything to do with the employees union that is strong to allow a substandard performing to return.

Lake Natoma Inn - November 3, 2000

FRANCIS B Fuels with handout on fuels module guide. Positions descriptions will be classified at NO. Fuels crews are currently in use in BLM and California is the only fuels work.

Data Call B confirm new suppression/fuel positions.

HAMILTON B Briefing on early morning conference call.

Western Governor's meeting on November 14. This meeting will include department heads

Secretary Babbitt will meet with Governor's in San Diego on November 20.

ELT meeting on November 20, in Washington.

Major topic is all of the reports that are required.

On November 13, there is a meeting on the Hill to advise on the status of implementation plan.

National Implementation Team identified for the Bureau.

Reported prepared and submitted each Friday

DOUG B Training and Qualls Committee

BREAK

APPRENTICESHIP UPDATE

COOPERATIVE COMMITTEES B Updating Cooperative Protection Agreement, 5 Party, get your comments in. Your annual operating plans need to be submitted upon signature B all plans. DPA's can be adjusted locally as opposed to a statewide adjustment. We do need to get all parties involved.

Operating Plans cover most of the recent land acquisitions. You need to work with the field cooperators and furnish them with your plans, agreements, and maps.

FMP amendments ensure that with the increased allocation of funds that your plans are updated.

Training and Qualls B will set up a meeting date most likely in January or February time frame. Supervisory training, do we need to do this again? There is need a for a supervisory course for accomplish first 40 requirements and perhaps a follow up leadership course.

Severity Requests were made and accomplished. The process has proven successful with five requests. Paul's format is most helpful, send copies for others to follow.

Construction and Facilities B Salt Wells being done as well as Olancha. Mono Basin is still under bid issues. Chimney Peak plan is still in the works with Bogacki. Hidden Valley moved to 2001. Fuels requests need to be tied to field office requests. Art is handling facilities. SIFC funding is in place.

Audit revealed that we need to correct deficiencies which includes with safety issues. Each of the \$12K, there is a need to accomplish corrections.

Announcement of National Meeting.

Pre-season in Sacramento, for April 3, 4, 5. NPS would like to do a session together. Set up meeting for WFSA, districts should work to coordinate with instructors and meeting site.

There was a request to visit the State Aviation Plan.

Request to have all the fire program government credit card holders moved to central billing.

Questions on fuels funding and the appropriation at the local level is a concern, can this be done. For split funding of positions guidance is anticipated from the national level.

Interagency smoke meeting on January 31 and February 1, at Monterey (FO), a notice will be forthcoming.

Recommendation from Tim Burke for teams on addressing some of the work ahead of with strategy team as well as implementation team.

**California State Office, Branch of Fire & Aviation Management
Post Season Meeting - November 2000**

Action Items List

Action Item: Fire Reports, projects numbers ensure that you read information to complete and close out these reports. Ensure you are able to identify these reports so there is no duplication of numbers and miscalculation of funds and accomplishments.

Action Item: Draft for clarification, the Complexity Guide of the Burn Plan. Written criteria will be identified to ensure clarification and complete adherence to policies. (handout)

Action Item: Burn Plan reviews - Turnaround time is has been great, but perhaps we should identify qualified individuals to review these plans to enhance a expeditious handling and turnaround time.

Action Item: Upgrade policy for the Engine Captain's Committee.

Action Item: Review of Code 3 driving by the Engine Captain's Committee. *Task Group* identified, Ken Hood, Folsom FMO, has lead.

Action Item: SCBA Policy and Operations Guide review and update. *Task Group* identified, Pat Stone, Susanville Engine Captain, has lead.

Action Item: Develop GIS data standards statewide for California. *Task Group* identified, Tom Patterson, JTNP/Palm Springs FMO, has lead.

Action Item: I would like your input on Fuels PD's by November 8, Wednesday. These Fuels PD's tied to engine types. *Completed.*

Action Item: I also need your input/comments for any changes on the fuels modules. These crews will be composed of 10 people. There is concern over the possible confusion of a fire crew and fuels crews, (fire use modules) due to the qualifications of modules and type of training of the crew itself. It hopeful that this will give us an opportunity to increase our ability to respond to our needs when preparedness levels increase with increased risks.

Action Item: When the LE group disseminates their draft aviation plan, ensure that the District Aviation Officers to review.

Action Item: Helicopter training – get to Gary with your needs. Refer to your handout.

Action Item: Contracts that are up are Keene. Kern is acquiring a second helicopter. This is complete, a new three year BBD (Keene) helicopter contract has been established. Location will be either Kernville or Rio Bravo Airport.

Action Item: After much discussion, Doug recommends a memo from the State Office on identifiers. This was completed by Les Matarazzi, a memo was sent out 11/00.

Action Item: Recommendation that everyone access a website and become familiar with this approved registration of nominations of training candidates.

Action Item: 1202's and the submission of them. Centralized point of contact will be identified for reporting to coordinate with MIS numbers. All fires 10 acres and more should be identified for input for reporting to Boise.

Action Item: RAWS - Follow through with needs list to your DFMO on up to the State Office.

FRANCIS – RAMS/FATE fire planning. Identified training dates as January 15 - 19. We need three to four days.

Action Item: Please have some pre-work before you get to this RAMS/FATE training. This is a NO requirement. Our community projects will be prioritized with these plans. Tentative training date March 9 and March 23.

Action Item: Be sure to document when an employees resigns. This has everything to do with the employees union, which enables a substandard performer to return when documentation is not included.

Action Item: Your annual operating plans need to be submitted upon signature – all plans. DPA's can be adjusted locally as opposed to a statewide adjustment. We do need to get all parties involved.

Operating Plans cover most of the recent land acquisitions. You need to work with the field cooperators and furnish them with your plans, agreements, and maps.

Action Item: FMP amendments ensure that with the increased allocation of funds that your plans are updated.

Action Item: Mark your calendar for Pre-season in Sacramento, for April 3, 4, 5. NPS would like to do a session together.

Action Item: Set up WFSA training, districts should work to coordinate with instructors and meeting site. *Jim Brown, NOD FMO, has lead and will coordinate for both NOD and CCR. CDD has completed.*

Action Item: Request to visit the State Aviation Plan. Review Winter 2001.

Action Item: Request to have all the fire program government credit card holders moved to central billing.

FYI: Interagency Smoke Meeting to be held on January 31 and February 1, at Monterey (FO), a notice will be forthcoming.

Recommendation: From Tim Burke, for teams on addressing some of the work ahead of time with strategy team, as well as implementation team. *Completed.*