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To    District Managers

From:   Deputy State Director, Division of Resource Planning, Use & Protection

Subject:   Required and Necessary Fire Training

Due to the recently released BLM Sequestration – Cost Reduction Implementation Guidance, a lot of travel and training has been cancelled or postponed. Fire training that is mission critical and meets pressing needs is approved. The purpose of this communication is to provide clear direction as to which training courses and travel are approved.

We continue to have severe shortages in Aviation, Dispatch, Logistics, Finance and Planning. The following positions listed below in these areas have been identified as severe shortage positions:

• Air Operations Branch Director, Air Support Group Supervisor, Air Tactical Group Supervisor
• Expanded Dispatch Supervisory Dispatcher, Expanded Dispatch Support Dispatcher
• Logistics Section Chief, Food Unit Leader, Facilities Unit Leader, Supply Unit Leader, Ground Support Unit Leader
• Finance Section Chief, Procurement Unit Leader, Cost Unit Leader, Time Unit Leader, Compensation/Claims Unit Leader
• Planning Section Chief, Situation Unit Leader, Resources Unit Leader, Documentation Unit Leader, Documentation Unit Leader, Long Term Analyst, Fire Behavior Analyst

All required training as identified in the PMS 310-1 Wildland Fire Qualification System Guide, Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations, and the BLM Standards for Fire Training and Workforce Development for the above positions are considered mission critical and is approved.

Only Recurrent/Refresher Training courses which are required for an IQCS (Red Card) qualification as identified in the policy documents listed above are considered mission critical and are approved. In addition, the S-420 Command and General Staff course is approved for all C&G positions. Lastly, instructors who are scheduled to teach one of the courses mentioned above are approved to attend.

In addition, Command and General Staff on Type 1 and 2 Incident Management Teams are approved to attend their pre-season team meeting. Personnel who have been selected to attend any of the Leadership training sessions are also approved to attend. Personnel who need to travel for Preparedness reviews are approved as well.
Individuals presenting information, representing their districts and performing incident business operations may attend the Incident Business Workshop in Portland on May 6, 7 and 8, 2013.

AD personnel who need to attend training to maintain their currency are approved to attend training for the above mentioned positions. ADs are not approved to pursue training that will enhance their individual qualifications.

The BLM Oregon State and FS, Region 6 and 10 Fire and Aviation Leadership Team (FALT) and Agency Administrators pre-season meeting will be held April 23, 24 and 25, 2013. The Agency Administrators portion will start at 1300 on the 24th and ends the following day at noon. The meeting will be held at the State Office/Regional office in Portland. Since this is required per Redbook direction, District Managers and all unit FMOs are expected to participate.

Please contact Bobbie Scopa, Assistant Fire Director for Operations, at (503).808-6518 if you have any questions.

**Districts with Unions** are reminded to notify their unions of this information bulletin and satisfy any bargaining obligations before implementation. Your servicing Human Resources Office or Labor Relations Specialist can provide you with assistance in this matter.

Signed by
Michael J. Haske
Deputy State Director
Resource Planning, Use & Protection

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