

# BLM Fire Training Committee (BFTC)

## Conference Call Notes

Date/Time: 1/7/15 at 1030 MT (Boise)

Phone number: 866-704-5789

Participant code: 223574#

### ROLL CALL:

AK – Doug Gibbs  
AZ – Shawn Jaca  
CA –  
CO/WY – Kim Bang  
EA –  
ID – Kelly Woods

MT – John Thompson  
NV – Cindy Savoie  
NM – Charley Luevano  
OR/WA – Renee Beams/Brian  
Rindlisbacher  
UT – Cheri Ausgotharp

NIFC – Mike Ellsworth  
NIFC – Jeff Arnberger  
NIFC – Pam McDonald  
Aviation –  
Fuels – Dave Mueller

### AGENDA ITEMS:

#### 1. NWCG Training Committee Update (Ellsworth)

- Requesting OWDC approve L-481 as interchangeable with S-420.
- Working to charter the M-581 group under the NWCG Training Committee.
- Will request from the NWCG Executive Board reconfirmation regarding previous guidance regarding Spanish versions of courses such as S-130/190 and L-180.
- Developing a strategy regarding the Gap courses.

#### 2. IQCS Updates (Ellsworth)

- The *2015 Federal Qualification Supplement* is complete and will be available soon at <http://www.nwcg.gov/pms/docs/docs.htm>.
- All changes to BLM SetID IQCS responders have been made in the system.
- The IQCS Change Management Board will be providing guidance on times performed versus operational periods.
- Kim Bang inquired about the release date for the online IQCS training course.

**ACTION: Contact IQCS Program Manager regarding the IQCS training course release date and update the BFTC by January 23, 2015. (Mike Ellsworth)**

#### 3. 2015 PMS 310-1 Review (Ellsworth/Arnberger)

The draft 2015 PMS 310-1 is out for review. Comments are due by May 8, 2015.

**4. IMT State Minimum Qualification Standard (#2013-26, HO #1) (Bang)**  
Kim Bang (lead) and Mike Ellsworth will respond to the FOG tasking response to BFTC's proposal to establish a National standard for oversight and certification of Type 1 Command and General Staff. Draft will be made available to the BFTC by the end of January and presented to the FOG at their March 2015 meeting.

**5. Chainsaw Refresher Tasking (#2013-29, HO #2) (Ellsworth)**  
Mike Ellsworth will lead up the BLM Chainsaw Refresher Standards Task Group. Members will come from the engine, hotshot, helitack, and smokejumper committees.

**6. Dozer Operator Tasking (HO #3) (Ellsworth)**  
Mike Ellsworth presented the FOG tasking to analyze the proposed Dozer Operator (DZOP) and Dozer Operator Initial Attack (DZIA) qualifications and develop a suitable position task book for DZOP. Tasking elements are due by February 21, 2015.

**7. Resource Advisor (READ) (Ellsworth)**  
Mike Ellsworth is developing a course of action to address the READ position. The BFTC previously recommended adopting the DOI All-hazard READ qualification and establishing a wildland fire READ endorsement for READs who visit the fireline unescorted.

**8. Scholarship Fund (#2012-14) (Jaca)**  
Shawn Jaca will be working with the Scholarship Fund Task Group (Dylan Rader and Chris Buhrig). Doug Gibbs will obtain a copy of Alaska's scholarship program.

**ACTION: Provide a copy of Alaska's scholarship program to Shawn Jaca for distribution to the Scholarship Fund Task Group by January 31, 2015. (Doug Gibbs)**

**9. UNLV GS-401 Program (#2014-08) (Ellsworth)**  
UNLV's break-even analysis of 25 students exceeds the threshold that the BFTC feels comfortable with a formal MOU.

**ACTION: Contact UNLV administrators regarding the BLM's participation in the GS-401 program by February 2015. (Mike Ellsworth)**

**10. L-380 Equivalence for the Level II 40-hour Supervision Course (Woods/Rader)**  
The BFTC discussed previous, unsuccessful attempts to obtain equivalency for the Level II 40-hour Supervision Course. The USFS failed in their attempt at a similar effort. The BFTC dropped Action Item #2014-18.

**11. Incident Medical Specialist (IMST) Positions (Thompson/Beams)**

Renee Beams and John Thompson will continue to develop a draft proposal to adopt the USFS qualification requirements for IMST and report on the March 2015 BFTC conference call.

**12. Crew Representative (CREP) Request for Change to OWDC (Ellsworth)**

OWDC will address the proposal to allow Strike Team Leader, Task Force Leader, and Division Group Supervisor to maintain currency for Crew Representative during their next meeting.

**13. GATR Updates (Beams)**

GATRs have a conference call the week of January 11th. The National Priority Trainee list should be finalized by January 16, 2015.

**ROUND ROBIN:**

- **Alaska** – Quiet, cold, and dark. Questioned the group regarding the term “regular driver” for driver training (BL300 and RT301).
- **Arizona** – Nothing to report.
- **Colorado/Wyoming** – Nothing to report.
- **Idaho** – Next week begins the 2015 training season; 50 courses scheduled.
- **Montana** – Nothing to report.
- **Nevada** – Nothing to report.
- **New Mexico** – Nothing to report.
- **OR/WA** – USFS in the PNW adopting the ENOP position task book.
- **Utah** – Nothing to report.
- **National Aviation** – Nothing to report.
- **National Office** – The 2015 Wildland Fire Leadership Challenge – Followership is Leadership launched. Ruby Mountain IHC received the 2014 From the Field for the Field Award.

The next conference call will be held **??day, ??, 2015**, at 10:30 p.m. (MST).