

**Great Basin Fire Prevention Education
Working Committee
November 12-13, 2004
Salt Lake City, UT 84405**

Those members present: Rich Rusk, Jeannette Hartog, Larry Benham, Ronna Hubbard, Tracy Dunford, Dave Eaker, Ruta Glinski, and Kelly Woods. The Committee welcomed Tina Danforth as the representative from Idaho Department of Lands. Dean Burnham attended from the Bridger-Teton NF to report on the hunter fire safety program.

Reports from the Field

All committee members shared the highlights of the year in their area of responsibility.

Of significance importance are positions in prevention and mitigation that have been recently filled:

Dixie NF – 2 permanent full-time Fire Prevention Education Technicians - Matt Buhler (North Zone) and Wayne Monger (South Zone)

Sawtooth NF – 1 permanent full time Forest Prevention Officer - Rochelle Ahrens (Vice Jeremy Keller).

A mitigation education position has been written and approved for filling as a joint position for Winnemucca and Battle Mountain Field Offices.

Smokey's 60th Birthday Celebration

Smokey will celebrate his 60th on August 9, 2004. A national program is being developed by the Forest Service, the Ad Council, and the National Association of State Foresters. The national campaign will be comprised of PSA's, products – both CFFP items and licensees, messages, and a display for each Region. Events and celebrations will be left up to local areas to design and implement.

A national display is being developed by USA Design for each FS Region. The display will contain a blank panel for each Region to customize their message for the 60th. Once Jeannette receives a visual on the national display, she will get to Tracy, Larry and Jon for them to solicit ideas to design the GB portion. Committee voted to highlight a positive or thank you on our section. We will use a Great Basin calendar to schedule use of the display.

There is \$20,000 – a one-time gift from the FS/WO - for the Great Basin to celebrate Smokey's 60th. These funds will be divided among the 4 states to assist in local celebrations.

A conference call is scheduled for the GB committee on Tuesday, January 13, 2003, 1000 MST to discuss plans for the 60th. Jeannette will get the dial-in information out.

Fire Prevention Education Teams in the Great Basin

National Fire Prevention Education teams are used to assist local units in accelerated prevention and education efforts when severe situations exist. They are not intended to perform traditional, daily fire prevention or educational activities. This year, the Great Basin hosted 7 National Fire Prevention Education Teams as follows:

Winnemucca, NV – June 15-30, 2003
 Cedar City, UT – July 6-19, 2003
 Winnemucca, NV – July 1-15, 2003
 Salt Lake City, UT – July 27, 2003
 Stanley, ID – August 6-20, 2003
 Stanley, ID – August 21 – September 3, 2003
 Boise, ID – August 21 – September 3, 2003

There will be national training courses for those desiring to become a part of the national fire prevention team effort:

Team Leader Course – Salt Lake City, UT – March 8-12, 2004 (must have attended the Team Member Course and participated on national teams)

Team Specialist Course – Missoula, MT – April 5-9, 2004

A new Fire Prevention Education Team website is now up and running and available for use at www.firepreventionteams.us.

National Interagency Strategic Plan – The goals of the National Interagency Fire Prevention Education Group are listed below. These are intended as the overall goals and geographic areas should use these as a guide when developing their goals and programs.

Goal I: Reduce Unwanted Human-Caused Fires. (Traditional Fire Prevention)

Goal II: Reduce costs associated with wildfire by increasing the understanding of wildland fire effects. (Fire Ecology and Prevention in the WUI)

Goal III: Develop and maintain an interagency wildfire prevention, education, and mitigation program. (Internal Interagency Education)

Goal IV: Increase the public's knowledge and awareness of wildland fire. (External Public Education)

Goal V: Encourage research and technology transfer from all sources so that fire prevention and fire education programs can be based on the best science, including social science. (Research)

Goal VI: Establish interagency National Fire Prevention and Education Teams (FPET) as a standard National Fire Resource. (Prevention Teams)

Goal VII: Establish Fire Prevention and Education Career Professionals to recognize and promote communication skills. (Career Ladders)

Wildfire Education Working Team (WFEWT) (Chartered Under NWCG) – Jeannette attended the fall meeting of the WFEWT for Vi Hillman who is the BLM representative on the team.

The following are goals the team is working toward which will aid in our local programs.

1. The Team has all the resources it needs to function in an effective manner.
2. The public is aware of the role of fire in ecosystems.
3. Fire prevention and education teams are fully integrated into the fire organization.
4. Team products and services are timely, effective and used.
5. Develop and implement a comprehensive system to measure the effectiveness of our mission accomplishment.

Great Basin Prevention/Education Working Committee Three-Year Strategic Plan (2003-2005)

The Plan was reviewed and updated as needed. It was agreed to stay with the current dates of 2003-2005 until next fall when the entire Plan will be reviewed and updated for the next three years. The updated Plan (attached) will be sent to the GBCG.

Training

The Fire Prevention/Education Training Questionnaire, NWCG Fire Education Working Team, was discussed. The questionnaire is being used as a needs assessment to plan, develop, and implement fire prevention, education, and mitigation for the national program. Vi Hillman is the BLM representative to the Wildfire Education Working Team and the person conducting this survey nationally.

The following are fire prevention/mitigation training courses for 2004:

- Mitigation University – Oklahoma City, OK
 - Basic Fire Mitigation – January 12-16, 2004
 - Intermediate Fire Mitigation – January 26-30, 2004
- RAMS – Redmond, OR – February 2-6, 2004
- National Fire Prevention Education Team
 - Team Leader – Salt Lake City, UT – March 8-12, 2004
 - Team Specialist – Missoula, MT – April 5-9, 2004
- Utah Wildfire Academy – Richfield, UT – May 17-21, 2004
 - P-240/Intermediate Fire Prevention
- SWIFT (Southwest Idaho Fire Training) – Boise, ID –

It was suggested to refer to www.wildlandfiretraining.net or Vi Hillman, Great Basin Training Specialist, 801-539-4092, for all fire training opportunities.

Great Basin Fire Prevention Directory – 2003

Tracy Dunford has volunteered again this year to update the Fire Prevention Directory. All Committee members should review the current directory, make changes, and submit to Tracy no later than January 30, 2004. They will be distributed at the Workshop in April.

Fire Info Center – Utah

The website www.utahfireinfo.gov was established as a focal point for ALL fire information in the State of Utah. There is also a Fire Information Committee that is active and working with communications issues in the State.

Dave Eaker reported that Color Country will be developing their own website for local use highlighting local issues.

Great Basin/Northern Rockies Fire Prevention Education Workshop

The workshop for 2004 will be hosted by the Great Basin at The Nugget in Reno, NV, April 27-29, 2004. Ruta Glinski is the IC for this year's workshop. The Workshop Cadre will meet November 19, 2003, at the BLM State Office in Reno.

The Cadre needs a rep from the Northern Rockies. Jeannette will contact Cathy Scofield to have her name someone to attend the meeting on November 19.

There will be a conference call on Monday, December 8, 2:00 pm MST, to discuss the workshop plans. Notes from the November 19 meeting will be prepared and sent to the GB Committee for their review prior to the conference call. Ruta will get dial-in info.

Readiness Review Checklist

The Readiness Review Checklist is created for prevention folks to review their program and get up to speed before field season. Jeannette will resend the checklist.

Tip Of The Day

Dean Burnham produced a "Tip Of The Day" during 2003 field season. There are a total of 128 tips on file. It was agreed that Dean will produce one per week for 2004 beginning in April. He will send to Jeannette who will send to GB Committee and in turn each will get out to the areas they serve.

Position Descriptions

Concern was expressed about the need for good, approved prevention, education, mitigation position descriptions. Kelly volunteered to research and collect a variety of approved PD's and keep on file for the Committee's use.

Chair/Vice-Chair Election

Thanks to Rich Rusk for serving as Chair for 2003. The Chair will move to Kelly Woods beginning January 1, 2004. The Vice Chair for 2004 will be David Eaker.

Spring Meeting

The Spring Meeting of the Committee will be March 16-17, 2004, probably at The Nugget in Reno, so we can preview the facilities. Ronna will get a room for us at The Nugget with sufficient room for both the Great Basin Committee and the Workshop Cadre (approximately 20 folks).