



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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EMS TRANSMISSION: 6/29/04
Instruction Memorandum No. **CA-2004-048**
Expires: 09/30/05

To: District Manager, CDD

From: State Director

Subject: Cataloging of Remote Automatic Weather Stations (RAWS)

DD: 07/23/04

This Instruction Memorandum is to initiate required actions identified during the National Preparedness Review to improve fire weather information gathering from our Remote Automatic Weather Stations (RAWS) in the California Desert District (CDD).

BLM maintains appropriate levels of preparedness to meet fire management objectives. Preparedness is based on the assessment of fuel and weather conditions from the National Fire Danger Rating System (NFDRS). Preparedness Plans, Seasonal Risk Analyses, and severity funding are based, at a minimum, on the conclusions from decision aides presented in locally produced fire danger rating outputs.

Currently the CDD has 10 RAWS stations that are not cataloged as NFDRS stations, and 2 of the 10 need to be calibrated. It is important that the NFDRS parameters in the WIMS station catalog be completed for each BLM RAWS below. This is to ensure that NFDRS adjectives will be computed for each station on a daily basis. The stations are:

44806 Panamit (needs to be calibrated)
45802 Fish Creek
45125 Burns Canyon
45122 Mojave River Sink
45123 Boron
45124 Granite Mountain (needs to be calibrated)
45127 Opal Mountain
45128 Mid Hills
45129 Horse Thief Spring
45620 Rice Valley

(Note - In addition to the fuel model that best represents the station, it is requested that a fuel model "G" be added into the catalog for each RAWS). **The above corrective actions need to be completed by July 23, 2004.**

This issue was identified during the 2003 Fire Preparedness Review and corrective actions were not taken. It is recommended that the District FMO identify and assign a CDD fire staff member the responsibility of being the district focal point for all BLM weather station related issues and to assure corrective actions are implemented.

It is imperative that this issue be taken seriously; not only will the CDD fire and resource management programs benefit, but those benefits will also be made available to other Federal, State and Local government agencies.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact Tom Rolinski, South Operations, Predictive Services at 909-782-4849.

Signed by:
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Acting State Director

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Records Management