

SOUTH CENTRAL ZONE FALL MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 19TH, 2005 AT PARK COUNTY RFD#1 STATION

NRCG update

Update provided by Brett Waters. Major changes in leadership this year due to retirements created major learning curves. NRCG Fire Planning Coordinator position being put together. Updates on several areas discussed and in the NRCG minutes. Bob Gilman has been appointed the Operations Coordinator for NRCG. NRCG meeting is scheduled for Nov. 28, 29, & Dec 1st in Missoula.

Operations Committee

Phil Perkins gave an Operations committee update and reviewed the minutes. Mark Romey retired. Mark Grant from ID Panhandle will be the chair. Phil will remain our representative for 2 more years. Rick Hafenfeld will be the Aviation Liaison. Minutes were distributed and discussed. Communications issues were discussed. Zone communications plan needs to be updated due to changes. YNP is now narrow band. Frequencies will be distributed via email. If you haven't received it contact Phil Perkins at 307-344-2190 or Phil_Perkins@nps.gov. Connelley volunteered to put together a communications exercise in the spring to go over our Zone communications plan and procedures.

Business Committee

Business committee discussion. Fred will contact Roger Gowan and see if he will be our SCZ representative.

Training Committee -

Fall meeting next week in Missoula. Discussed the NRCG training issues related to contractors and MOUs. There is some substantial backlogs of training in several key management positions. NR Training Center management discussed. Discussed zone training and lack of people available for classes. Discussed all hazard training issues.

Type III Pool –

Pete Lannan still working on procedures for managing our Type III dispatches. Gaylen will need any names of interested people, especially in the areas of Plans, Logistics, and Finance. We still need to update the Type III pool and then develop a more organized team.

Mini MAC makeup –

Everyone agreed to provide contacts for coverage if the season gets busy.
Gallatin County – Main: Brett Waters Secondary: Bryan Connelley
Park County – Main: Bob Fry Secondary: Alan Hanson 222-0562
USFS – Main: GNF SO FMO Mike Gagen Secondary: Dispatch
YNP – Main: Phil Perkins Secondary: Dispatch

Prevention - Mitigation COMMUNITY PROTECTION PLAN –

Committee meeting in Great Falls in November. Successful workshop was held in Bozeman. CWPPs discussed for both Park and Gallatin counties. Park county will have a final draft soon and Gallatin just hired someone to do the plan.

AGENCY UPDATES –

- Park County – (Bob Fry) Mitigation update – Growth Planning update.
- Meagher, Madison, Sweet Grass – (Bob Fry) – Updates on county activities that he is aware of.
- DNRC – (Craig Campbell) Craig is now Bozeman Unit Manager. Costs for local government resources will now be covered in a jurisdiction once it goes over to a state assist. Use of the helicopters will be easier now for mutual aid from DNRC. CLO added new rural fire specialist position, Dave Hamilton, and is working out of Helena.
- East Zone – (Steve Christman) FMO position will be filled in the next 3 weeks. Detailed folks in to fill positions on engines due to lack of positions. Had 5 mutual aids with counties this year. Con Ed will be filled by the end of November.
- West Zone – (Fred Jones) Reduced budget created position problems also. More human caused fires than natural caused this year. Had prescribed fires in Lee Metcalf Wilderness. Have a prevention tech position come available. Fuel reduction projects near West Yellowstone. One near Taylor Fork also being considered. Mary Ann got the Keep Montana Green award.
- BZC – (Mike Gagen) Going to medical standards to see if you can do pack test. Got most of the issues settled over documented quals for positions. Losing more budget again this year. Still have a helicopter at Shenango and fixed wing at West. FPA being done with YPS to justify IA budget. Total of 38 fires and 60 acres on the Gallatin. Busy assisting with county protection to the east.
- YNP – (Phil Perkins & Laura Dooley) 14 fire starts this year. 2 fire uses of 123 acres. New helicopter contractor using a Llama, will be for another 4 years. Need to be prepared for more budget cuts again this year. Training costs are higher due to required training. Communications now narrow band.
- Gallatin County – (Bryan Connelley) Communications update – All hazard issues are becoming more prevalent. CERT discussed. Full Scale exercise at airport on Saturday.

MOBILIZATION PLAN

Bert reported no major issues this year. Custer is now in Eastern Montana for dispatching and their fire planning.

CHAIR FOR 2006

Craig Campbell will be chair for 2006. Deputy will be Mike Gagen for the USFS and next year's Chair.

NEXT MEETING WILL BE APRIL 5TH AT 0900 AT RFD#1 FIRE STATION IN LIVINGSTON.

ATTENDANCE

Bob Fry	MTDES/Park Co
Phil Perkins	YNP
Fred Jones	USFS – GNF West side
Marianne Baumberger	USFS – GNF West side
Bert Starr	USFS – GNF SO

Laura Dooley
Craig Campbell
Mike Gagen
Bryan Connelley
Bill Murray
Hardy Bloemeke

YNP
DNRC
USFS – GNF SO
Gallatin County
Park County
WYIFC, Gallatin NF

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Minutes submitted by
Bob Fry