

REGIONAL COORDINATION GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

Status Report

Debra Wolfe
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WRAP FEJF Meeting
Seattle, WA

REGIONAL COORDINATION

- §309 – required for state SMP
- §308 – encouraged for state SMP
- Tribes are encouraged to coordinate
- Identified as integral element of ESMP

RC TASK TEAM - RCTT

- Formed December 2004
- Tasked with:
 - Proposing options for SMP inclusion
 - Identifying ways to facilitate communication between jurisdictions
 - Developing guidance

RCTT MEMBERS

Leader: Deb Wolfe

Primary Participants:

Julie Simpson

Brian Finneran

Chet Sargent

Christi Gordon

Dan Redline

Darla Potter

Darrel Johnston

Bob Habeck

Lisa Bye

Suraj Ahuja

Andrea Boyer

RCTT MEETINGS

- February 23-25, 2005 Salt Lake City
 - Initiate task, discuss scope
- June 7-8, 2005 Denver
 - Review task
 - Identify shared SMP elements
- September 27-29, 2005 Missoula
 - Identify complete range of SMP elements and functions

RCTT GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

Optional guidance document intended to facilitate efforts to prevent / mitigate visibility impairment in Class I areas from from planned and unplanned burning on an inter-jurisdictional basis.

WHY COORDINATE?

- Fire emissions affect visibility:
 - Smoke is regional phenomenon
 - Not limited by political boundaries
 - Need to work together to maximize results
- FEJF develops various policies to inform state / tribal SMPs
- FEJF ESMP Policy directs development of:
 - Policy guidelines
 - Technical tools

WHY COORDINATE? – con't.

- Increase communication among affected jurisdictions
- Provide burner predictability in managing multi-jurisdictional smoke effects
- Move forward to further develop RFP measures together

WHO PARTICIPATES?

- Regulators
- Burners
 - Federal
 - Municipal
 - State
 - Tribal
 - Agricultural

WHAT TO COORDINATE?

KEY SHARED SMP ELEMENTS

1. Location
2. Size
3. Burn Type
4. Fuel loading (tons per acre)
5. Burn date

WHEN TO COORDINATE?

- Prior to ignition
 - Facilitates planning
 - Instituting voluntary or involuntary restrictions
- As burn proceeds
 - Ensure visibility effects are minimized if conditions change
- After burn
 - Archive data
 - Assess activity (in terms of RFP)

WHERE TO COORDINATE?

In any area subject to planned or unplanned burning that may affect visibility in any mandatory class I federal area, whether or not such class I area is in the same jurisdiction as the burn location.

HOW TO COORDINATE

EXAMPLE COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES:

- Regulatory and nonregulatory measures to control smoke
- Meteorological forecasting
- Centralized database
- Public outreach & education
- Modeling planned burns

HOW TO COORDINATE – con't.

- Archiving data
- Post-burn evaluations
- Quantify RFP
- Respond jointly to public complaint
- Conduct joint enforcement
- Implement burner and regulator training

EXAMPLE STATE & TRIBAL SMPs

- MT / ID State Airshed Group
- AZ White Mountain Zone
- NM State Smoke Mgmt Program
- CA Wildland Fire Use Coordination and Communication Protocol
- OR Smoke Management Program
- Nez Perce Tribe Smoke Mgmt Program
- UT Smoke Management Program
- WA

SUMMARY OF GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

- Seeks to facilitate voluntary burner / regulator communication
- Success depends on integration of guidance into other FEJF efforts to reduce anthropogenic fire emissions

INTEGRATIVE PROCESS

FIRE TRACKING SYSTEM WORK PLAN

- “Elements for regional coordination should be contained within the system”
- “Real time data import and export capabilities”

END OF SLIDES