



NWCG December 2012 Activity Update



Communication and Messaging

- Mike has all the updates categorized on the newly designed MyFireCommunity website.

JFSP - Smoke Science Plan Communication Strategy - Tim Swedberg

- JFSP identified smoke as a critical topic (2007). Invested ~\$2 mil/year and 2 smoke science plans:
 1. 1ST-Sim Larkin, SEMIP, model comparison projects
 2. Resulted in the current work and research, expect results through 2018-2020.
- Integrative answers focused on 4 different themes:
 - Emissions Inventory (for regulatory community)
 - Model validation (for Managers)
 - Smoke and populations social sciences (for those impacted by smoke)
 - Climate change component – relationship between changes and smoke (comparison of IPCC models and predictions).
- Fire Science Digest – The JFSP outreach document to their themes
- Cindy, Al, Doug, and Tim will be writing the outreach for Smoke JFSP topics.
- There are three key phases
 - Mass awareness (why we want to regularly talk to SmoC)
 - Direct contact, education and training: Raleigh conference, 2013 Smoke Symposium.
 - SmoC can open doors in agencies, regulatory groups, Western Governors Association etc. (This role is seen as the most important).
 - JFSP will provide information to publicize the research and give credit to SmoC.
- In future years the questions we will address will be sequential.
- Workshops etc. will be promoted, even if it is not explicitly stated in current outreach materials
- Work incorporated into The Cohesive Strategy – It is their role to incorporate our work, but we can check with them to see if they can tie in, we (JFSP) should be talking with them.
- Mike Broughton is contact for info JFSP would like to have highlighted on the SmoC webpage.
- JFSP will network with SmoC and share information and contacts.
- SmoC activity at Raleigh – Some members will be teaching but no organized effort at this time.
- Input from SmoC is welcome on the Fire Science Digest.
- Tim will try to keep SmoC informed as JFSP progresses.

2013 International Smoke Symposium

- Marriot at University of Maryland confirmed as symposium location during week of 10/21/13.
- JFSP promotion of Symposium; Save-the-date flyer/call for papers planned in January.
- Recommended topics: communications/social networking and black carbon in addition to usual topics and JFSP Smoke Science Plan topics.
- Steering committees for different topics will be formed using some members of SmoC subcommittees
 - Expand current steering committee - Bring in Kevin Ryan from the IAWF board.
 - Science committee will be meeting on the symposium topics
 - MetOne/several consulting firms are candidates representing commercial interest/vendors.
 - Seeking sponsorship for webhosting and attendance scholarships.
 - Checking publishing options International Smoke Symposium GTR, IJWF book, etc.

NWCG Business

- Update SmoC roster – Diana as the new NACAA representative for SmoC when Gordon retires.



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- Comments on Guidance Docs.
- Guidebooks
 - Rx Fire Implementation Guide Comments are due on Jan 7
 - Ed, Stu, Pete, Claudia & Lisa will be working on this, we have not had a call on it.
 - [Action item Ed and Lisa, and all of SmoC] If you have any more comments on the Rx Fire Implementation Guide, email them to Pete, we will wrap them up on the 1/3 call and submit them 1/7. - The draft guide is on the NWCG website.
 - Incident Response Pocket Guide is also up for review, comments by Jan.1 - If anyone wants a summary of smoke terms in the draft email Josh and he will sent it.
 - [Action Item Pete & Josh] Pete: email Josh the Wildland Fire RD&A draft Agency Administrator/Line Officer Guide - Josh summarize this for smoke content.
 - Mark Jones of OWDC reported to Pete on the Fireline Handbook - The recommended version is going to editing, draft out by January, several of our comments were not used as they were considered policy level comments.
- Risk Management Committee Liaison will join Training Subcommittee In the near future.

HYSPLIT product in Spot Forecasts

- Status of SmoC letter recommending continuation - Letter will be drafted in January.
- Small group (Miriam Rorig, Brett Anderson, Tim Allen) need to evaluate items to be included in options for the HYSPLIT run rather than all predetermined parameters.
- HYSPLIT Task Team Call planned for the week of January 7th if possible.

Subcommittee Report-Outs

Technical Smoke Topics Subcommittee

See HYSPLIT above

Training Subcommittee

- Continuing work on the personnel exposure module.
- Transportation module:
 - Dick Bahr (NPS) provided new information on road & visibility sensors—may add to SMG.
 - Gary received information on Fog Detection Warning System for transportation safety.

Smoke Managers Subcommittee

- Next call on Jan 22nd; gained a member from the Albany Pine Reserve.

Round Robin

- JFSP presenting the Smoke Science Plan at the Fire Behavior and Fuels Conference. Per Gary, 3 abstracts accepted associated with the use of new tools used to forecast smoke effects.
- Discussion concerning mixing height issue in NC and elsewhere. Each NWS office decides the methodology used to determine mixing heights, which isn't communicated to the user.
- Pete to give Wildfire Air Quality Response Program and ARA presentation to NACAA in January.
- Mixing Height:
 - White paper Fire Weather Subcommittee is drafting may include methodology.
 - WRCC (Matt F. and Tim Brown) working on a scientific paper on mixing heights and methodology beyond Fire Weather Subcommittee. Topic also being studied by Eastern and Western JFSP Consortia.
 - Stahl + Turbulent Kinetic Energy → impacting smoke dispersion.



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- Estimated Smoldering Potential:
 - Gary still progressing with Missoula Fire Lab
 - Received critical funding support from JFSP.
 - Building datasets in place of snap satellite launch.
- EPA released the PM NAAQS on 12/14 with new Air Quality Index and primary annual standard for PM 2.5. The PM 10 and secondary standards were retained (no visibility standard).
 - Nick has been getting questions on this, referring to OR DEQ.
 - Guidance on general conformity and exceptional events is not yet out
 - 2010, 2011, 2012 map of wildfires across the US that were a week or longer in duration.
 - Pete updating map on potential non-attainment counties under new PM 2.5 standard.
- Raleigh NC conference - it is still possible to submit posters, Susan put together an abstract for this. [Action Item Susan] Email Raleigh Organizers to hold a place open for SmoC poster.
- ID DEQ is going to have a conf. call to talk about the ID wildfire and federal/NWS response on January 7th.
- OK Smoke Management Plan received comments from EPA – setting up meeting with ODAFF to discuss combined response to move forward with MOA and SMP certification by spring.

Upcoming Conferences

- 4th Fire Behavior and Fuels Conference, February 18-22, 2013, Raleigh, NC

<http://www.iawfonline.org/2013FuelsConference/index.php>