

WRAP FEJF Meeting
September 27-29, 2005
Missoula, MT

COMPREHENSIVE LIST OF ATTENDEES

FEJF Members:

Darla Potter, WDEQ-AQD, FEJF Co-Chair; Mark Fitch, AZ Interagency SMP, FEJF Co-Chair; Bob Palzer, Sierra Club; Bob Habeck, MT DEQ; Pat Shaver, USDA NRCS; Kara Paintner, USDOJ NPS; Julie Simpson (representing Andria Boyer), Nez Perce Tribe

Outer Circle Participants:

Don McKenzie, USDA-FERA; Suraj Ahuja, USDA-FS; Lisa Bye, BLM/FWS/NPS; Thomas Dzomba, USFS; Christi Gordon, USDA-FS; Margaret Walsh, USDA/NRCS; Charlene Spells, EPA/OAQPS; Steve Body, EPA Region X; Adriann Killsnight, Northern Cheyenne Tribe; Randy Ashley, Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribe; Deb Wolfe, MT DEQ; Ron King, AK DEC; Darrel Johnston, WA DNR; Dan Redline, ID DEQ; James Scarborough, Air Sciences Inc.

Other WRAP Participants:

Don Arkell, WESTAR, State Caucus Coordinator; Ken Cronin, NTEC, Tribal Caucus Coordinator; Tom Moore, WGA, WRAP Technical Coordinator; Lee Gribovicz, WDEQ-AQD, TOC Co-Chair

By Phone:

Joan Hardesty, AK DEC; Jeff Stonesifer, City of Albuquerque; Neva Sotolongo, CARB; Jill Glass, CARB; Pete Lahm, USDA-FS; Mark Jansen, LADCO; Tom Pace, EPA

PLEASE NOTE: These meeting notes have been prepared to capture questions, comments, and discussion on the various meeting topics. Please refer to the presentations and documents posted in association with this meeting for greater detail.

SEPTEMBER 27, 2005 2:00 – 5:00 pm

Missoula – Fire Sciences Laboratory tour and presentations

- Welcome Colin Hardy
- “The Fire Lab” Colin Hardy [See presentation posted on the FEJF website.]
- Facility Tour Colin Hardy
- Fire Chemistry R&D Wei Min Hao
- Emission Reduction Roger Ottmar [See presentation posted on the FEJF website.]

SEPTEMBER 28, 2005 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

Introductions (All) & Agenda Review

FEJF Status

- Membership Vacancies
 - A Tribal position is open.
 - An Academic position on the wildland side is open.
 - A General Public position on the wildland side is open.
 - Emphasis for alternatives to attend if FEJF Members cannot attend the meetings.
- Co-Chair Update
 - Mark Fitch transitioned from AZ DEQ to a position with the USFS effective May 2005. He is the Air Quality & Smoke Management Interagency Coordinator in Arizona.
 - The Arizona Interagency Coordination Group wants him to remain as FEJF Co-Chair with BLM taking the lead to fund his FEJF associated travel. That group will be amending his contract to stipulate his continued participation as FEJF Co-Chair.

Joint Morning Session with Emissions Forum 8:30 – 11:30 am

Attribution of Haze Phase II / Technical Support System (TSS) Project (Thomas Dzomba & Tom Moore)

[See presentation posted on the FEJF website.]

- The fire participants were encouraged to look at the trend analyses on the Causes of Haze website (http://coha.dri.edu/web/general/tools_trendanaly.html). The general trend is for fire and dust to be going up, while other sources are going down.
- The Technical Support System (TSS) relates to the SIP Technical Support Document (TSD) as a more flexible tool or vehicle to deliver the analyses results.
- The TSS has to be “locked down” at a date certain to serve as the basis for the SIP TSD. That date is estimated to occur in October 2006.

Regional Modeling status and schedule (Tom Moore)

[See presentation posted on the FEJF website.]

- In regard to the relationship between “natural” and “natural conditions”, the “natural conditions” will stay the default until EPA directs the WRAP otherwise. The WRAP is waiting for an update to the EPA guidance on this issue given the recent findings presented on this topic in June to the WRAP and other RPOs.
- The “natural” versus “anthropogenic” apportionment helps with “uncontrollable” versus “controllable” apportionment.

Inter-RPO National Wildfire Emissions Inventory (James Scarborough, Air Sciences Inc.)

[See presentation posted on the FEJF website.]

- Suggestions for refinement of presentation of project results
 - Identify AK separately from the lower 48.
 - Present difference between emissions from the WRAP Phase II 2002 EI and the Inter-RPO 2002 WF EI. (This work is yet to come in the contract.)
 - Fire Occurrence > 100 acres slide
 - Change title by adding “per day” after “100 acres”

- The implications of the WF EI outside the WRAP region need to be explored.
- One of the three additional tasks added to this contract at the request of the WRAP to increase the usefulness of the Inter-RPO National Wildfire Emissions Inventory for the WRAP is yet to be completed.
 - Enhance analysis section of final documentation
 - Numerical effects of new/revised technical methods
 - Recommendations to RPOs on appropriate use of emissions inventory

Phase III & IV Emissions Inventories (James Scarborough, Air Sciences Inc.)

[See presentation posted on the FEJF website.]

- Phase III – Representative Baseline 2000-2004 EI
 - Taking pile burning into account in the Phase III EI is still under review.
 - On slide 12 – are Natural and Anthropogenic backwards?
 - The title on the 1st FCCS map should be shortened to “FCCS Fuel Models”
 - Considerable discussion on the 2nd FCCS map
 - Is the labeling of color on the map wrong for green = natural?
 - Relook at CC2 heavy/light fuels?
 - Can a map be prepared just showing the “natural” areas without the FCCS coloring?
- Phase IV – Projection 2018 EI
 - Which scenario will be modeled?
 - Likely scenario may be the 2018 base case
 - Less scenario and More scenario may be the control scenarios
 - WFU will have a scalar but not an application of ERTs
- Add Kara Paintner to the Phase III/IV Task Team

FEJF Workplan Status (Darla Potter)

WRAP - FEJF Workplan Status - September 2005

Code	Project Title	Under Contract	Status	Funding
<i>Planning</i>				
FF6/3	Phase III & Phase IV Inventories	159,936	Under Contract	
	Assessment of Apportionment Methods		2006	25,288
FF7	2002 National Wildfire Emissions Inventory (Inter-RPO) & 2002 Wildfire Emission Inventories Comparative Analysis	133,779	Under Contract	
FF12	Smoke Management Technical and Policy Workshop		2006	25,000
<i>Implementation</i>				
FF"E"	Fire Emissions Categorization Guidance: Restoration / Maintenance		Task Finalization	
FF9	Regional Coordination of Smoke Management Programs		In-Kind Work Underway	42,700
FF5/8	Fire Tracking System		In-Kind Work Underway	185,000*
FF"D"	Sensitivity Runs Phase II: Regional & Mesoscale	~45,000	Work Underway	
FF2	User Guidance and Review of Feasibility Criteria for WRAP Fire Policies		2006	60,000

* \$85,000 2005,
\$50,000 2006,
\$50,000 2007

Schedule Next Meetings

- November 30-December 1, 2005
 - Seattle, WA (downtown)
 - Breakout sessions Dec. 1 AM
- Spring 2006
 - March 7-8, 2005
 - Albuquerque, NM
- Fall 2006
 - Mid- to Late- October
 - In conjunction with AK fall fire review
 - Anchorage, Alaska

- The next WRAP Board Meeting is scheduled for December 14-15, 2005

- FEJF Meeting Topics
 - Based on task deliverables
 - Consider interactions with other Forums or Workgroups
 - Active Task Topics
 - Inter-RPO Wildfire Emissions Inventory, including additional tasks
 - ERT Technical Tool Development
 - Regional Coordination of SMPs
 - Fire Tracking System
 - Model Assessment Tasks: RMC Sensitivity Runs Phase II
 - Phase III & IV Emissions Inventory
 - Model predicted impacts – differences between Phase II EI and Phase III EI
 - N/A Guidance
 - WRAP Topics as Related to Fire
 - Testing of EDMS with the fire EI
 - Regional Haze Implementation Plan technical update
 - Attribution of Haze
 - Technical Support System
 - Regional Modeling
 - FEJF Workplan and Budget
 - Other Workplan Topics
 - Assessment of Apportionment Methods
 - Smoke Management Technical & Policy Workshop
 - User Guidance and Review of Feasibility Criteria for WRAP Fire Policies

Monthly conference calls

- The idea of having monthly conference calls to check on the status of the active FEJF tasks was discussed and supported. The concept is for these calls to last 1 hour and focus on status updates for ongoing tasks.
 - The monthly conference calls will be held the 4th Tuesday of the month at 10 am MTN.
 - Having monthly conference calls started on July 26, 2005.

- Upcoming conference calls
 - October 25, 2005
 - No call in November due to meeting
 - December 20, 2005 (moved to 3rd Tuesday due to the holidays)
- Are the conference calls useful and should they be continued?
 - The calls provide good updates, especially for new FEJF participants.
 - Yes, continue the calls.
- Suggestions for how to make the conference calls better
 - Provide advance notice so that the calls can be scheduled on participant calendars.
 - Discuss how the FEJF tasks relate to the entire WRAP process.
 - Identify where held is needed on a task.
 - Provide a heads up for things burners and air managers should be / may be interested in.

Montana/ Idaho Airshed Management System (formerly RAZU) (David Grace)

[See presentation posted on the FEJF website.]

- Online demonstration www.smokemu.org
- Montana University students are interested in talking about sharing the code for the MT/ID Airshed Management System

EDMS Fire Specific Testing (Tom Moore)

[See presentation posted on the FEJF website.]

- Update on the results at the November 30-December 1 meeting.

Natural & Anthropogenic Guidance (Bob Habeck)

Current Status:

- Further discussion has continued in relation to the categorization of escaped prescribed fire. Bob Habeck contacted FEJF participants for their views regarding the classification of escaped prescribed fire and prepared a whitepaper on determining the categorization of escaped prescribed fire that serves as a support document to the Guidance.
- Based on feedback received to date on the categorization of escaped prescribed fire, the proposal put forward was to have the Guidance specify that the categorization would be at the state's or tribe's preference.
- Discussions on categorization of escaped prescribed fire
 - Want to see one approach put forward
 - Do not support state's/tribe's preference
 - Categorize as anthropogenic
 - Support state's/tribe's preference
 - Concern about lack of consistency among states and tribes with the state's/tribe's preference – mostly from an equity standpoint as the emissions difference won't matter much.
 - Categorize as natural

Next Steps:

- Darla and Bob Habeck will work together to prepare a proposed final version of the Guidance to circulate for FEJF stakeholder review and feedback.
 - Changes to resolve Tribal concerns with the document.
 - Changes in relation to the categorization of escaped prescribed fire.
- Darla and Bob Habeck will work together to prepare a final version of the whitepaper on determining the categorization of escaped prescribed fire to also be circulated to the FEJF. The whitepaper will outline four categorization options: “natural”, “anthropogenic”, retain original categorization, state’s/tribe’s preference.
- Send out for review and follow up with a conference call specifically to discuss the N/A Guidance.
- Conference call scheduled for November 21, 2005 at 10 am MTN.

ERT Technical Tool Development (Mark Fitch)

[See presentation posted on the FEJF website.]

- How much research is needed to put forward an acceptable ERT percent emissions reduction?
- Crosswalk to NFDRS: grass, brush, timber, crop (ag)
- Technical memo for approval by next FEJF meeting

Sensitivity Analyses (Tom Moore)

- A conference call was held to discuss data files for the sensitivity runs by Air Sciences for the RMC.
- Air Sciences is generating the data files.
- The RMC will present results at the November 30-December 1 meeting.

SEPTEMBER 29, 2005

Regional Coordination Task Team Breakout Session (Deb Wolfe)

[See version 5 document posted on the FEJF website.]

- Working session focused on version 5 document refinement using redline/strikeout to reflect revisions and wordsmithing.
- The Task Team has agreed upon five elements for regional coordination: location, date, type, fuel loading, area.
- Deb will incorporate all the changes discussed into a version 6 document, which will be made available to the Task Team for feedback.
- The document will then be distributed to the FEJF prior to the Seattle, WA meeting.
- FEJF input to the Task Team will be requested while in Seattle, WA.
- The Task Team is functioning well and it is envisioned that they will continue to function as a group into the future due to the dynamic nature of the document being prepared.
- The Guidance document scales between various levels of coordination.
- It was pointed out that the document is something that will likely need to be updated/revised/revisited annually as it is envisioned to be a dynamic document.

Fire Tracking System Task Team Breakout Session (Mark Fitch)

Breakout Session participants: Mark Fitch, Darla Potter, Ron King, Joan Hardesty (phone), Thomas Dzomba, Pat Shaver, Kara Paintner, Tom Moore, Don Arkell, Lee Gribovicz, Charlene Spells, Bob Palzer (portion of session)

- Ron King and Joan Hardesty agreed to serve as the co-chairs for the FTS Task Team.
- Discussion focused on developing a scope of work to hire a contractor to do an evaluation of existing fire tracking systems.
 - Open discussion
 - Existing FTS identification
 - Criteria to evaluate existing FTS
 - Main goals for deliverables
 - Scope of work
 - Contractor selection
 - Next steps
- Summary
 - The evaluation of existing and operational FTS will be sole sourced to Air Sciences and EC/R.
 - The Task Team will develop the scope of work.
 - TT Conf Call October 20 10:30 am MTN
 - A draft workplan should be prepared by mid November for Task Team review.
 - TT Conf Call November 18 10:30 am MTN
 - The final Workplan should be presented at the FEJF Nov 30/Dec 1 meeting.
 - The draft and final deliverables are due in Feb/Mar 2006.