Notes Meeting

Meeting Dec 16, 2013

#

Topic

Attendees

WFLC Members:

(WGA)

Tom Harbour – for Robert Bonnie (USDA)
Jim Douglas – for Rhea Suh (DOI)
Bryan Rice – for Mike Black (BIA)
Steve Ellis – for Neil Kornze (BLM)
Cynthia Martinez – for Dan Ashe (FWS)
Peggy O'Dell – for Jon Jarvis (NPS)
Ernie Mitchell (FEMA)
George Geissler – for Gov. Fallin (WGA)
Dan Shoun (NACo)
Tony Harwood (ITC)
Bob Roper (Ventura County)
Jim Karels (NASF)

Stakeholders:

Patti Blankenship (FEMA)

Will May (IAFC) Mike Zupko (SGA) Bill Kaage (NPS)

Brad Simpkins (NE RSC/NH State Forester)

Larry Mastic (NE RSC)

Tom Quigley (National Science Team)

Dan Olsen (USFS/FAM)
Sandy Burnett (USFS/DOI)
Shari Eckhoff –(WFEC DFO)
Jenna Sloan (DOI/OWF)
Joe Freeland (BLM)
Dan Smith (NASF)
Ann Kinsinger (USGS)
John Ruhs (BLM)
Louis Rowe (NPS)

WFEC Recommendations

Ann Walker/Brett Brown – for Gov. Kitzhaber

Background was provided on the WFEC/WFLC relationship. Recommendations were transmitted to WFLC from WFEC via the documents that were sent out. They will be discussed in depth at a later meeting. Primary focus of this meeting will be the Phase III National Cohesive Wildland Fire Strategy

Decisions:

1. None

Actions:

1. None

Phase III - Presentation of Draft National Report and Next Steps

Background on the phases and an overview of the development process of the Cohesive Strategy was discussed. Highlights of the report were presented. There was also a discussion of the review and comment process, the substance of the more common comments and how those comments were incorporated into the draft report. A couple of WFLC members had comments expressing the desire for more details on certain issues in the National Report. There was a discussion about this being a national level report and, therefore more broad than the regional reports, which included more details on the types of issues some WFLC members brought up. The presenters also described next steps in the review, release and transmittal process for the report. Overall, WFLC members were very supportive of the draft report and agreed that it was ready to go through the federal review process and be transmitted to the Secretaries for signature.

Decisions:

1. The WFLC agreed with the WFEC recommendation to move the report forward through the next steps in review, clearance, release by the Secretaries and transmittal to Congress.

Actions:

1. The draft National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy has begun the federal review process, which will conclude with the Secretary's signatures and future transmittal to Congress.

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	WFLC Meeting Schedule
3	There was a discussion of next steps for the draft Strategy, National Action Plan and proposed WFLC meetings. The report is currently going through the OMB clearance process and the Forest Service and DOI expect to receive comments in late February or early March. Tentatively we are looking to have another WFLC conference call in February, followed by an in-person meeting in late March or early April. Discussion also included questions about how the elements of implementation are proceeding, such as the programmatic alignment described in Chapter 5. This is a National Strategy is broad enough to allow for local, regional and state implementation in ways that work best for each agency/organization while enabling them to contribute to the achievement of the National Cohesive Strategy goals. Implementation, including the National Action Plan, is proposed as part of the discussion for the WFLC February meeting.
	Decisions: 1. There will be another WFLC conference call in February and an in-person meeting in late March or early April. Actions: 1. Schedule the next conference call for February.
	Closing
4	The upcoming milestone dates were reviewed. The Chairs and members thanked everyone for their support and hard work on this document and said that the report appears to present a balanced approach. A message will be sent out to set up a meeting in mid-February
	Decisions: 1. None Actions:
	1. None