

BLM Fire Training Committee (BFTC)
Conference Call Notes

Date/Time: 9/2/15 at 1030 MT (Boise)

Phone number: 866-704-5789

Participant code: 223574#

ROLL CALL:

AK –Amy Skraba

NV – Cindy Savoie

NIFC – Pam McDonald

AZ –

NM – Charley Luevano

Aviation –

CA –

OR/WA –

Fuels –

CO/WY – Brain Achziger

UT –

SMJ –

EA –

NIFC – Marlene Eno-Hendren

ID – Kelly Woods

MT –

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Chainsaw Refresher Update

(Eno-Hendren)

An assessment task group met in August to prepare a report regarding chainsaw operation techniques and refresher concerns following an increase in accidents. The FLT will discuss dissemination of the final task group report at their meeting the week of September 7. Included in the final report will be recommendations from recent San Dimas Technology and Development Center research (yet to be released) and a chainsaw refresher proposal.

One refresher proposal is to use the recently developed chainsaw video and incorporate into the BLM’s 4-hour annual fireline safety refresher. Kelly Woods and Brian Achziger raised concern with this proposal since the venting issue was not the original intent of the BFTC’s chainsaw refresher proposal.

ACTION: Develop a set of objectives for chainsaw refresher and submit to Marlene Eno-Hendren for placement on the agenda for the October BFTC conference call. (Kelly Woods – lead, Kim Bang, and Renee Beams)

2. Removal of S-336 Course from the NWCG Curriculum (Eno-Hendren)

Very few comments were received regarding the proposal to remove S-336 from the NWCG curriculum. BFTC members felt there was redundancy and supported removal from the curriculum.

Recommendation: BFTC supports the proposal to remove S-336 from the NWCG curriculum.

ACTION: Notify Jeff Arnberger and Mike Ellsworth of the BFTC's recommendation to remove S-336 from the NWCG curriculum by September 15, 2015. (Marlene Eno-Hendren)

3. Work Capacity Test (WCT)/RT-130 Grace Period Proposal (Eno-Hendren)

BFTC members felt the proposal for a 12-month expiration date and an emergency assignment clause similar to the FS's was acceptable. However, due to the limited representatives present, the group postponed a final decision until the October conference call so more states could provide final input.

4. WFAP Staff/Instructor Outreach (Eno-Hendren)

Marlene presented the Wildland Fire Apprenticeship Program (WFAP) Staff/Instructor Outreach. The WFAP gave the BLM \$300,000 to participate in the program. If you have students or cadre members willing to attend, please let Marlene Eno-Hendren know for tracking purposes.

ACTION: Notify Marlene Eno-Hendren of BLM instructors or students attending WFAP in FY16. (All BFTC members)

5. September Face-to-Face Meeting (Eno-Hendren)

Marlene discussed whether or not there is a need to change the date for the fall face-to-face meeting. Marlene will send out a query. Members suggested an alternative date of December 1 – 3.

ACTION: Send an email to query BFTC members as to the date preference for the fall BFTC face-to-face meeting by September 4, 2015. (Marlene Eno-Hendren)

ROUND ROBIN:

- **Alaska** – Steve Theisen is in place as the new Training Officer.
- **Colorado/Wyoming** – Finalizing the 2016 training schedule.
- **Idaho** – GBTU will be hosting FEMA's E/L 952 train-the-trainer session for Type 1 and Type 2 PIOs. Contact Kelly if you have someone who would like to attend this training. GBTU will be hosting ATO's L-481 Alpha course December 7-11.
- **Nevada** – Nothing to report.
- **New Mexico** – Charley is willing to assist with ATV/UTV initiatives as needed.

The next conference call will be held **Wednesday, October 14, 2015, at 10:30 a.m. (MDT)**. Stay tuned for more information on the next face-to-face meeting. BFTC members are asked to identify an alternate for all calls and meetings if they unable to participate themselves.