

Agenda for March 24, 2004 NFPORS User Group meeting

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Russ Berry
Peter Bedker
Pat Moore
Sandy Gregory (note taker)
Ted Tower (BIA)
Ken Cushing
Neil Beach (FWS)
Brandon Brown (BLM)
Susan Lee
Chris Pharr
Bob Lineback (NPS)
Tricia Roller (FWS)
Mike Van Hemelryc (NPS)

Russ Status Report:

- HFRA – review of changes...
 - **Actions:**
 - We should add QA rules to control Activity types under HFRA
 - Add QA rules that do not allow non-FS, non-BLM agencies from using HFRA
 - One and only one NEPA type
 - Add an HFRA item to the dump
- Definition of Project “one decision document”
- Reminder – DOI use “Approval Date” to distinguish proposed 05 plan
 - Pat to talk to FDs about this
- Two additional on-line training sessions (4 total) for April
- Training in Portland, MAS is going to reset privileges on April 1, the Fastracs exchange will stop then.

Internet Access – problems and issues to resolve. The firewalls have been affecting training sessions is some of the more remote locations. The Cobell issue is affecting DOI agencies differently, currently the Forest Service is unaffected by the latest shut down.

- BIA NFPORS news are on new sites (66.221.181.150), email is affected (tttower@earthlink.net), BIA/FD is pushing that NFPORS should be excluded, 100 BIA laptops are still in use
- BLM Fire is up an running NFPORS
- NPS is exempt
- FWS has internal e-mail, but no internet connection, appeals for exemption are in progress

FRCC collaboration effort (Mike Van Hemelryck) Is there any effort to collaborate between the FRCC group and the NFPORS group.

Action: Suggestion that the FRCC and NFPORS groups work develop a subcommittee and work together to work on reporting issues. Questions from the group include:

What is the maturity of the FRCC model?

How wide is acceptance?

What spatial models will affect FRCC?

Interagency training needs to be discussed relating to the field collection and how it is interpreted in NFPORS.

Peter wants to have someone (Wendell or Doug) from the FRCC team attend the UG and brief us. Susan will contact Wendell. Pat will contact Doug.

Stewardship (Work Agent) issue – need a definition

Pat wants to know about adding “Stewardship Contracting” in Work Agent. (“Local?” or “Contract Reference Number?”)

Sandy agrees with the proposal. Right now BLM uses BPS (Bureau Planning System) to track these contracts. The issue is currently there are more than one planning and reporting system related to fuels management.

Stewardship = in-kind services and goods for services, authority is not universal (FS and BLM only), long-term contracts. The Secretary of Interior intent is to turn Biomass into energy.

Ken – Stewardship is limited to 10-years. Ken recommends that this is not in the scope of NFPORS. Stewardship Contracts have been around since '73 for the Forest Service. There's no simple solution. Susan says that it is simply a different kind of contract.

Bob asks, “Why not use Notes?” There's no way to identify them from the free-text field.

Russ – can Ken offer a list of problems?

Peter – if the objective is simple, then the solution is simple.

Pat says that the objective is simple.

Sandy thinks that this should be a WFLC decision as to what is reported regarding Stewardship contracting.

Other types of contracts could fall into the “special category” including the 638 special contracting with tribes. (“BIA with Tribe – PL 93638 – Indian Self-Determination) contracting should be included also. Right now, BIA calls them all 638.

Action: Sandy, Ken, Peter and Pat to work in the next month and make a Stewardship Contract recommendation (or non-recommendation) at the next meeting. (a white paper by 4/19 or 20) They ought to know what the purpose and “objective” of the change really is.

Video Training Film (Mike Van Hemelryck)

With BAH's video production capability, could someone produce a DVD?

Peter thinks that there are other ways to produce this video, using screen capture.

Ted reminds us that a tutorial is available on BIA.

Action: Peter will link to BIA site.

Action: Russ to produce a sample portion of a video training session

Action: Ted should utilize the NFPORS Training Calendar for his in-person training sessions.

Status of UG recommendations for abandoning QA rules and constraining users with DCT.

Action: BAH should measure the impacts and costs of implementation.

Walk-on Topics:

Tricia Roller – NEPA DNA should remain as a QA rule, but there should not be a hard rule for non-FS BLM folks. BLM should not be marking items as HFRA.

Bob Lineback – CA training. Russ Berry will contact Barb Loving about getting a Community Assistance training session going.

Action: Pat to provide the screen shots to Bob.

Ken Cushing – wants to put some added items in the MD right away. (e.g. hardwired targets) Peter will provide them to me.

Ted Tower – BIA will be doing a beta test of perimeter. Currently, Ted has 96 digitized TUs in Southern California.

-- Ted described "each type UOMs" treatment types (100-foot buffer treatment around houses) Peter reminds Ted of the "mosaic case."

Next meeting scheduled for March 21, 2004 1500 EDT