

Notes

July 2020 MNICS Task Force Meeting

7/2/2020 - 0930 - 15:00

Task Force: Chase Marshall, Darren Neuman, Cory Berg, Seth Grimm, Kurt Fogelberg, Roy Holmes, Eric Wiersma - MNCC, Leanne Langeberg – Notes, Mike Mackey

Guests - Mike Mackey, Kevin Carlisle, Shelly Serich

AGENDA ITEM

NOTES

	Building
Building / Budget Update	 No new updates. Budget FY 2020 Center Manager contributions will be reviewed to determine whether funds can be transferred back into the COOP. Shelly will report back to the Task Force in August.
MNICS Annual Meeting • Establish contingency agenda	 Task Force made the unanimous decision to host the 2020 MNICS meeting virtually online out of precaution for the on-going COVID-19 pandemic. The WebEx platform is capable of hosting up to 300 participants. Kevin will continue researching both WebEx and Teams options. An email will be sent out to the working Team Chairs notifying of the change in venue. Contingency Agenda Monday – Task Force, BOD, and Weather Meetings Tuesday – Set aside as Working Team meetings – however, teams will be given the flexibility to meet anytime in November before the chairs reports on Wednesday Wednesday – 3-4 hour online session - 2 hours dedicated to the Key Note speaker, 1-2 hours dedicated to updates from BOD (or Task Force) agencies, chair updates, and MNICS award recipients.
 MNICS Type 3 Team Update on Ad Hoc Team Discussion - needs beyond July 7 	 Northeast MN continues to hold in a dry pattern that is expected to continue over the next 30 days. The Forest Service has pulled together a local Type 3 Team and has requested a MNICS Type 3 Team be made available. An ad hoc MNICS Type 3 Team is covering through July 7. Task Force will request an additional ad hoc MNICS Type 3 Team to cover through July 14. Task Force Chair Chase Marshall will reach out to the MNICS Type 3 Team ICs via email to explain the needs for additional team support and ask for team members' availability.



Notes

TF Updates for MNCC

- Center Manager delegation of authority
- BOD request for Insulation at MIFC update.
- Agency Updates for mobilization of outstate resources, if any.

Delegation of Authority

- Eric Wiersma MNCC Acting Center Manager on a USFS 120 day detail.
- Chase will review the Delegation of Authority with William Glesener.

MIFC Insulation - COVID-19 response

- MNICS Board of Directors agreed to follow the Forest Service COVID-19 mitigation (most restrictive) and requires a face covering at the MIFC facility.
- All agencies represented at MIFC will follow the Forest Service guidance.

Agency Mobilization and Outstate Resources updates

- BIA Agency isn't allowing national availability for staff. Each tribe is making case-by-case decisions for availability. Some reservations have suspended travel, including in-state travel. Currently, MNCC Logistics is routing requests for BIA and tribal firefighters through Carl, Cory Berg, or Tom Remus, who will then complete all checklist requirements.
- FWS Agency gave the authorization to travel nationally last Friday. The region has sent one person out to support Nevada.
- Forest Service No restrictions on national travel. ADs are not restricted from out-state travel, but are on their own when not assigned to an incident.
- DNR Agency has not given permission to send resources out-of-state, except for GLFFC Compact requests to WI and MI assignments. Paul Lundgren will notify William Glesener when the guidance changes.

Type 2 IA Crews

- Eastern Area module recommendations released, and the Type 2 IA Crew subcommittee will be seeking MNICS guidance.
- 2020 mobilizations MNICS agencies will utilize 8-10 person crew modules.
- Task Force recognizes full interagency crews are not feasible this year.
 However, they feel it is possible for an agency who can't form a full 8-10 person module can combine with another local partner MNICS agency and insulate the module as one.
- The coordination of the Type 2 IA Crews will occur at the Duty Officer level between partnering agencies.
- MNCC will provide an update on unfilled resources, when information is available, at the Tuesday MNICS Planning meetings.

NMAC Letters and Resource Orders

- Resource orders are showing up with little to no supporting documentation, while others provide full documentation.
- When resource orders arrive with no attachments, MNCC will provide a phone number or contact information to the Duty Officer, who can then reach out to the ordering unit or fill the order.

Module as One

- Nationally dispatchers are seeing members of modules being asked to fill other positions at the local level.
- There is no specific agency guidance preventing an individual resource from accepting a new position request when on assignment.
- The individual will need to make the call whether or not to turn down a request to fill another position while on assignment

MNCC Updates for TF

- Type 2 IA Crew and EACC Module
- NMAC letters and Resources Orders for Outstate
- Module as one concept for outstate resource



Notes

	DNR MOB Process
	 Task Force will look at the DNR MOB process and provide comments as appropriate.
	- AD's – DNR is sharing with AD's that there are many inherent risks to mobilize as an AD.
	COVID-19 Large Incident Recovery Plan
Review DNR MOB process Review COVID-19 Large Incident Recovery Plan	 William sent the plan to the MN Department of Health and requested feedback on the plan. Task Force has not met with any county emergency mangers or county health
	officials to date. - Forest Service COVID-19 Team has reached out to adjoining counties. The COVID-19 Large Incident Recovery Plan William presented fits well with Forest Service guidance, and could easily be attached as an appendix to established Forest Service guidance.
	 Roy Holmes will reach out to County Emergency Managers in the Arrowhead Region to set up a meeting to review and discuss the COVID-19 Large Incident Recovery Plan.
	 MNICS representatives Roy Holmes, William Glesener and Cory Berg, will meet with County Emergency Management and Health Departments.
Agency Updates	FWS – Positions filled - GS-07 at MN Valley and two career seasonal staff at MN Valley and Fergus Falls. Workforce planning - all positions are now filled. Regional Fire Manager has returned from detail. The heavy engine at Detroit Lake will be refilled.
	HSEM - No update
	DNR – Agency continues to maximize telework. Aviation assets adjusting as dry weather continues, sharing Fire Boss with Forest Service.
	NPS – Visitor centers remain closed, and telework continues. Most of the regional office staff are supporting the Mount Rushmore 4th of July event. Voyageurs National Park continues to dry out. The Park will continue to staff for fire support until conditions improve.
	USFS – Campfire restrictions went into effect on Tuesday. Two Type 1 helicopters now at Ely. Staffing levels at very high, utilizing MN staff as much as possible and out-of-state support coming in from Eastern Region. COVID-19 response now at phase 1 – maximize telework. Face covering policy has been released.
	BIA – Gradual reopening of office to staff, continue to push telework. Moving into the new Bemidji office process has started, and staff is packing up items gradually. Offical move date is July 20. Cory will be transitioning into the Eastern Area Working Team and taking over at the winter meeting. Grand Portage and Bois Fort are both starting to dry out, staffing accordingly.
	MNCC – Three fires in the last week. MNCC staffing 7 days a week 0700 to 1900.
	PIO – Off of the DNR Incident Management Team for three weeks. Returning to the DNR IMT on July 27. Will reach out for MNICS PIO coverage during that time. Will be on vacation beginning July 18 – July 26, Jen Benes – DNR will cover as MNICS PIO.

Next meeting including Working Team Reports: August 6, 2020 beginning at 9:00 – Microsoft Teams