

FEJF Conference Call Notes
Tuesday, August 23, 2005
10 am Mountain (9 am Pacific)

PHONE NUMBER 312.461.9324

ACCESS CODE 915601

Conference Call Participants:

Darla Potter, WDEQ-AQD, FEJF Co-Chair; Tom Moore, WGA, WRAP Technical Coordinator; Deb Wolfe, MT DEQ; Bob Habeck, MT DEQ; Chet Sergent, NV BAQP; Darrel Johnston, WA DNR; Brian Finneran, OR DEQ; Dan Redline, ID DEQ; Mike Ziolk, OR DOF; Andrea Boyer, Nez Perce Tribe; Paul Schlobohm, BLM NIFC; Suraj Ahuja, USDA-FS; Kara Paintner, NPS; Brian Mitchell, NPS; Jill Glass, CARB; Judith Logan, USDA-FS Region 8;

This was a monthly conference call to check on the status of the active FEJF tasks. The concept is for these calls to last 1 hour and focus on brief (no more than 10 minutes per task) status updates for ongoing tasks.

Phase III/IV Emissions Inventories (Darla)

- A conference call was held on Wednesday, August 3 11 am Mtn. During the call we briefly discussed written comments received on the Workplan. The Workplan was determined final on August 3, 2005 and has been posted to the WRAP - FEJF website. During the call we discussed preparations for the 1-1/2 day technical workshop to take place on August 10-11.
- 1-1/2 day technical workshop took place August 10-11 in Fort Collins, CO
 - Ten participants in Fort Collins and over five participants via phone
 - Discovered that there is more work to be done than anticipated to adjust the 2002 actual EI (activity level, spatial distribution, temporal distribution) to develop the representative baseline (2000-2004) EI – an action item list was developed – August 26 is the date for the representative baseline EI in draft form
 - Some time was devoted to the discussion of the projection (2018) EI – an initial action item list was developed
- The next scheduled conference call is September 7th at 10 am Mtn.
- Regular monthly conference calls to discuss progress on the Phase 3/4 project are scheduled for the first Wednesday of each month at 10 am Mountain. Please mark your calendars for October (5th) and November (2nd).

Inter RPO Wildfire Emissions Inventory & Additional Tasks (Darla)

- Overview/Plan for the remaining tasks, deliverables, etc.
 - Air Sciences has an EI in hand. They are working on folding in the per-event 10-hour fuel moisture data into the data (one of the recent contract modifications) and QC of the entire EI system. Then they'll move into exporting the data into the formatted files. Air Sciences expects to deliver the data files (NIF format, SMOKE IDA format, and db file of the EI) around 9/10.

- They envision that the data file delivery method we'll be: Air Sciences will post the data files for download on the WRAP's website; the WRAP will then *alert* the RPO's as to the availability of the data files; RPO's can elect to *alert* their states as to the availability of the files.
- The documentation for the project (including the added-value analyses, another of the recent contract modifications) will be delivered to the WRAP by 9/28...the next scheduled meeting of the Fire Emissions Joint Forum (FEJF) in Missoula, MT. At this meeting, Air Sciences will deliver the *final* presentation for the project. The plan is to notify the Inter-RPO Steering Committee of the time of the final presentation so that folks can join in via teleconference and the presentation materials posted on the interactive agenda for the meeting (to be posted on the WRAP's web page).
- Completion of the third task of the recent contract modification, executing FCCS-based available fuel loadings for the WRAP region, should also happen by 11/1. We can deliver this as a stand alone product or as an addendum to the final RPO WF EI document, as the WRAP prefers.

There is no limit on the number of lines allowed to conference call in to the September 28 final presentation using the WRAP teleconferencing provider.

- August 24 10 am MTN conference call to brainstorm about what we should have Air Sciences focus in on for Task 3. Those interested in participating can either contact Tom Moore or Darla Potter for the relevant information. (See the following copied from the Cost Proposal for Additional Technical Tasks June 27, 2005 revision).

3. Added-value analyses and documentation.

Each RPO is likely to have unique uses for the Inter-RPO National Wildfire EI. This task is intended to provide the RPOs with analytical information and recommendations pertaining to the Inter-RPO EI. Air Sciences will perform quantitative analysis on the Inter-RPO EI data and present, quantitatively where possible, the following information:

- *Technical methods that differ substantially from the methods employed in the development of previous inventory efforts.*
- *The effect of the application of FEPS-derived fuel consumption rates and emission factors on the fuel loading and emissions estimates in the Inter-RPO EI.*
- *Recommendations (and technical justifications, where possible) on the activity data gathering, technical methods, and QC techniques employed for the Inter-RPO EI).*
- *An assessment of the potential uncertainty of the fuel loading, emission estimates, and plume characteristics data in the Inter-RPO EI.*
- *Recommendations on the most appropriate uses of the Inter-RPO EI. The uses to be considered include estimating boundary conditions, state submittals under the Consolidated Emissions Reporting Rule, in-RPO regional haze modeling.*

Emission Reduction Technique Task (Darla)

- Feedback has not been received from the experts
 - On June 30 the technical memorandum and ERT look-up table were circulated via e-mail to experts (Colin Hardy, Roger Ottmar, Sam Sandberg, Janice Peterson, Brian Jenkins) for their review.
- During the Phase III/IV Technical Workshop on August 10-11, ERTs were discussed in terms of needing to develop “application rules” for the baseline EI and projection EI.
 - Given the lack of ERT percent reductions readily available in the ERT look-up table, the decision made is to not apply ERTs to the baseline EI.
 - The emphasis is put on obtaining the ERT percent reduction information for the projection EI. On the net reduction side, this approach will show a greater emission benefit by the application of ERTs in the projection while they are not explicitly in the baseline EI.
 - Tom Moore will stimulate a discussion with the Forest Service and National Park Service WRAP Board members to get assistance in populating the ERT percent reductions in the ERT look-up table. The emphasis is on application of ERTs to the projection EI.
 - Pete Lahm will contact the Interagency Fuels Committee to populate the frequency table for the projection EI (at what frequency are specific ERTs used within the WRAP currently as well as in the future - 2018).
- The ERT TT conference call on August 10 was rescheduled to September 1 at 10 am Mountain due to lack of expert feedback and overlap with the Phase III/IV Technical Workshop.

Fire Tracking System Task (Darla)

- The FTS TT had a conference call on August 16. Two main topics were discussed:
 - Comments submitted to Ron King on the draft scope of work he prepared for the design and implementation of a fire tracking system.
 - The scope of work was written vary broadly to capture possible future expansion of the FTS
 - Very few comments were received
 - No further modifications of the draft scope of work will take place at this time at the emphasis has been placed on the fire tracking systems analysis
 - A Fire Tracking Systems analysis (existing systems: data elements, system architecture, etc.) – also referred to as a needs assessment – is to be pursued based on feedback on Task Team discussions to date.
 - Thoughts on conducting a fire tracking systems analysis (existing systems: data elements, system, etc.) are to be sent to Darla Potter by COB on July 26.
 - Ron King & Joan Hardesty volunteered to put a strawman together and send it to Darla for review/augmentation prior to sending it out to the FTS TT.
 - Mike Ziolko pointed out information that may be contained in the SMP surveys conducted by the FEJF and posted on the WRAP FEJF website.

- The stawman will be sent out to the FTS TT prior to the September FEJF meeting and will be the focus of the FTS breakout session on the morning of September 29.

Regional Coordination Task (Deb)

- She has received comments on version 5 of the guidance and has incorporated them into the next version of the document (version 5A).
- She still has a placeholder for a tribal paragraph as discussed at the June breakout session.
- It is not too late to populate the table of essential SMP elements. Please provide feedback to Deb for inclusion prior to the September FEJF meeting.
- The revised guidance will be the focus of the RC TT Breakout session on the morning of September 29 at the FEJF meeting.
- Mike Ziolko is not on the task team but requested to review the document.

Natural/Anthropogenic Guidance (Darla)

See June 2005 FEJF meeting notes for additional information.

- Bob Habeck has been gathering input to prepare a 1-2 page whitepaper on the ramifications in actual implementation and practicability for the classification of escaped prescribed fire. Bob sent that whitepaper to Darla. Darla has not yet looked at it due to WDEQ obligations.
- To address the perception that when an escape becomes a wildfire this is a free lunch for FLM's as it will shift the designation to natural for Regional Haze purposes, Darla has been provided some FLM policy regarding that transition from Prescribed Fire to Wildfire that will be helpful in resolving the ongoing discussion on the classification of escaped prescribed fire.
- Darla and Bob will work together to prepare a proposed final version to circulate for FEJF stakeholder review and feedback.
- Both the proposed final version of the guidance as well as the escaped prescribed fire whitepaper would be circulated for FEJF stakeholder review and feedback. Hopefully this will occur prior to the September FEJF meeting.

Plume Rise Task & Sensitivity Analysis Task (Tom)

- See June 2005 FEJF meeting notes for additional information.
- Recap of Planned Sensitivity Cases
 - Evaluate the effects of small fires in or near Class I areas
 - Evaluate sensitivity to changes in vertical distribution of wildfires (plumes)
- The FEJF is not planning to discuss this work at their September 28-29 meeting, but in order to make progress on this sensitivity analysis and have results to report at the subsequent FEJF meeting on November 30-December 1, we need to define what emissions to process and how. Conference call of Emissions TT and RMC staff on Friday September 9th at 1000 AM Mountain to review the summary of the work planned by the WRAP Regional Modeling Center on the Fire Sensitivity Analysis task in their 2005-06 workplan, and begin the development of the needed elements to consider in processing the emissions for this analysis task. Those interested in participating can either contact Tom Moore or Darla Potter for the relevant information.

Dan Redline mentioned work by performed by WA state on agricultural burning plume rise. Dan will send along the contact information to Darla for distribution.

September 27-29, 2005 FEJF Meeting Reminders (Darla)

The next FEJF Meeting is scheduled to occur September 27 - 29 in Missoula, Montana. We will be having a tour and presentations at the Missoula Fire Sciences Lab on the afternoon of Sept 27, a joint morning session with the Emissions Forum on Sept 28 and morning breakout sessions on Sept 29. **Rooms will be held in the block until August 31.** A draft agenda has been prepared and has been distributed. **In you are interested in participating in the Missoula Fire Sciences Lab tour and presentations please let me know ASAP so that arrangements can be made.**

We will be having a conference call line available during the FEJF Meeting on September 28 and 29. **If anyone wishes to conference call into the breakout sessions on Sept 29 (Regional Coordination and Fire Tracking System) please let me know ASAP so that arrangements can be made.**

- Mike Ziolk indicated that he would like to conference into the FTS TT breakout session on September 29.

Next Monthly Conference Call

The monthly conference calls will be held the 4th Tuesday of the month at 10 am MTN. There will not be a call in September due to the FEJF meeting on September 27-29, 2005.

The next call will be October 25, 2005 at 10 am MTN. Phone number 312.461.9324 access code 915601.