

National Breakout: National Representatives

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1. What are the key points we want to emphasize to leadership from this Workshop? What are the messages from this Workshop that we should be taking to leadership? What quantifiable outcomes can be reached as a result of implementing these findings?

Fire job cannot be done without the air job. Or the other way around. Especially Corbin. The implementation of the Comprehensive Plan or the NFP will not be possible. (NAAQS only, not affirmative responsibility. It is recognized in the Field, but not in the RO or in the WO. Specialists understand, not leadership.

Need to sell it, what it will cost if don't do it. One pager for the field, one pager for the RO, WO, NRE.

Fire and Air is not a conflict, more of a yin-yang. AQ can't be successful without the fire considerations. Fire cannot be successful without air quality.

Quantifiable outcomes. Getting RX fires included in the background and SIP emissions inventories. Our plans to burn have national significance. There is planning for air quality across the broader domain – multiple states. NFP need the emissions inventory – feed the fire information into the emissions inventories. – (Define the roles and responsibilities).

Emissions inventory can be harmonized with fire activity reporting. They are the same thing. EPA went to Bunnell to look at the database. There were only a few additional things needed. NFPORS missed the boat in including those additional things. NFPORS is planning. Could look different for the different needs. NFPORS is first one forced by Congress and accepted by all agencies. Need to look at the next round. Congress was the 'benevolent dictator' for NFPORS. NFPORS has very few common fields that would go in the activity database (e.g. Idaho).

NFPORS could look at emissions averted. On a day or mechanical treatment.

Need a group of "minds" to look at the whole system to figure out "how", but we need to focus on the critical fact that these are married together and must be DONE.

When tried to get air in NFPORS initially, then rest of resources want to be part also.

If you don't, **harmonize**, do another system, or don't do your program – you will never get to condition class I. It is less the regulators, more the public that has to breathe. Right to burn vs. right to breathe.

~~Outcome a taskforce of fire and air and EPA to look at that.~~ Or need to be farther along. Define what do you need, definitions, etc. Tweak, with defaults, rather than redesign.

Educate the public. There are going to be these emissions. Reduce the wildfires, where is the data that makes the case? Leadership needs to integrate the messages. Rangers are the key spokespeople now. They are doing the smoke management. Interaction with the public.

Air quality and smoke is a key WUI issue. Very much understated.

There needs to be a deep partnership between NFS, AFM, and Research. Leadership of all three, need to be an integral part. Need accountability – when research ends and when implementation begins.

Summary – (must be multi-agency):

Emissions inventory, benefit of doing it, need and responsibility. Just Do it. Need to know where. Public expects clean air and implementation of NFP. Competition with other sources – it's them – limited resources. We are the lightning rods, not the power plant.

Educate the public, and internal - critical – need It's going to burn one way or the other. We have a lot of the answers.

Partnership of research to the application on the ground. Data analysis and interpretation and synthesis. To educate public. Biomass, differences in emissions. And applied smoke management group.

Help in planning arena. LMP, Project, SMP.

Bigger than just fire and air. Short term costs and benefits for fish/etc/air.

We haven't synthesized to the effects on regional haze.

Focus on the activity information, do for defaults if have to.

Still hear “you fire people”. Still don't know what you need. – Where and when. These are the things we have done:

Need one-pagers - What does air need from fire, what does fire need from air, what do they both need from research, points for the field. The balance, the benefit, the consequences.

Need and applied smoke management position. At some locations

2. What do Fire and Air staffs in the regions and at the WO level need to do to work with other FS resource groups toward accomplishing the findings of this Workshop?

Are there organization changes that need to happen to improve communications. In fire? Adding positions? Do the communication work first. When workload goes up, we are not communicating that fast enough to adjust. Costs and benefits.

3. What do Fire and Air need to do to collaborate with other Land Management and Regulatory Agencies toward these same ends?

Need to have fire and air involved in the Regional Planning Organizations. Critical to address visibility together. Resource shortage overall – in addition to fire. Need more forest service involvement overall. (e.g. road dust) Need an assessment of skills needed and assignments. Also an opportunity to cross pollinate between RPOs. To get consistency. Especially in the east.

For states that do not opt in, then have to get involved in the SIP process. Especially in the west.

Fire counting on the air people to work with the states to get fire emissions included where they need to be. Might need more staff, more skills.

In the area of fire and air, we have the three branches working together than in any other resource areas.

MOU with EPA and DOI. Program of Work.

Multi-agency air and fire working group. WFLAC – get EPA involved up front. States too –STAAPA/ALAPCO. Bring the right people along.

Flipcharts:

Key Messages

1. F&A Programs are like “yin/yang” – mutually dependent.
2. Internal and external education: Explain the benefits of air, fire, visibility, costs, etc. – National Fire Plan, Leadership, etc.
3. Know where and when we have fire. Do: Fire Emission Tracking (All fires); Talk about tradeoffs
4. Strong partnership between: EPA, State/private research and FS – we can improve this with FCAMMS. Build off the good.
5. Internal: some parts of the job are expanding, e.g., RPO involvement, SIP development. Deal with changing workload.

Important committees for us to be involved in:

Wildland Fire Council
NFAICG (new)

LMP/Project Planning work to do:

Guidance, documentation needed (?)

Possible Actions:

Briefing Papers