

**United States Department of the Interior**  
**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**  
Office of Fire and Aviation  
3833 South Development Avenue  
Boise, Idaho 83705-5354

May 20, 2003

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
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EMS Transmission 05/20/03  
Information Bulletin No. OF&A 2003-047

To: State Directors

From: Director, Office of Fire and Aviation

Subject: 3<sup>rd</sup> International Wildland Fire Conference Due Date: 05/28/03

For several months we have been talking about and promoting the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Wildland Fire Conference in Sydney, Australia, October 3 – 6, 2003. We are now getting closer to the final nomination and approval process.

Earlier this spring five individuals were requested, or their abstracts were accepted, to give oral presentations at the conference. All of the individuals are from the Office of Fire and Aviation, except Gayle Sitter, who is from the Klamath Falls Resource Area, Oregon. They are Michelle Ryerson-Grett, Fire Safety Specialist; Rick Ochoa, Fire Weather Program Manager; Tom Frey, International Program Coordinator; Gayle Sitter, Wildlife Biologist; and myself.

At this same time, all other submitted abstracts were accepted as poster presentations by the Australian conference committee. The Office of Fire & Aviation (OF&A) requested that a panel review and then prioritize the poster abstracts.

The following top four poster abstract presentations are our recommendations for approval by the W.O.:

Ed Delgado, Fire Weather Program Lead, Eastern Great Basin Coord. Center, SLC, Utah  
Real-time Observation Monitor and Analysis Network (ROMAN): A "One-stop shopping" weather data tool for fire weather

Larry Sutton, Training Specialist, OF&A  
Wildland Fire Training: High Tech or Low Tech

Steve Ellis, District Manager, Lakeview Field Office, Oregon  
Interagency Fire Management in the Wildland-Urban Interface, an Oregon Success Story

Mark Musitano, Military Fuels Specialist, Alaska Fire Service  
Ecology of Shaded Fuel Breaks in the Alaskan Boreal Forest

It was anticipated that all names for the poster presentations would be sent forward in their priority order; however, we have since received a number limit for attendance. By limiting the number to four posters presentations, we have eight openings for attendance at the conference reserved for each State not represented above. (Utah, Oregon, and Alaska are represented above.)

I now ask that you submit your nomination for attendance at the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Wildland Fire Conference to this office, using the attached "Foreign Travel Certification Form" (DI-1175). Please fill in as much detail as possible, so that it can be used for the memo justifying group attendance at this meeting. Your nomination will be consolidated into one package to be sent to the W.O. for BLM and DOI approval. Please send the form to Connie Lewis, International Program Specialist here at the Office of Fire & Aviation. Her phone number is (208) 387-5354, fax: (208) 387-5914.

The final papers and abstracts are due in Australia, July 1, 2003. Therefore, we need to move as fast as possible to obtain W.O. approval and still allow time for the final papers to be prepared. Please submit your nomination **no later than May 28, 2003**. We anticipate that there will be representation from a mixture of State Office, District Office, and Resource Office personnel.

We not only want to support this conference because it gives us all a rare opportunity to see what other developed and under developed countries are doing to manage their wildland fire programs, but also because Australia and New Zealand assisted us during our severe 2000 and 2002 fire seasons. We have been involved in planning this conference for sometime and have earmarked funds for attendees. Therefore, the OF&A has committed up to \$5,000, per participant (this includes \$5,000 for all speakers and poster presenters.)

Please let me know if you have any comments or questions (208-387-5446).

Signed by:  
Larry E. Hamilton  
Director, Office of Fire and Aviation

Authenticated by:  
Pat Lewis  
Supervisory Mgmt. Asst., Office Services

Attachment:  
Foreign Travel Certification Form (1 pg)

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