

ANNUAL REPORT

**Northeastern Forest
Fire Protection
Commission**



2018

To their excellencies the Governors of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, the Premiers of New Brunswick, Quebec, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland & Labrador, Prince Edward Island and the Supervisors of the U.S. Forest Service National Forests, the U.S Fish & Wildlife Service, the U.S. National Park Service, and the Fire Department of New York City.

In accordance with the directive contained in Article ten of the Northeastern Interstate Forest Fire Protection Compact approved by Congress on June twenty-fifth, 1949, I respectfully submit on behalf of the Northeastern Forest Fire Protection Commission, its report on its activities for the fiscal year ending June thirty, 2018.



*Peter Church, Commission Chair
July 8, 2019*

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INTRODUCTION

The NORTHEASTERN FOREST FIRE PROTECTION COMMISSION (*commonly called "The Northeast Compact"*) is the pioneer forest fire protection compact in the United States. It was initiated in 1947 and finally established in 1949 *to promote the effective prevention and control of forest fires in the Northeastern Region of the United States and adjacent areas in Canada*. Original members were the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island and New York. It became an international compact in 1969 and 1970 with the addition of the Canadian provinces of Quebec and New Brunswick respectively. In 1996, the province of Nova Scotia became the third provincial member. The U.S. Forest Service through the Green Mountain and White Mountain National Forests, also became associate members in 1996. The province of Newfoundland & Labrador (deemed to be one province) was accepted into membership at the August 2007 Commissioners' meeting and the province of Prince Edward Island joined in 2016. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. National Parks Service became associate members as of August, 2011. The Fire Department of New York City became members as of August, 2015. The Bureau of Indian Affairs joined in August of 2018 as an associate member, thereby increasing the total membership to 12 members and 5 associate members.

These forest fire protection agencies pay membership fees based partially on the total protected area in acres. The total intensive protected acreage exceeds 222 million acres.

The governing body of the Commission is drawn from the appointed commissioners from each member state, province and agency. State commissioners usually include the state forester or equivalent position, a legislative representative and a governor's representative. Commissioners elect a Chair and Vice Chair for one year terms. The operating body for the Commission currently consists of an Operations Committee, usually made up of the fire supervisors from each member, along with specialists from the various Working Teams. There are currently seven working teams including Training, Fire Prevention & Education, Equipment & Technology, Fire Science, Resource Sharing, Forest Health and an Audit Committee. Additional Ad hoc task groups are formed as needed using individuals from the member organizations. Business is conducted on a fiscal year basis which runs from July 1st of one calendar year to June 30th of the next.

A salaried Executive Director and a Deputy Executive Director are employed to act as coordinators for the various projects planned and under way, apply for and manage federal grants, assist in planning and conducting Compact business, meetings and training, represent the Compact on local, regional and national committees and meetings, and serve as secretary/treasurer for correspondence, records and all finances.

The appointed commissioners meet at least annually in August. The Operations Committee and Working Teams meet quarterly, or as needed, for planning, implementing projects, exchanging information, tracking accomplishments, conducting training and formulating work plans. The compact also holds an Annual Winter meeting for the full membership to share new information and training in wildland fire related areas.

A Northeast Interagency Coordination Center (NECC) was established in 2002 to coordinate and mobilize wildland fire fighting resources for the Compact, the Northeast Area, and National wildfire details. A Board of Directors comprised of cooperating federal agencies and the Compact

oversees operation of the center. The center is located at the White Mountain National Forest office in Campton, New Hampshire.

OFFICERS

August 3, 2018

CHAIR – JULIE FORTIN (QC)
VICE-CHAIR – PETER CHURCH (MA)
PAST CHAIR – CHRISTOPHER MARTIN (CT)
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – THOMAS PARENT
DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – ERIC EARLE

COMMISSIONERS

MASSACHUSETTS

Peter Church (V. Ch)
Rep. Mathew Muratore
George Baker

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Brad Simpkins
Richard Mason
Vacancy

RHODE ISLAND

TeeJay Boudreau
John Lyman
Vacancy

NENF

Claire Mendelsohn, WMNF
John Sinclair, GMNF

U.S. FWS

Art Canterbury, MA

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Kate MacQuarrie
Michael Montigny
Edwin Gillis

CONNECTICUT

Christopher Martin (Past. Ch)
Ralph Scarpino
Vacancy

MAINE

Douglas Denico
David Wight
Vacancy

VERMONT

Steven Sinclair
Rep. Charles "Butch" Shaw
Catherine Dimitruk

NEWFOUNDLAND

Eric Young
Dan Lavigne
Steve Balsam

U.S. NPS

Mark Musitano, PA
Stephen Clark

NEW YORK

Eric Lahr
Sen. Elizabeth Little
Vacancy

QUEBEC

Julie Fortin (Ch)
Luc Dugas
Nathalie Lavoie

NEW BRUNSWICK

Kristian Moore
Leslie Jarvis
Len Mosher

NOVA SCOTIA

John Ross
Walter Fanning
Jim Rudderham

FDNY

Dean Koester, NYC
Shane Mooney, NYC

COMMITTEES AND WORKING TEAMS

EXECUTIVE COMM.

Julie Fortin (Ch)
Peter Church (V. Ch)
Christopher Martin (Past Ch)

OPERATIONS COMM.

A. Jacob, NY
T. Brady, NA S&PF
H. Hochholzer, CT (Ch)
W. Hamilton, ME
S. Sherman, NH
L. Mosher, NB
L. Dugas, QC
O. Knight, RI
L. Lund, VT
J. Rudderham, NS
D. Celino, MA
Dan Lavigne, NL
M Carroll, FWS
T. Davis, NPS
R. Deprima FDNY

TRAINING TEAM

P. Correia, MA
R. Schenk, CT
L. Lund, VT OPs Liaison
C. O'Brien, USFS
B. Greaves, ME
S. Tulle, NB
B. Nowell, NH
D. Kittle, NY
P. Bordeleau, QC
B. Arnold, RI
S. Tingley, NS
J. Russell, NL
D. Crary, NPS
M. Durfee, FWS (Ch)
S. Carver, FDNY

COMMITTEES AND WORKING TEAMS, CONT.

EQUIPMENT & TECHNOLOGY TEAM

M. Quinn, CT (Ch) G. Rathbun, RI
A. Lavoie, ME J. Accardi, NH
M. Ruff, NB Roy Liard, MA
M. Mantha, QC Vacant, NY
D. Dillner, VT A. Young, NS
J. Neely, USFS B. Gore, FWS
T. Burry, NL D. Chalifour, QC
B. Hamilton, ME (Liaison)

PREVENTION & EDUCATION TEAM

K. McCurdy, NS D. DiSanto, USFS
K. Nelson, ME (Ch) Vacant, MA
R. Collet, NB A. Jacob, NY
G. Lacasse, QC O. Knight, RI (Rep & Liaison)
J. Esden, VT R. Schenk, CT
B. Nowell, NH Vacant, NPS
J. Russel, NL D. Walker, FWS
B. Simpkins, NH-Liaison

FIRE SCIENCE TEAM

G. Hesslein, ME
T. Greaves, VT
K. Grady, CT (Ch)
Vacant, FWS
P. Murray, NB
Vacant, USFS
N. Bilodeau, NH
D. Oikle, NS
O. Lundqvist, QC
H. Guise, RI
S. Jackson, NY
D. Celino, MA – (Liaison)
A. Whiddon, MA
T. Muise, MA
D. Lavigne, NL
Vacant, NPS
J. Mints, ME
E. Evenson, NWS
E. Lane, USFS

RESOURCE SHARING TEAM

A. Jacob, NY (Ch)
L. Mosher, NB
T. Brady, NA S&PF
B. Hamilton, ME
D. Lavigne, NL
D. Normand, QC
J. Edmonds, USFS
T. Parent, NFFPC

FOREST HEALTH

K. Lombard, NH
B. Payton, RI
A. Kanoti, ME (Ch)
B. Schultz, VT
K. Gooch, MA
J. Carlson, NY
C. Martin, CT
L. Morneau, QC
J. Gullison, NB
D. Lavigne, NL
J. Rudderham, NS (Rep & Liaison)
M. Musitano, NPS
A. Canterbury, FWS
T. Brady, USFS

AUDIT COMMITTEE

A. Jacob, NY (Ch)
T. Parent, NFFPC
T. Brady, NA S&PF
B. Simpkins, NH
L. Mosher, NB

PAST OFFICERS

| <u>DATE ELECTED</u> | <u>COMMISSION CHAIR</u> | <u>VICE CHAIR</u> |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| MARCH 1950 | PERRY MERRILL, VT | ----- |
| JULY 1950 | PERRY MERRILL, VT | ARTHUR HOPKINS, NY |
| JULY 1952 | ALBERT NUTTING, ME | W.F. SCHREEDER, CT |
| JULY 1954 | W. F. SCHREEDER, CT | WILLIAM FOSS, NY |
| JULY 1956 | WILLIAM FOSS, NY | WAKEFIELD DORT, NH |
| JULY 1958 | WAKEFIELD DORT, NH | RAYMOND KENNEY, MA |
| JULY 1960 | RAYMOND KENNEY, MA | CALVIN DUNWOODY, RI |
| JULY 1962 | CALVIN DUNWOODY, RI | WM. MESSECK, JR., NH |
| JULY 1964 | WM. MESSECK, JR., NH | ALBERT W. GOTTLIEB, VT |
| JULY 1966 | ALBERT W. GOTTLIEB, VT | AUSTIN WILKINS, ME |
| JULY 1968 | AUSTIN WILKINS, ME | HARRY A. MCKUSICK, CT |
| JULY 1970 | HARRY A. MCKUSICK, CT | VICTOR GLIDER, NY |
| JULY 1972 | THEODORE NATTI, NH | STUART MACKAY, QC |
| JULY 1974 | STUART MACKAY, QC | BRUCE GULLION, MA |
| JULY 1975 | STUART MACKAY, QC | H. J. DEION, JR., RI |
| JULY 1976 | H. J. DEION, JR. , RI | JAMES PRESTON, NY |
| JULY 1977 | H. J. DEION, JR. , RI | HARRY V. DECKER, NY |
| JULY 1978 | HARRY V. DECKER, NY | PAUL E. BOUCHER, NB |
| JULY 1979 | PAUL E. BOUCHER, NB | LEO LAFERRIERE, VT |
| JULY 1980 | LEO LAFERRIERE, VT | ROBERT GARREPY, CT |
| JULY 1982 | ROBERT GARREPY, CT | KENNETH STRATTON, ME |
| AUG. 1984 | KENNETH STRATTON, ME | GILBERT BLISS, MA |
| JULY 1986 | GILBERT BLISS, MA | JOHN SARGENT, NH |
| AUG. 1988 | JOHN SARGENT, NH | TOM DUPREE, RI |
| AUG. 1990 | TOM DUPREE, RI | PETER BABCOCK, CT |
| AUG. 1992 | ROBERT BATHRICK, NY | DONALD SMITH, JR., CT |
| AUG. 1994 | DONALD SMITH, JR. , CT | THOMAS REID, NB |
| AUG. 1996 | DAVID C. STEVENS, VT | KEITH BARR, NB |
| AUG. 1998 | KEITH BARR, NB | CHARLES GADZIK, ME |
| AUG. 2000 | KEITH BARR, NB | DAVID WIGHT, ME |
| AUG. 2001 | DAVID WIGHT, ME | BERNARD DROLET, QC |
| AUG. 2003 | BERNARD DROLET, QC | WALTER FANNING, NS |
| AUG. 2005 | WALTER FANNING, NS | PHILIP BRYCE, NH |
| AUG. 2007 | PHILIP BRYCE, NH | CATHY SPARKS, RI |
| SEP. 2008 (Acting) | CATHY SPARKS, RI | WALTER FANNING, NS |
| AUG 2009 | CATHY SPARKS, RI | KEITH BARR, NB |
| AUG 2010 | CATHY SPARKS, RI | BRAD SIMPKINS, NH |
| AUG 2011 | BRAD SIMPKINS, NH | ERIC EARLE, NL |
| AUG 2012 | ERIC EARLE, NL | SENATOR ELIZABETH LITTLE, NY |
| AUG 2013 | SEN. ELIZABETH LITTLE, NY | LESLIE JARVIS, NB |
| AUG 2014 | LESLIE JARVIS, NB | STEVEN SINCLAIR, VT |
| AUG 2015 | STEVEN SINCLAIR, VT | CHRISTOPHER MARTIN, CT |
| AUG 2016 | CHRISTOPHER MARTIN, CT | JULIE FORTIN, QC |
| AUG 2017 | JULIE FORTIN, QC | PETER CHURCH, MA |
| AUG 2018 | PETER CHURCH, MA | DAVID WIGHT, ME |

(elections held at Annual Summer Meeting unless shown otherwise)

EFFECTIVE DATE

MARCH 10, 1950
OCTOBER 1, 1950
OCTOBER 1, 1962
JANUARY 1, 1963
DECEMBER 1, 1973
JULY 15, 1979
JANUARY 5, 1998
JANUARY 1, 2002

EFFECTIVE DATE

OCTOBER 1, 2017

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (Executive Secretary prior to 7/88)

ROBLEY EVANS
ARTHUR HOPKINS
DOROTHY HYDE (Interim Secretary)
MILTON C. STOCKING
JOHN C. GREENE, JR
RICHARD E. MULLAVEY
CLARK M. DAVIS
THOMAS G. PARENT

DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ERIC EARLE

NFFPC Executive Summary Fiscal Year 2018

Fiscal year 2018 was another very busy year for the Northeast Forest Fire Protection Commission (NFFPC). The Commission held its annual meeting in Fredericton, New Brunswick in August, 2017. New Brunswick staff were very gracious, and their efforts and hospitality were greatly appreciated. The Operations Committee and all the Working Teams continued to conduct compact business by holding quarterly meetings or conference calls, in addition to moving forward with their program of work and events. The Northeast Interagency Coordination Center continued to function at Campton, NH to mobilize compact resources. Many thanks to the White Mountain National forest for hosting, staffing and supporting the center. Following are the highlights for FY 18.

The annual winter meeting was conducted in South Portland, ME in January 2018. Unlike prior years, this was a joint conference hosted by both the NFFPC and the North Atlantic Fire Science Exchange. Attendance was excellent at about 220 participants and about 20 vendors. There were numerous presentations from compact members, scientists, academia, and speakers from throughout the U.S. and Canada. Keynote speaker was David Cooper, a retired Navy SEAL who spoke about behavior driven leadership. Other noteworthy topics and speakers were speakers Fire Progression at Chimney Tops 2 by Dr. Henri Grissino-Mayer, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, and Operations at Pigeon Forge fire by Fire Chief Matt Lovitt, Pigeon Forge Fire Department. Other topics included Preparing Wildland Firefighters for Big Events by Dr. Lloyd Irland from The Irland Group and Matt Carroll, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service who spoke on Are Firefighter Fatalities “Normal Accidents?”, Wildland Firefighter Safety in the Operational Fire Environment by Dr. Brent Ruby, Montana Center for Work Physiology and Exercise Metabolism, Department of Health and Human Performance at The University of Montana, and Implications of Extreme Events for Fire Control Programming and Planning by Executive Director Tom Parent, Northeastern Forest Fire Protection Compact.

Compact fire resource mobilizations were significant for the fiscal year and included dispatches to the U.S., Canada, and for forest health matters to help control insect infestations. Among the compact mobilizations numerous resources were sent to federal incidents throughout the U.S. via NECC under federal agreements. NFFPC members filled several Type 2 IMT positions in the Eastern Area Coordination Group IMT to manage fires in Montana. For the year, the compact members had 2,286 reported fires burning 217,811 acres. Most of the acres lost were in Quebec. There were also 163 prescribed fires with 6,300 acres burned, almost all of these were within the U.S. member state and federal areas. A total of 350 resource orders were filled to include 281 single resources, 13 engines and crews, and 11 twenty person crews. While some crews were sent to Quebec, most resources were sent to other areas of the U.S. to support western fires. Three resource orders were filled to support forest health survey work within the compact area.

The Commission accepted the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) as an associate compact member at the 2018 Annual Meeting. There was unanimous support by the Commission.

Multiple training academies were conducted offering 10 NWCG courses to compact members. While several hundred firefighters were trained by NFFPC instructors over the period, participants also included firefighters from other parts of the U.S. and Canada. Several fall and winter training academies were conducted in Portland, ME, one in Prince Edward Island, and another at the FDNY location in NYC. The Deputy Executive Director took on the task of being a Training Coordinator and managed and/or coordinated all compact training academies over the period.

NFFPC continued to work diligently to enhance coordination and management of wildland fire incidents within the compact area, throughout the U.S. and in Canada, by engaging on regional, national and international committees, forums, and mobilizations. Collaboration with the USFS, the Alliance of Forest Fire Compacts, the National Association of State Foresters, and the Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Center (CIFFC) continued throughout the period. USFS grant funds to the compact continued and helped to energize compact functions and activities.

The Northeast Interagency Coordination Center (NECC) functioned out of Campton, NH throughout the fiscal year. NECC is a compact operation under cooperative agreement with the federal agencies to mobilize resources from the compact area to fire and all hazard incidents throughout the U.S. and Canada. The center is staffed through federal, compact and state collaboration. Federal funding via the NA S&PF office was resolved during the period. Complete details of mobilizations can be found at the end of this report.

The compact continued to support the work of the North Atlantic Fire Science Exchange (NAFSE). One NAFSE staff and grant management services were provided by the compact. Grant funding was confirmed through September 2018. NAFSE planned and conducted several field trips to enhance dialog between researchers and fire managers.

A number of compact members are continuing to work on updating their compact liability legislation so that resources between forest fire compacts can be readily shared. All NFFPC agencies now have updated language except for CT, RI, MA, and ME. However, CT has initiated legislation to enhance liability and to be able to hire local firefighters with potential for exporting to other compact agencies. Some states, such as Maine, have full support for inter-compact mobilizations as ruled by their Attorney General's office.

Communications and coordination with U.S. Customs and Border Protection continued in order to facilitate movement of resources between the U.S. and Canada in seamless fashion.

NFFPC continued to engage on important regional and national committees through the executive director and member agency staff.

Four Quick Deploy weather stations were upgraded and maintained for member agency use on prescribed fires and/or for fire incidents. Grant funds to maintain and upgrade the stations was acquired from the USFS.

With the announcement retirement or reduced work commitment by the Executive Director Tom Parent, succession plans for replacing the position were approved and initiated. The Commission decided to fill two part time positions, an Executive Director and a Deputy Executive Director. Each position is to work an average of 3 days per week. Eric Earle from Newfoundland/Labrador was hired to fill the new Deputy Executive Director position while Tom Parent continued as a part time Executive Director. Tasks were divided up into financial/administration and operational duties. Start date for the Deputy Executive Director was October 1, 2017. The Executive Director position will be posted and filled in 2019.

NORTHEASTERN FOREST FIRE PROTECTION COMMISSION
Commissioners Meeting Agenda
Providence, RI – 69th Annual Meeting
Wednesday, August 1, 2018

- 0830 Meeting – Julie Fortin, Commission Chair – QC
- 0835 Announcements/Logistics – Knight/Fortin/ Parent
- 0840 Introductions – Around the Table
- 0850 Welcome to RI – RI Commissioner/State Forester
- 0915 Executive Director Report – Tom Parent
- 0935 NECC Report – Fire Situation Update and Activity – Molly Campbell
- 0955 Operations Committee Report and Progress/Update on action Items from 2017 Meeting – Helene Hochholzer
- 1020 Audit Task Force Report – Andy Jacob
- 1030 Break
- 1100 Working Team Reports - Helene Hochholzer, OPs Committee Chair
- 1130 Resource Sharing – Fixed Rates Proposal/Discussion
- 1200 Box Lunches Provided
- 1230 Load Buses
- 1300 – 1700 Field Trip/Bus Tour
- 1800 – 1830 Social
- 1830 – 2100 Evening Banquet

NORTHEASTERN FOREST FIRE PROTECTION COMMISSION
Commissioners Meeting Agenda
Providence, RI – 69th Annual Meeting
Thursday, August 2, 2018

- 0800 Agency Reports – PowerPoint – Lund & Agency Fire Supervisors
- 0900 NA S&PF Report – Maris Gabliks
- 0920 Alliance of Forest Fire Compacts & Liability Update – Parent/Simpkins
- 0930 Northeast Fire Science Consortium - Lane, NAFSE
- 1000 Break
- 1030 CIFFC Update – Kim Connors by Phone
- 1050 NECC Staffing & Funding Update – Parent
- 1100 NFFPC 5 Year Assessment Summary Report –Earle/Parent
- 1130 Liability Discussion - Inter - Compact and USFS Master Agreement - Parent/Simpkins/Celino
- 1140 USFS - Compact Agreement and Membership Status - Parent
- 1145 BIA Request – Parent/Minton
- 1200 Lunch
- 1300 Business Meeting & Voting

Specific Business Meeting Agenda

1. Special Recognition & Awards for Compact Members – States/Provinces
2. Explain Quorum Voting & Requirements
3. Consider BIA Membership Request
4. Progress on Executive Director Transition – Parent/Earle/All
5. Deputy Ex Director Hiring – Possible 3 Year Agreement
6. Define Actual and Direct Costs for resource sharing reimbursements; Fixed Rates Use Options & Concept; Discuss Admin component for NFFPC – Jacob/Parent
7. NFFPC Insurances
8. Printing of Annual Reports
9. NFFPC Financial Audit for 2018 or 2019
10. Budgets: Compact Operational, Federal Grants (Project Funds)
11. Other Items Brought Forward
12. After Action Review of new meeting arrangements/itinerary
13. Elect Officers – Nominate MA Cahir, ME Vice Chair
14. Hosting of 2019 Commission Meeting – NH (NFFPC 70th Anniversary)
15. Hosting of 2020 Commission Meeting – PEI
16. Open Discussion
17. Adjourn

Aug. 1, 2018
 69th Commissioner's Meeting
 Providence RI

| | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|-------|
| Christopher Martin | Commissioner | CT |
| Ralph Scarpino | Commissioner | CT |
| Helene Hochholzer | Operations Committee | CT |
| Rich DePrima | Operations Committee | FDNY |
| Jack Bradley | Operations Committee | FDNY |
| Stu Carver | Commissioner | FDNY |
| Mike Kendall | Commissioner | FDNY |
| David Celino | Operations Committee | MA |
| Matthew Muratore | Commissioner | MA |
| George Baker | Commissioner | MA |
| Peter Church | Commissioner | MA |
| Bill Hamilton | Operations Committee | ME |
| David Wight | Commissioner | ME |
| Kristian Moore | Commissioner | NB |
| Len Mosher | Commissioner | NB |
| Tom Parent | Executive Director | NFFPC |
| Brad Simpkins | Commissioner | NH |
| Richard Mason | Commissioner | NH |
| Steve Sherman | Operations Committee | NH |
| Eric Earle | Deputy Executive Director | NFFPC |
| Dan Lavigne | Commissioner | NL |
| John Ross | Commissioner | NS |
| Jim Rudderham | Commissioner & OPS | NS |
| Andrew Jacob | Operations Committee | NY |
| Eric Lahr | Commissioner | NY |
| Mike Montigny | Commissioner | PEI |
| Edwin Gillis | Commissioner | PEI |
| Julie Fortin | Commissioner | QC |
| Francois Lefebvre | Commissioner | QC |
| Luc Dugas | Commissioner | QC |
| John Lyman | Commissioner | RI |
| Olney Knight | Operations Committee | RI |
| Cathy Sparks | Commissioner | RI |
| Matthew Carroll | Operations Committee | USFWS |
| Art Canterbury | Commissioner | USFWS |
| Charles "Butch" Shaw | Commissioner | VT |
| Lars Lund | Operations Committee | VT |
| Catherine Dimitruk | Commissioner | VT |
| Shannon Gurney | Operations Committee | WMNF |
| Clare Mendelson | Commissioner | WMNF |
| Erin Lane | Guest | NAFSE |
| Molly Campbell | Guest | NECC |
| Eric Rousseau | Guest | QC |
| Valerie Leger | Guest | QC |
| Joe Mints | Guest | ME |

| | | |
|------------------|-------|----------------|
| TeeJay Boudreau | Guest | RI |
| Nancy Stairs | Guest | RI |
| Deb Aiello | Guest | RI |
| Ben Arnold | Guest | RI |
| Maris Gabliks | Guest | USFS - NA S&PF |
| Tess Greaves | Guest | VT |
| Lucas Minton | Guest | BIA |
| Diane Taliaferro | Guest | WMNF |

Julie Fortin (QC) Chair welcomes the group to the meeting. Julie also thanks the NFFPC and agencies that sent resources to assist Quebec during the 2018 fire season.

Olney Knight (RI) makes general announcements for the field trip. Olney also thanks everyone for coming to Rhode Island for this year's meeting.

General introductions around the room.

Welcome message from TeeJay Boudreau, Rhode Island State Forester.

Executive Director Report from NFFPC provided by Tom Parent. Tom thanks all outgoing chairs of working teams and committees. Tom introduces Eric Earle as Deputy Executive Director and explains Eric's duties. Eric is the first Canadian NFFPC employee. A summary of Tom's report includes:

- Administrative items
- Finances/Grants Management
- Regional and National representation on Committees
- US-Canada Border Crossings including a letter issued by Customs and Border Patrol
- Compact Mobilizations
 - Issue with recruitment of new firefighters
- Compact Incident Management Team (IMT)
- Training Coordinator role has been moved to Deputy Executive Director position.
- Hiring of Don Tucker as Deputy Dispatch Center Manager for NECC.
 - Don is a State of New Hampshire employee funded by NFFPC members
- North Atlantic Fire Science Exchange (NAFSE) recap
 - Continues to operate using grant funds
 - Continued employment of one NAFSE staff funded by NFFPC
- Recap of Member Assessment visits
- Final Transition to new NFFPC Executive Director. Tom's last day will be Dec. 31, 2019. The Operations committee has developed a recommendation that will be discussed later in the meeting.

Tom also recognizes Tom Bourn, Rhode Island DEM employee, who passed away in March 2018 for his participation in NFFPC and Karl Kenyon, a longtime DEM employee and NFFPC working team member.

Northeast Interagency Coordination Center (NECC) report provided by Molly Campbell, NECC Dispatch Center Manager. Review of NECC history. Created in 2002 using a cooperative agreement signed by NFFPC members and federal Partners. NECC was housed at Bolton Hills facility in Maine. In

2015, NECC was moved to the White Mountain National Forest Supervisor's Office in Campton NH. Partners now include member states and provinces, Federal agencies and the Fire Dept. of New York City (FDNY). NECC functions include:

- Mobilizing for all NFFPC partners
- Maintaining the availability list
- Tracking resources
- Providing intel reports
- Providing Incident Business reports
- Providing Initial Attack dispatch for the White and Green Mountain National Forests
- Assisting with the Manchester (NH) mobilization center
- Compact to Compact mobilizations
- Facilitating weekly LMAC calls
- Providing training opportunities for dispatchers
- Purchasing and logistical support for mobilizations

NECC staff include:

Molly Campbell, Dispatch Center Manager, US Forest Service employee, full-time
Don Tucker, Deputy Center Manager, State of NH employee, full-time
Mari Carello-Bigner, Intel Dispatcher, National Park Service employee, Seasonal
Two-week detailers. In 2018, there were 6 USFS and 3 FDNY detailers at NECC during June and July.

NECC also participated in the NFFPC Five Year Assessments.

2018 Mobilization Recap:

- Mobilizations began in Jan.
- First out-of-area mobilization occurred in March.
- 4 twenty person crews and 1 short IMT were mobilized to Quebec.
- From January to July, there were 242 mobilizations.
 - 8 engines
 - 6 crews including the 4 crews deployed to Quebec

2018 through July Comparison to 2017

- Similar level of Resource Orders
- More resources mobilized in 2018 (single resources/crews/engines/flights)
- Totals annual mobilizations. 2015: 633. 2016: 492. 2017: 932. Pace of 2018 mobilizations will surpass 2017 total. Resources posted on availability list are being taken quickly.

Operations Committee report provided by Helene Hochholzer (CT). Recap of Operations Committee activities includes four face-to-face meetings, weekly LMAC calls, coordination with Working Teams, planning for Commissioners Meeting and Winter Awareness Meeting and participation on other Committees and Working Teams.

Operations Committee was involved in the NFFPC Five Year Assessments. The Assessment Team consisted of Tom and Eric as NFFPC Exec. and Deputy Exec Directors; Julie Fortin (QC), as Chair of NFFPC Commissioners, Helene as Chair of NFFPC Operations Committee; Tom Brady (USFS) and Molly Campbell (NECC). All the NFFPC members were visited over a 6-week period in 2018. The last assessments were completed seven years ago, and the two-year delay was due to the hiring of the new Deputy Exec. Director.

Daily Fixed Rates for Inter-Compact response were discussed. Any Jacob (NY) will present this topic later in the meeting. The Fixed Rates were for US state members of the NFFPC. Canadian members already use fixed rates as part of their MARS agreement. Development of the fixed rates for US State members may use the MARS agreement as template. Fixed rates will make planning ahead easier if resources are needed by member agencies. Fixed rates will be based on 12 hour shifts for single resources and 20 person crews. Currently there are differences between states because of varying wages and costs of living. The Operations Committee was not able to reach a consensus on a fixed rate proposal.

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) was discussed this past year by the Operation Committee. The current system of fireline advancement does not work for most fire staff, and the recognition of outside learning was considered. Outside learning includes experience from non-wildland fire incidents and work experience on fire departments. Billy Terry, retired USFS employee currently working for the State of Texas, presented on the Texas model of RPL. This included establishing target fireline positions and creating a review panel of subject matter experts. The Operation Committee concluded that the demand for RPL within NFFPC was not as high as anticipated and the cost benefit of setting up a subject matter expert review panel was not worth it based on how many personnel would be reviewed and how often. The recommendation from the Operations Committee is not to pursue RPL for NFFPC.

NFFPC IMT issues such as not being able to roster an IMT and the multiple obligations of possible IMT members were discussed. The Operations Committee proposed:

- Development of an IMT application to address the lack of depth in IMT positions
- Development of a “live” roster. FDNY has offered to fill Logistics, Planning and Finance Section positions.
- Exploring partnering with the Eastern Area and Minnesota (EA and MNICS) IMT’s.

Other Operations Committee topics:

- Integration of duties between Tom and Eric as NFFPC Exec. Director and Deputy Exec. Director. The Operations Committee recommends moving ahead with 2 director positions.
- Inter-Compact Liability language. This is an ongoing issue as states work to include language in their statutes. All of the Provinces have the language in their current agreements.
- Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) membership request in the Compact. This will be discussed later in the meeting.

Priorities for the Operations Committee:

- Develop a Work Plan based on results of the Assessment visits to NFFPC members.
- IMT development
- 2019 Winter Awareness Meeting planning
- NFFPC Fire Danger Operating Plan
- Planning for replacement of Executive Director
- NECC interagency crew classification-should a crew have an agency name or list as “NECC Interagency”

Audit Task Force report by Andy Jacob (NY). The Audit Task Force has been in existence for several years. Fifteen years ago, NFFPC hired an outside firm to conduct a full audit of NFFPC. It was costly and did not reveal much. The outside firm did not recognize the appropriateness of expenses within NFFPC operations and were not familiar with wildland fire business. In 2017 at an Operations Committee meeting, the Audit Task Force received records of expenditures for April, May and June of

NFFPC business. The Task Force did a complete review of all NFFPC activities including expenses, checking account and credit card accounts. The Task Force found all activity to be appropriate. Moving forward, the Task Force recommends having a system in place to conduct a 100% review. With Eric Earle in place as Deputy Exec. Director, there are now two people to review expenses. Last year the Commissioners recommended a full audit by an outside firm. Timing of the audit will coincide with Tom's retirement. The transition for audit will include an Audit Committee and an outside auditor. The Audit Committee members are Andy Jacob (Chair), Tom Brady (USFS); Brad Simpkins (NH); Len Mosher (NB) and Tom and Eric (NFFPC). The expected external audit expense is approximately \$10,000.

Working Team Reports for 2018 activities presented by Helene Hochholzer (CT). There are 6 Working Teams and the Operations Committee with liaisons to each working team.

Training Working Team – Chair: Mike Durfee (US FWS)

- 2018 Igniting Exchange Meeting-collaboration between NFFPC and NAFSE. There were 220 attendees, integrating fire managers and fire researchers.
- Training conducted: L-481 Advanced Leadership for Command and General Staff, S-230 Crew Boss (Single Resource), S-339 Division/Group Supervisor, S-330 Strike Team/Task Force Leader, E I-Suite; P-310 Fire Prevention Education Team Member, I-300 Intermediate ICS; I-400, Advanced ICS; S-212 Wildland Fire Chainsaws and S-270 Basic Air Operations.
- Development of long-term training plan, moving towards development of Type 3 IMT and focusing on mid-level fireline position training courses.
- The Training Working Team is working on slowing down the rotation of the IMT/Complex Incident Management Course (CIMC) course deliveries.

Prevention and Education Working Team – Chair: Kent Nelson (ME)

- The PEWT helped organize the 70th Anniversary of the 1947 Fires event at Bar Harbor ME and Acadia National Park. The Team helped with field trips and speakers.
- The PEWT sponsored Matt Lovitt from Pidgeon Forge VFD (TN) to speak at the 2018 Igniting Exchange Meeting.
- The Prevention Award was given to Bryan Nowell (NH) .
- PEWT is organizing speakers for the 2019 Winter Awareness Meeting.
- The Fire Prevention and Education Team (FPET) worked with the Forest Health Working Team during their mobilizations.
- Involved in P-310 course delivery. NFFPC had 12 students complete the training and are ready to mobilize as an FPET.
- Confirmed the Smokey balloon will be in Maine and are working to get the balloon to CT as part of Smokey's 75th Birthday in 2019.
- PEWT maintains the NEWildfire.org website.
- During this meeting, the FPET is on Prudence Island, RI doing training and a Wildfire Risk Assessment.

Forest Health Working Team – Chair: Alison Kanoti (ME)

- In July of 2017, seven NFFPC members participated in Oak Wilt Training.
- August 2017-Alison Kanoti became Chair.
- Jan. 2018-FHWT very involved in 2018 Igniting Exchange Meeting
 - Scheduled the 2020 Winter Awareness Meeting to be a joint meeting with the Forest Pest Council

- March 2018-attended the National Association of State Foresters (NASF) meeting. The Forest Health Council is pursuing grant funding for various projects.

Fire Science Working Team – Chair: Kevin Grady (CT)

- Attended the 70th Anniversary of the 1947 Fires event in Maine.
- Held a face-to-face meeting to discuss forming a Prescribed Burn Council for NFFPC.
- Two members attended a Train the Trainer course for the National Fire Danger Rating System (NFDRS)2016.
- One quick deploy weather station was sent to the BLM Depot for repairs.
- The FSWT developed a 2016 NFDRS Fire Danger Operating Plan.

Equipment and Technology Working Team – Chair: Matthew Quinn (CT)

- Organized the attendance of 16 vendors at the 2018 Igniting Exchange Meeting in Portland, Maine.
- Seven team members participated in the 2018 June Call Up in Roscommon MI. It was a huge success for Compact members.
- Updated ETWT website with new information.
- Prepared quarterly newsletter.
- Developed radio communication guide identifying member frequencies.

Resource Sharing Working Team – Chair: Andy Jacob (NY)

- 2017 mobilization issues.
- Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) – recommendation not to pursue RPL
- Compact IMT did not participate in FDNY training exercise
- Staff ride for leadership training at West Point, NY
- Interest in developing a Compact staff ride.

Resource Sharing – Fixed Rates Proposal/Discussion – Andy Jacob, NY.

- Current reimbursement for resource exchange is based on actual costs
- Calculating the actual costs occurs after the mobilization and this is a time-consuming process
- Resources mobilized under the MARS agreement in Canada are reimbursed at a fixed daily rate
- Several advantages of the fixed rates method, especially valuable for the importer to be know the costs of the resources at the time of the request for assistance
- Billing is convenient, timely and accurate
- Rates are reestablished annually
- A lending agency will be reimbursed for all costs under current actual cost method
- Current actual cost method makes it very difficult to provide an accurate estimate of resource costs to administrators when requesting resources
- All agencies did not respond to fixed rates survey
- Exchange of resources is core mission of the Compact
- When the Compact was first formed, the first 48 hours for resource exchange were free to the receiving/importing agency
- Operations Committee would like some direction from the Commissioners on this issue.

There was a considerable amount of discussion on this issue and the Commissioners recommended that the Resource Sharing Working Team and Operations Committee continue to investigate the idea of fixed rates and provide a recommendation to the Commissioners.

The meeting concluded for the day at 12:00 noon and Olney Knight provided information to the group regarding the afternoon field tour.

Aug. 2, 2018
69th Commissioner's Meeting
Providence RI

Meeting Called to Order 08:00
Julie Fortin, Commission Chair-QC

Agency Reports – provided by Lars Lund. Lars provided a brief outline of each agency's 2018 fire season. The highlights and accomplishments are as follows:

Nova Scotia

- Equipment and Maintenance Supervisor, Bruce Hamilton, retired after 41 years of service to Forest Protection. Past chair of the Compact Equipment.
- Completed new Air Fleet of four Airbus H125 helicopters
- DNR helicopters used in a liming project to assist with an acid rain mitigation project to increase Atlantic Salmon populations by aerially applying lime to the forests in the river catchment area

New Hampshire

- Wet conditions made for a slow fire season...until early fall
- Filled 3 Forest Ranger vacancies Mike Matson, Adrian Reyes and Matt Piper hired
- Staff participated on Interagency Crew deployments to Colorado, Montana, California, and British Columbia

White Mountain National Forest

- Fire Suppression Resources include 6 permanent fire staff, 101 additional "red carded" staff, 1 Dispatcher, and 1 Type 6 Engine
- 4 Wildfires
- 12 Prescribed Fires
- Fire Mobilizations included 61 Overhead assignments, 3 Engine assignments and 1 Type 2 IA crew

New York

- Debris burning reported as the primary cause of wildfire occurrence in most areas in the state
- Nine-year annual average of 57 fires burning approximately 1023 acres annually

Maine

- 522 wildfires reported in 2017
- 360 wildfires reported as of the end of June 2018
- 3rd and Final UH 1H Huey Refurbished at Bell Helicopter Aug 2018
- During 2017, Maine mobilized 85 MFS Rangers and personnel who responded to 19 different incidents in 13 different states
- 2017 training included participation by 1930 students in 104 different courses.
- Social Media includes Facebook 36,000 followers and Twitter 4225 followers

Green Mountain and Finger Lakes National Forest

- Green Mountain National Forest - 400,000 Acres located in Central and Southern Vermont

- Finger Lakes National Forest - 16,000+ Acres located in Central New York
- 2018 Statistics YTD:
 - 1 Wildfire
 - 565 staff days of GMFL support of Wildfire and All Hazard Incidents
 - Mechanical Hazardous Fuels Reduction
 - 6 Partnership Prescribed Fire Assists for 4500+ Acres
 - 25 Prescribed Fires for 900+ acres

New Brunswick

- 2018 Fire Season (as of June 30th)
 - Average Season 195 fires burnt 199 hectares
 - 13 fires that required Air Support
- 2018 Resource Sharing (as of June 30th)
 - Firefighters (22) deployed to Alberta
 - Firefighters (42) deployed to Quebec
- Introduced a new FireSmart Program to help educate home owners on what they can to help protect their property from wildfire
- The Province upgraded from the VHF radio system to a Trunk Mobile Radio System (TMR)

Us Fish and Wildlife Service / National Park Service

- The North Country Administrative Scope includes:
 - 37 Fish & Wildlife Refuges
 - 22 National Park units
 - 6 States
- 2017 Federal Prescribed Fire within the NFFPC included:
 - 53 total units burned
 - Total area of approximately 660 acres
- Combined Fish & Wildlife / National Park Training Results:
 - 24 individual classes provided
 - 405 students were provided training

Prince Edward Island

- Government has committed to renew our off road / tractor trailer fleet
- Recruitment process continued this past year
- Deployed staff to British Columbia in the 2017 fire season, which included:
 - Sustained Action Team
 - Safety Officer (trainee)
 - Initial Attack Team
 - Division Supervisor
- Have outsourced our daily Fire Weather Index calculations
- Hosted our first Compact Spring Academy

Vermont

- 2018 Reported Fires to date - 55 fires for 116 acres
- 10 year average (2008-2017) - 93 fires for 206 acres
- May 14, 2018 - 60 acre fire near Plymouth VT
- Distributed \$51,393.61 of wildland fire protective gear and equipment grant orders to 40 Vermont towns
- Represented FPR and displayed the Fire Response Trucks at the Vermont Emergency Preparedness Conference, staffed State Emergency Operations Center in response to a large Wind Event and began updating FPR's roles and responsibilities in the State Emergency Operations Plan revision

Connecticut

- 2017 Totals: 336 fires for 385 acres-Quiet year
- 2018 to date: 27 fires for 34 acres-Even quieter year
- Completed work on Type 4 engine through successful partnership with DOT
- 4 Regional Wildfire Refresher trainings for 21 fire departments totaling 198 students
- 144 Full time and seasonal employees trained at the DEEP annual wildfire training
- 2017 mobilizations included:
 - 16 personnel mobilized
 - 3 Overhead
 - 13 AD's on 4 Interagency crews

Newfoundland and Labrador

- Strange fire season, higher than normal temperatures during short period in May led to rash of fires and then NL experienced cooler than normal temperatures in June
- Stats last 3 years below 10-yr. average of 116 fires and 35324 ha burned
- Seven FireSmart training sessions conducted to date
- Network of 22 RAWs established in 2017 continues to work well for managing fire risk
- Deployments included fire fighters, equipment and IMT members to Ontario

NA S&PF Report – Maris Gabliks.

- \$17,500 of funding provided to each Compact for Smokey Bear activities.
- RFP's period is open.
- Zero match for partners
- Eastern Area IMT – NA/R9 committed to IMT success. Always looking for members from NA/Northeastern States
- Life First Program – safety program

Northeast Fire Science Consortium – Erin Lane

- NAFSE started in 2012
- 4 person leadership team
- Strength is working relationship with NFFPC
- Co-hosted Igniting Exchange meeting in 2018

- Several field trips planned for 2018
- Webinar series in progress are recorded and stored
- Newsletters
- Funded for the next two years

CIFFC Update – Len Mosher

- Len Mosher provided the update on behalf of Kim Connors
- Canadian fire season began in May with fires in Alberta and continued to be busy throughout the summer with activity in the provinces of Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia
- CIFFC currently at PL4 and likely to move to PL5 over the next few days due to wildfire activity
- Recently the province of British Columbia experienced 160 new fires in one day
- International resources (Mexican fire fighters) were imported to assist the provinces of Ontario and British Columbia
- CIFFC is also investigating the possibility of obtaining additional resources from New Zealand and Australia due to current shortage of available resources in Canada

NECC Staffing & Funding Update – Parent

- NECC has been successful as an interagency center
- In existence for 16 years, the first 14 years at Bolton Hill, Maine and now located at Campton, New Hampshire
- Staff funding issues are resolved for now
- Funding from NFFPC members identified to hire a deputy center manager
- Some NFFPC members exempt due to contributions to other NECC positions
- Funding also provided from agreement between NFFPC and NA SP&F
- US Forest Service is currently unable to enter into an agreement with NFFPC
- NECC will continue to provide support to all agencies and for all types of mobilizations

BIA Request for Membership – Lucas Minton

- Lucas Minton, the regional FMO for Eastern region provided an overview of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)
- Key highlights of the presentation are as follows:
 - 567 federal recognized tribes
 - 12 regions with 86 agencies within a large geographic area
 - BIA is one of the oldest bureaus within the federal government
 - Started in 1824
 - Tribes are able to enter into contracts with BIA funding the projects and providing oversight
 - Firefighters throughout the regions
 - Current programs include fuels management, wildfire preparedness/suppression and hazardous fuels program
 - Partnering opportunities with tribes
 - BIA does not currently have a lot of resources in the Northeast area

- Most of BIA resources in the western portion of the country
- BIA is not a member of any other compact
- BIA is only other federal agency in the northeast that is not a member of NFFPC

NFFPC 5 Year Assessment Summary Report – Eric Earle

- Eric Earle, NFFPC’s deputy executive director presented the results of the Compact’s 5 Year Assessment visits with each of the member agencies.
- Key highlights of the presentation are as follows:
 - Assessment Panel included Julie Fortin, Peter Church, Helene Hochholzer, Tom Brady, Tom Parent, Molly Campbell and Eric Earle
 - Panel met with each of the Compact member agencies
 - Question and answer session approximately two hours in duration
 - Training opportunities was identified as the most important day to day service available to members
 - Member agencies are facing staffing and fiscal challenges
 - Program funding reductions and reduced staffing levels
 - Members are satisfied with two part time positions and recognize there will be a transition period required
 - There is support for a Compact Incident Management Team (IMT)
 - A challenge to maintain a current IMT
 - Value and services provided by the compact far exceeded the cost
 - Grant funds benefit all members
 - NECC is providing excellent support and current financial arrangement is satisfactory
 - Training and support required for working team chairs and vice chairs
 - Current communication is very good
 - Quarterly newsletter or executive summary of operations committee meetings is an option to improve communications
 - Networking is key to success of Compact
 - Monitor advances in technology especially with video conferencing opportunities

Motion by David Wight (ME Cmr.) to task the Operations Committee to develop a draft work plan from the results of the five-year assessments. The draft work plan will be sent to the Executive Committee for review and final approval by the Executive Committee. Upon approval, the Executive Committee will request the Operations Committee to implement the work plan. Second by Ralph Scarpino (CT Cmr.). All in Favor-Motion carries.

Alliance of Forest Fire Compacts Report provided by Tom Parent. There are 8 Forest Fire Compacts representing 43 of 50 states and all of Canada. Tom Parent and Eric Earle attended an Alliance meeting in Harrisburg PA. Liability is a big issue and exists in both US and CA systems. Compacts have issues with getting agreements in place and the USFS regions have issues with mobilizations using ROSS and Master Agreements.

There are 3 different liability levels.

1. Compact. Firefighters (employees) have the same rights, etc as the state they are working in/agency they are working for.
 - a. No liability. All liability is with the requesting state/agency.
This is the most desirable liability level for sending agencies. The Alliance is looking to have all Compacts adopt this liability language.
2. Inter Compact. Brad Simpkins (NH) was contacted by Sen. Cantwell (WA) who is willing to move this issue forward in Congress. The Alliance would like to have Inter Compact language implemented at a national level. This is similar to EMAC Compacts where firefighters are covered except for acts contrary to good faith.
3. Master Agreement. Liability is on the sending agencies. The Northeastern Area states had Master Agreement language for about 25 years that the USFS considered wrong, where the receiving agency had assumed liability.
 - NA states would like to keep this language, but the NASF Fire Committee would not move the issue forward. The Cohesive Strategy Committee is not a policy setting group so it could not move the issue forward.
 - The Alliance of Forest Fire Compacts would like to “request an audience” with the Federal Partners to have the Master Agreement language explained.
 - Looking down the road at future fire seasons-what if the first 3rd party claim comes through? The NA states will likely shut down sending resources.
 - What does it take to change the Master Agreement? Can the Federal US government enter into an agreement where it assumes liability?

Motion made by Julie Fortin (QC Cmr.) to draft a Support Letter to change the liability language to have protection when exchanging resources. Discussion amongst Commissioners.

New Motion by Brad Simpkins for the Chair of the Executive Committee of the Commissioners to write a letter on behalf of and representing NFFPC in support of the change in liability language to have protection of sending resources when exchanging resources. Second by John Lyman (RI Cmr.). All in Favor-Motion carries.

Liability Discussion – Inter - Compact and USFS Master Agreement - Parent

- The liability discussion was addressed in the Alliance of Forest Fire Compact’s report.
- The Compact and US Forest Service Master agreement was also discussed during Tom Parent’s Alliance of Forest Fire Compact’s report.

USFS - Compact Agreement and Membership Status - Parent

- The White Mountain National Forest and the Green Mountain/Finger Lakes National Forest are currently in arrears for their membership dues.
- They are unable to pay their membership fees without an agreement to facilitate the transaction.
- Local level staff are supportive of the Compact membership.
- As a Compact, we will continue to honor their membership and provide full membership support in anticipation of resolving this issue.

BUSINESS MEETING begins. Refer to the “Specific Business Meeting Agenda”

Special Recognition and Awards among Commissioners and NFFPC members present – None.

Voting requirements discussed

- Every member votes except associate members.
- Voting members can have one member present by phone to be eligible to vote
- Voting members can have one vote via proxy to be eligible to vote
- Quorum for voting has been achieved. Only National Park Service Associate Members are not present.

Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Membership. The BIA representative is asked to leave the room while the BIA application for membership was discussed by the Commissioners.

Question from Peter Church (MA Cmr.) about the timing of BIA becoming an associate member. Answer is BIA already is part of the NECC agreement for dispatching but does not have any agreements with NFFPC. This vote will allow BIA to become an Associate Member of NFFPC. Chris Martin (CT Cmr.) discusses the additional agreement with BIA to mobilize is in the fourth paragraph. NWCG requirements must still be followed for the BIA for federal mobilizations. The BIA will be available through ROSS just like any other federal agency.

Question from David Wight (ME Cmr.) do any other states or province have agreements with BIA or tribes to mobilize?

Answer is none. Experience from CT is that there is not enough fire activity to formalize an agreement, so none has been tried. Experience from ME is the State of Maine tried to get an agreement with BIA but it was not successful. Per Bill Hamilton (ME Ops Cmte), entering into an agreement is at the discretion of the tribe chief/leader.

Question from Chris Martin (CT)-what is the benefit to NFFPC by admitting them?

Answer from Tom Parent-check with the other federal agencies who are associate members. BIA is the only federal land-based agency not part of NFFPC but is part of the NECC funding. If BIA is included, all the federal gov't partners would be part of NFFPC.

John Lyman (RI) asks what is the downside to having BIA as a member if they contribute resources at no cost to NFFPC? Peter Church (MA) notes value added to NFFPC with BIA as a member.

Motion made by Richard Mason NH Cmr to accept BIA as an Associate Member to NFFPC.

Second by Peter Church. All in Favor-Motion carries.

Further discussion by Chris Martin (CT) to set expectations to bridge any gaps in communications and to have more participation by tribes.

Motion made by Chris Martin (CT) that the NFFPC Executive Director shall include in the Associate Member Agreement that the BIA will facilitate communications between the states and tribes and the BIA will take the lead in coordinating state tribal resources for mutual aid within the NFFPC. Second by Butch Shaw (VT Cmr.). All in Favor-Motion carries.

Progress on Executive Director Transition. Work continues separating out duties of Exec. Director and Deputy Exec. Director. The job descriptions are the same, providing for full coverage of all duties. Tom

Parent is planning on retiring as of Dec. 31, 2019. A candidate needs to be chosen for the next Commissioners Meeting for approval. The Operations Committee recommends 2 positions working 3 days per week each. After Tom's retirement, Eric Earle will become the Executive Director and the new hire will be the Deputy Executive Director. Discussion from Helene Hochholzer (CT Ops Cmte) that both positions are currently operating at more than 30 hours per week and that the option for administrative support did not gain any traction. This option may be considered at a later date. Tom Parent states he believes the workload can be done by 2 people.

Motion to move ahead with Executive and Deputy Executive Director positions at 3 days per weeks made by John Lyman (RI Cmr.). Director positions will be split between Operations and Administrative/Grant functions. Second by Dan Lavigne (NL Cmr.). All in Favor-Motion carries.

Motion to begin recruitment for Deputy Executive Director position made by John Ross (NS Cmr.) and Second by Dan Lavigne (NL Cmr.) Discussion by Ralph Scarpino (CT Cmr.) that this will require an additional budget item for the additional person for the NFFPC FY20 budget. Len Mosher (NB Ops Cmte) states the start date can be adjusted. All in Favor-Motion carries.

Fixed Rates. No one is against the concept of using fixed rates however additional work is required to determine a fixed rate that would be agreeable to all members.

Motion made by John Lyman (RI Cmr.) to direct the Operations Committee to continue to research the concept of using fixed rates. "That the Operations Committee continue to research fixed rates to see the effect on each of the states, to prepare a proposal then to send to the Executive Committee for action, finally to the Executive Committee to send to the Commissioners for final approval" Second by Richard Mason (NH Cmr.) All in Favor-Motion carries.

The Operation Committee will determine a specific set of parameters using home agency info. Chris Martin (CT Cmr.) says the Operations Committee should use the Canadian Mutual Aid Resources Sharing (MARS) as a model. The fixed rates should use uniform input and formulas, and a uniform methodology to determine rates. The numbers should be crunched by Nov. 2018 and presented to the Executive Committee at the 2019 Winter Awareness Meeting.

Amendment to the motion: Fixed Rates should be completed no later than the 2019 Commissioners meeting. All in Favor-Amendment carries.

Deputy Executive Director hiring-possible 3-year agreement. Background info was provided for reasoning.

Motion made by Chris Martin (CT Cmr.) to have a 3 year contract for the Executive and Deputy Executive Directors. Second by Brad Simpkins (NH Cmr.) No further discussion. All in Favor-Motion carries.

NFFPC Insurances. This has been resolved and is not a Business Item.

Printing of Annual Reports. Electronic copies of Annual Reports made available to all member agencies. Brad Simpkins would like to have one printed hard copy made for each agency. Len Mosher states each agency could just print off a paper copy.

Motion by Peter Church (MA Cmr) and second by David Wight (ME Cmr) to provide electronic copies of the Annual Report to the members. No discussion. All in Favor-Motion carries.

Financial Audit. Discussion to do the audit at the hiring transition next year and to include the new hire in the audit.

Motion made to postpone the audit until 2019 by Butch Shaw (VT Cmr.) and second by Dan Lavigne (NL Cmr.). No discussion. All in Favor-Motion carries.

Budgets. Discussion to approve budget with additional \$3000 included for BIA membership dues. Audit will be done in the next fiscal year so \$9974 for “Financial Review” will need to be removed and moved to show as a balance forward. Need to appropriate some of these funds to “Other Travel” to cover costs of Interview Panel for Deputy Executive Director position. Ralph Scarpino (CT Cmr) notes there is no money budgeted for the new position’s costs after the Commissioners Meeting. Butch Shaw (VT Cmr.) requests that the NFFPC budget be sent to Commissioners sooner than arrival at the Commissioners Meeting. Motion made and withdrawn by Butch Shaw to have budget available at least 24 hours prior to the Business Meeting. Discussion includes recognition that Tom Parent does a budget presentation during the first day of the Commissioners Meeting which allows for 24 hours of review.

Motion made by Peter Church (MA Cmr.) to accept budget as presented with an adjustment of \$3000 of BIA membership dues to be used for “Other Travel”. Second by John Ross (NS Cmr.) All in Favor-Motion carries.

Other Items Brought Forward. None.

After Action Review of New Meeting Arrangement/Itinerary. John Ross (NS Cmr.) discusses a 3 day format and move the Business Meeting to the morning of the second day, and to always have a microphone available by default. Tom Parent states if the Business Meeting is held earlier and completed earlier, it may allow folks to leave the meeting early. Julie Fortin (QC Cmr.) states there are a lot of items presented and there may not be enough time to fit everything into a half day morning session. John Lyman (RI Cmr.) states most Business Meeting items have already been discussed and with presenting the budget beforehand, it should streamline the afternoon Business Meeting. Chris Martin (CT Cmr.) states he likes the current format, there is plenty of time to discuss items and make more informed votes. Butch Shaw (VT Cmr.) states it would be advantageous for non-voting members to be able to leave prior to the Business Meeting.

New Officers. Chair will be Peter Church (MA) and Vice Chair will be David Wight (ME).

Motion to nominate Church and Wight made by Brad Simpkins (NH Cmr.) and second by Chris Martin (CT Cmr.) No discussion. All in Favor-Motion carries.

Hosting of 2019 Commissioners Meeting. New Hampshire will host. Dinner Cruise on Lake Sunapee.

Hosting of 2020 Commissioners Meeting. Prince Edward Island offers.

Motion made by John Lyman (RI Cmr) and second by Dan Lavigne (NL Cmr) to accept PEI’s offer. All in Favor-Motion carries.

Open discussion. Appreciation for Julie Fortin (QC Cmr) as outgoing Chair noted by all Commissioners.

Motion to adjourn the 2019 NFFPC Commissioners Meeting made by Eric Lahr (NY Cmr) and second by Ralph Scarpino (CT Cmr). All in Favor-Meeting is adjourned.

**Northeastern Forest Fire Protection Compact
Executive Director's Report for FY 2018
Commission Meeting August 1, 2018**

This report is intended to elaborate on the Executive Director's activities which are not covered by the reports of the Working Teams or the Operations Committee. It is important to note that working with and supporting the Working Teams, the Operations Committee, and the Commission is a significant part of the Executive Director's activities throughout the year. These activities are woven into all of the group reports.

1) Thanks to Outgoing Chairs & Officers

Kent Nelson – ME – PEWT
Kevin Grady – CT – FSWT
Helene Hochholzer – CT – Operations
Julie Fortin – QC – Commission Chair FY18
Chris Martin – CT – Commission Past Chair
Peter Church – MA – Vice Chair

2) Deputy Executive Director

- a. Eric Earle Started Oct 1, 2017
- b. Transitioned Training Academy Coordination
- c. Assigned Working Team Oversight and Coordination Function
- d. Reconciling Finances - Monthly
- e. Handling Operational Functions – Still Transitioning
- f. Worked out International Employment Details and Permits

3) Cooperative Meetings

- a. AFFM Meeting – Halifax, NS Sept 2017
- b. Inter Compact meeting – Harrisburg, PA
 1. Oct 2017
- c. All 8 Fire compacts attended
- d. Next meeting to be hosted by Southern Compacts, New Orleans, LA – Oct 2018
- e. Alliance Report to be Given Separately
- f. Bar Harbor Fire – 70th Year Workshop & Staff Ride
- g. NFFS Meeting, Prescott, AZ – Focus on Liability and Use of Compacts
- h. Igniting Exchange – Joint Conference hosted by NAFSE & NFFPC
- i. EACG – Feb 2018 in Reynoldsburg, OH
- j. NAFSE Meetings and Conf Calls
- k. NAFSE Workshop – Portland, ME
- l. NFFPC Assessment visits with all members individually

4) Administrative Items

- a. Insurances – Lost & Renewed
- b. Video Conferencing – New Plan
- c. BIA Request for Membership
- d. GSA Purchases for VT

5) Finances

- a. Internal Audit – OPS Task Force
- b. Financial Procedures Manual
- c. Managed 28 Federal Grants; 22 Special Funds
- d. Reconciliation of accounts
- e. Renewed Jumbo CD for better returns
- f. Worked with CIFFC to move crew from MA and NH to BC via QC

6) Regional & National Representation

- a. EACG –NFFPC Rep
- b. EA Operations WT – Replaced by Jack Bradley from FDNY
- c. Cohesive Strategy
- d. Alliance of Compacts

7) Preparedness

- a. Preparedness map on website updated
- b. Coordination with all partners
- c. Operations Manual
- d. NECC Board of Directors Meeting

8) U.S. & Canada Border Crossing April 2018

- a. Excellent cooperation from Customs & Border
- b. Exceptions for emergency response still in place
- c. Still Using letter issued from CBP Washington Office supporting international movement of firefighters

9) Compact Mobilizations

- a. Problems hiring Emergency Firefighters – Need a long term fix
- b. Worked with Other Compacts to get more crews available for NFFPC Use
- c. Used Manchester Mobe Center to help mobilize recent NFFPC crews
- d. Working with provinces to mobilize integrated international crews and IMTs
Provinces & States
- e. Resource Shortages are a Real Problem Going Forward

10) Compact IMT

- a. Working with EACG IMT to support U.S. National Mobes
- b. Mobilized a Compact IMT to QC – All from Provinces
- c. Recently Tried to Assemble NWCG Qualified IMT with Help of FDNY

11) Training Coordinator

- a. Function moved to Deputy Executive Director
- b. Seems to be working well.
- c. Eric doing a great job at this role
- d. Training
 1. Fall Academy ME - Coordinated by Eric
 2. Winter Academy - ME– Coordinated by Eric
 3. Spring Academy - PEI– Coordinated by Eric
 4. Winter Meeting - Joint with NAFSE ~ 220 people Great Speakers and mix of fire management and research & academia

5. Winter Academy – Coordinated by Eric
6. NH Fire Academy
7. GMNF & WMNF Fire Training

12) Special Meetings

- a. NECC Funding Plan Approved – Moved Forward with Hiring and Funding an NFFPC Deputy Center Manager
- b. Recently Converted Existing NFFPC funded Dispatcher

13) North Atlantic Fire Science Exchange (NAFSE)

- a. Managing Grant Funds
- b. NFFPC on Advisory Board annual meeting in South Portland, ME
- c. Continuation of Grant funding
- d. Continue employment of staffer for NAFSE

14) NFFPC 5 Year Assessment

- a. Completed from March through June 2018
- b. Report on findings to be provided Later in Report

15) Final Transition

- a. Executive Director Final Date is Dec 31, 2019
- b. Need to Develop Plan for complete transition of Duties
- c. Ops Recommendation to be discussed at Business meeting

16) Summary

Another busy and active year. Need to focus on resolving barriers to resource exchanges – hiring, exporting, liability, rules, shortages.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Parent
Executive Director, NFFPC



| COMPACT BUDGET FY 19 | | | | |
|--|----------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|---|
| Compact General Fund | Budgeted FY18 | Actual as of 06/30/18 | Proposed FY19 | |
| Salary | \$105,166.00 | \$82,052.54 | \$88,200.00 | Two positions @ 60% - GS11 Step 4 and Step 10 |
| Social Security | \$7,864.00 | \$4,667.46 | \$9,030.00 | |
| Unemployment | \$300.00 | \$200.04 | \$250.00 | |
| Compact Office Rent | \$6,720.00 | \$6,720.00 | \$6,888.00 | |
| Ex. Dir. Travel | \$8,000.00 | \$8,117.97 | \$11,500.00 | |
| Travel Other | \$11,500.00 | \$11,084.14 | \$11,500.00 | |
| Tel; Fax; Email | \$1,300.00 | \$1,456.06 | \$1,600.00 | |
| Postage | \$175.00 | \$116.00 | \$200.00 | |
| Printing | \$750.00 | \$583.16 | \$750.00 | |
| Office Supplies | \$200.00 | \$481.97 | \$500.00 | |
| Furniture | \$100.00 | \$0.00 | \$300.00 | |
| Equip. Repairs | \$100.00 | \$0.00 | \$300.00 | |
| Meeting Costs | \$2,863.69 | \$1,186.30 | \$1,675.79 | |
| Website Hosting & Management | \$6,500.00 | \$3,756.86 | \$10,000.00 | |
| Software/Computer Support | \$300.00 | \$0.00 | \$300.00 | |
| Outstanding Service Awards | \$300.00 | \$490.50 | \$350.00 | |
| Bank Charges | \$1,000.00 | (\$1,903.74) | \$1,000.00 | |
| Insurances | \$4,000.00 | \$3,484.21 | \$4,000.00 | |
| Shirts | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | |
| Commission Meeting | \$0.00 | \$802.43 | \$2,500.00 | |
| Financial Review | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$9,974.00 | |
| TOTALS | \$157,138.69 | \$123,295.90 | \$160,817.79 | |
| Amount from member assessments | \$83,750.00 | \$83,750.00 | \$89,000.00 | |
| Amount from Federal Grants Federal FY18 | \$59,659.00 | \$39,545.90 | \$37,975.00 | |
| Spent/Net to Reserve Account – FY18 GF | \$13,729.69 | | \$33,842.79 | |
| Spent/Net to Federal Funds – FY18 Fed | | \$33,842.79 | | |
| <i>Note 1 - CPI Change for U.S. in 2017 is up 2.4%</i> | | | | |
| ASSETS (as of 06/30/18) | | | | |
| Key Bank Money Market (Interest FY18 - \$162.39) | | | \$121,315.88 | |
| Key Bank CD (Interest FY18 - \$748.67) | | | \$100,874.63 | |
| Key Bank Checking (Interest FY18 - \$0.00) | | | \$56,988.92 | |
| Other Accounts Receivable | | | \$6,291.39 | |
| Federal Grant Funds Due NFFPC | | | \$122,503.21 | |
| TOTAL ASSETS | | | \$407,974.03 | |
| LIABILITIES/DEBITS (as of 06/30/17) | | | | |
| Special Member Funds on Hand | | \$65,882.34 | | |
| NECC Non-Federal Funds | | \$137,366.03 | | |
| NFFPC Non-Federal Prevention Funds | | \$6,765.45 | | |
| NFFPC FHM Funds | | \$22,509.20 | | |
| CIMC | | \$130.10 | | |
| TWT Grant | | \$15,000.00 | | |
| Accounts Payable | | \$7,833.95 | | |
| TOTAL DEBITS | | \$255,487.07 | | |
| TOTAL GENERAL FUND NET ASSETS 06/30/18 | | | \$152,486.96 | |
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| COMPACT TRAVEL BUDGET DETAIL FY 19 | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Executive Director | Budgeted FY 18 | Actual as of 06/30/18 | Proposed Budget FY19 | | | | |
| Annual Commission Meeting (NB) | \$1,000.00 | \$2,046.09 | | | | | |
| Atlantic Forest Fire Managers' Meeting (NB?) | \$1,000.00 | \$2,024.39 | | | | | |
| Annual Winter Meeting (ME) | \$1,300.00 | \$546.00 | | | | | |
| Spring and Winter Academies (ME/NB/NS) | \$800.00 | \$0.00 | | | | | |
| Northeast Forest Fire Supervisors | \$1,400.00 | \$1,661.14 | | | | | |
| Member Meetings, Events, and Program Assistance | \$1,500.00 | \$804.84 | | | | | |
| Committee/Working Team Mtgs., Local, Unscheduled | \$1,000.00 | \$1,035.51 | | | | | |
| Annual Commission Meeting (RI) | | | \$1,500.00 | | | | |
| Atlantic Forest Fire Managers' Meeting (NB?) | | | \$1,500.00 | | | | |
| Annual Winter Meeting (ME) | | | \$1,500.00 | | | | |
| Spring and Winter Academies (ME/NB/NS) | | | \$800.00 | | | | |
| Northeast Forest Fire Supervisors | | | \$1,500.00 | | | | |
| Member Meetings, Events, and Program Assistance | | | \$3,100.00 | | | | |
| Committee/Working Team Mtgs., Local, Unscheduled | | | \$1,600.00 | | | | |
| Total | \$8,000.00 | \$8,117.97 | \$11,500.00 | | | | |
| Other Travel | | | | | | | |
| EA Training Working Team Meeting (L. Lund & Parent) | \$3,000.00 | \$1,359.50 | | | | | |
| Compact Representation at Meetings (Various) | \$5,000.00 | \$4,100.55 | | | | | |
| Deputy Ecexutive Director Interviews | | \$693.70 | | | | | |
| NFFPC 5 Year Assessment | \$3,500.00 | \$4,930.39 | | | | | |
| EA Training, Operations, & Dispatcher Team Meetings (L. Lund, M. Bigner, Yuneman) | | | \$6,500.00 | | | | |
| Compact Representation at Meetings (Various & Assessments) | | | \$5,000.00 | | | | |
| Total | \$11,500.00 | \$11,084.14 | \$11,500.00 | | | | |
| Grand Total | \$19,500.00 | \$19,202.11 | \$23,000.00 | | | | |
| NOTE: Travel funds may be interchanged between Executive Director and other personnel to represent the Compact as necessary or if conflicts or emergencies arise. | | | | | | | |
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| COMPACT PROPOSED REVENUES FY 19 | | | | | | |
|--|------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Member | Acres Protected | Square Root of Acres Protected | Protected Acres Factor | Protected Acres Assessment | Fixed Assessment FY 19 | Total Assessment |
| Connecticut | 2,390,000 | 1,546 | 0.0359 | \$1,545.45 | \$2,687.50 | \$4,232.95 |
| Maine | 17,716,790 | 4,209 | 0.0979 | \$4,207.73 | \$2,687.50 | \$6,895.23 |
| Massachusetts | 3,581,000 | 1,892 | 0.0440 | \$1,891.72 | \$2,687.50 | \$4,579.22 |
| New Hampshire | 4,819,000 | 2,195 | 0.0510 | \$2,194.49 | \$2,687.50 | \$4,881.99 |
| New York | 23,132,960 | 4,810 | 0.1118 | \$4,808.08 | \$2,687.50 | \$7,495.58 |
| Rhode Island | 433,000 | 658 | 0.0153 | \$657.81 | \$2,687.50 | \$3,345.31 |
| Vermont | 4,638,000 | 2,154 | 0.0501 | \$2,152.89 | \$2,687.50 | \$4,840.39 |
| Quebec | 117,401,596 | 10,835 | 0.2519 | \$10,831.60 | \$2,687.50 | \$13,519.10 |
| New Brunswick | 16,742,761 | 4,092 | 0.0951 | \$4,090.43 | \$2,687.50 | \$6,777.93 |
| Nova Scotia | 10,491,886 | 3,239 | 0.0753 | \$3,238.04 | \$2,687.50 | \$5,925.54 |
| Prince Edward Island | 622,700 | 789 | 0.0183 | \$788.85 | \$2,687.50 | \$3,476.35 |
| USFS - WMNF & GMNF | 1,146,701 | 1,071 | 0.0249 | \$1,070.49 | \$2,687.50 | \$3,757.99 |
| Newfoundland & Labrador | 18,650,860 | 4,319 | 0.1004 | \$4,317.23 | \$2,687.50 | \$7,004.73 |
| U.S. National Park Service | 273,200 | 523 | 0.0122 | \$522.51 | \$2,687.50 | \$3,210.01 |
| U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 179,000 | 423 | 0.0098 | \$422.94 | \$2,687.50 | \$3,110.44 |
| FDNY | 67,500 | 260 | 0.0060 | \$259.72 | \$2,687.50 | \$2,947.22 |
| Total Protected Acres | 222,286,954 | 43,014 | 1.0000 | \$43,000.00 | \$43,000.00 | \$86,000.00 |
| Proposed Total Compact General Fund Budget FY 19 | | | | | | \$86,000.00 |
| <p>The member assessment formula has two components, a fixed portion and a protected acres portion. The total member assessment is determined by dividing the proposed budget in half (\$43,000 above) and doing the following:</p> <p>The first component of the assessment is determined by calculating the percentage of the total protected acres within each member area and using it to prorate the amount for each member. The square root of a member's acres (column 3) is divided by the sum of the square roots (column 3 bottom total) to calculate the Protected Acres factor. This factor is multiplied by half the budget to determine the members protected acres share. The resultant amount is shown in Column 5.</p> <p>The second component is determined by taking half the budget (\$43,000 above) and dividing it by the total number of members (in this case 16 members) to calculate the member fixed share. This amount is shown in column 6.</p> <p>The total assessment is shown in column 7 and is the sum of columns 5 and 6.</p> <p>Example: Connecticut</p> <p>Formula #1: (Column 4 which is 0.0359) X (\$43,000) = \$1,545.45 for the Protected Acres share.</p> <p>Formula #2: (\$43,000) / 16 members = \$2,687.50 for the Fixed share.</p> <p>Formula #3: The total member assessment is \$1,545.45 + \$2,687.50 = \$4,232.95 (column 7) Total Share</p> | | | | | | |

| Budget Detail for SFA Grant Work Plan Activities for 18-DG-xxx | | | | |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Program Activity | Federal Share | Compact Share | State Share | Sub Totals |
| Personnel Costs | | \$70,000 | \$45,000 | \$115,000 |
| Fringe Benefits | | \$5,000 | \$5,000 | \$10,000 |
| Training Working Team | | | | |
| Spring Academy - provinces | \$1,000 | | | \$1,000 |
| Fall Academy | \$1,000 | | | \$1,000 |
| Training Coordinator | \$2,000 | | | \$2,000 |
| Meetings | \$1,000 | | | \$1,000 |
| Leadership, Stress Management, First Aid Training | \$16,500 | | | \$16,500 |
| Leadership Training - L-380/381 | \$22,500 | | | \$22,500 |
| Sub-Total Equipment | \$44,000.00 | | | \$44,000.00 |
| Equipment & Technology Working Team | | | | |
| Teleconference calls: | \$100 | | | \$100 |
| Winter Meeting | \$2,500 | | | \$2,500 |
| Website | \$1,000 | | | \$1,000 |
| Supplies | \$1,000 | | | \$1,000 |
| Summer Workshop | \$6,000 | | | \$6,000 |
| Sub-Total Equipment | \$10,600 | | | \$10,600 |
| Fire Science Working Team | | | | |
| Planning Meetings | \$2,300 | | | \$2,300 |
| Sponsor FSWT Members to attend training | \$5,000 | | | \$5,000 |
| New Technology Research | \$2,000 | | | \$2,000 |
| QD RAWS annual maintenance contract | \$3,600 | | | \$3,600 |
| Sub-Total Fire Science | \$12,900 | | | \$12,900 |
| Prevention Working Team | | | | |
| Commission Meeting | \$2,000 | | | \$2,000 |
| Website maintenance and fees | \$200 | | | \$200 |
| Winter Meeting Award | \$300 | | | \$300 |
| Sub-Total Prevention | \$2,500 | | | \$2,500 |
| Resource Sharing Working Team | | | | |
| Operations Quarterly Meetings | \$6,000 | | | \$6,000 |
| NECC Meeting in provinces | \$1,000 | | | \$1,000 |
| RPL Development | \$3,000 | | | \$3,000 |
| Leadership Training - West Point Staff Ride; L-380/381 | \$15,000 | | | \$15,000 |
| Inter-Compact meeting | \$4,000 | | | \$4,000 |
| Sub-Total Resource Sharing | \$29,000 | | | \$29,000 |
| NECC Support | | | | |
| Office Supplies | \$2,000 | | | \$2,000 |
| Training & Travel | \$10,000 | | | \$10,000 |
| Meetings | \$1,500 | | | \$1,500 |
| | \$13,500 | | | \$13,500 |
| Administration | | | | |
| Grant Administration | \$12,500 | | | \$12,500 |
| Sub-Total Administration | \$12,500 | | | \$12,500 |
| Grant Totals FY19 | \$125,000 | \$75,000 | \$50,000 | \$250,000 |
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| COMPACT PROPOSED REVENUES FY 19 - With BIA for First Year | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| Member | Acres | Square Root of Acres Protected | Protected Acres Factor | Protected Acres Assessment | Fixed Assessment FY 19 | Total Assessment |
| | Protected | Protected | | | | |
| Connecticut | 2,390,000 | 1,546 | 0.0355 | \$1,581.14 | \$2,617.65 | \$4,198.79 |
| Maine | 17,716,790 | 4,209 | 0.0967 | \$4,304.91 | \$2,617.65 | \$6,922.56 |
| Massachusetts | 3,581,000 | 1,892 | 0.0435 | \$1,935.41 | \$2,617.65 | \$4,553.06 |
| New Hampshire | 4,819,000 | 2,195 | 0.0505 | \$2,245.17 | \$2,617.65 | \$4,862.82 |
| New York | 23,132,960 | 4,810 | 0.1105 | \$4,919.12 | \$2,617.65 | \$7,536.76 |
| Rhode Island | 433,000 | 658 | 0.0151 | \$673.00 | \$2,617.65 | \$3,290.65 |
| Vermont | 4,638,000 | 2,154 | 0.0495 | \$2,202.61 | \$2,617.65 | \$4,820.25 |
| Quebec | 117,401,596 | 10,835 | 0.2490 | \$11,081.75 | \$2,617.65 | \$13,699.40 |
| New Brunswick | 16,742,761 | 4,092 | 0.0940 | \$4,184.90 | \$2,617.65 | \$6,802.55 |
| Nova Scotia | 10,491,886 | 3,239 | 0.0744 | \$3,312.82 | \$2,617.65 | \$5,930.47 |
| Prince Edward Island | 622,700 | 789 | 0.0181 | \$807.07 | \$2,617.65 | \$3,424.72 |
| USFS - WMNF & GMNF | 1,146,701 | 1,071 | 0.0246 | \$1,095.21 | \$2,617.65 | \$3,712.86 |
| Newfoundland & Labrador | 18,650,860 | 4,319 | 0.0993 | \$4,416.93 | \$2,617.65 | \$7,034.58 |
| U.S. National Park Service | 273,200 | 523 | 0.0120 | \$534.58 | \$2,617.65 | \$3,152.23 |
| U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 179,000 | 423 | 0.0097 | \$432.71 | \$2,617.65 | \$3,050.36 |
| FDNY | 67,500 | 260 | 0.0060 | \$265.72 | \$2,617.65 | \$2,883.37 |
| Bureau of Indian Affairs | 245,681 | 496 | 0.0114 | \$506.94 | \$2,617.65 | \$3,124.59 |
| Total Protected Acres | 222,532,635 | 43,510 | 1.0000 | \$44,500.00 | \$44,500.00 | \$89,000.00 |
| Proposed Total Compact General Fund Budget FY 19 | | | | | | \$89,000.00 |
| The member assessment formula has two components, a fixed portion and a protected acres portion. The total member assessment is determined by dividing the proposed budget in half (\$44,500 above) and doing the following: | | | | | | |
| The first component of the assessment is determined by calculating the percentage of the total protected acres within each member area and using it to prorate the amount for each member. The square root of a member's acres (column 3) is divided by the sum of the square roots (column 3 bottom total) to calculate the Protected Acres factor. This factor is multiplied by half the budget to determine the members protected acres share. The resultant amount is shown in Column 5. | | | | | | |
| The second component is determined by taking half the budget (\$44,500 above) and dividing it by the total number of members (in this case 16 members) to calculate the member fixed share. This amount is shown in column 6. | | | | | | |
| The total assessment is shown in column 7 and is the sum of columns 5 and 6. | | | | | | |
| Example: Connecticut | | | | | | |
| Formula #1: (Column 4 which is 0.0355) X (\$44,500) = \$1,581.14 for the Protected Acres share. | | | | | | |
| Formula #2: (\$44,500) / 17 members = \$2,617.65 for the Fixed share. | | | | | | |
| Formula #3: The total member assessment is \$1,581.14 + \$2,617.65 = \$4,198.79 (column 7) Total Share | | | | | | |

Operations Committee Annual Report July 1, 2017- June 30, 2018

Introduction

This report is intended to highlight and summarize the Operations Committee activities during the past fiscal year.

Meetings

- August 1, 2017: Fredericton, NB
- November 28-29, 2017: Augusta, ME
- January 30, 2018: Portland, ME
- May 1-2, 2018: Quebec City, QE

Highlights and Issues Addressed

The Operations Committee and NECC continued weekly LMAC conference calls during the fire season.

The Operations committee provided guidance and direction to the various working teams thru the working team liaisons. The various ops committee liaisons were requested to support and remain engaged in their working team activities and meetings.

The changes to the Commissioners meeting structure implemented in 2017 were reviewed and accepted for future Commissioners meetings. These changes included focusing expanding meeting length time to allow members to focus more time on the business portion of the meeting. New timeframe includes a 2 day Commissioners Meeting preceded by a one full day Operations Committee meeting. The new format was used for the 2018 meeting in Providence, Rhode Island.

Through representation in the Alliance of Compacts, Operations is continuing to work with the Compact Alliance and between Canada and US on resolving barriers with classifications/typing of crews to allow for smooth exchange of resources between countries. Both the Compact and the Alliance of Compacts have been investigating flat fee arrangements for crew movements utilizing the CIFFC/Mutual Aid Resource Sharing Agreement.

The Operations Committee chairperson served as a member of the Compact's needs assessment panel. The Operations committee reviewed and supported the work plan developed from the results of the needs assessment visits to each agency.

The development of daily fixed rates for resource exchange was discussed and proposed by the Operations committee. The Resource Sharing working team was assigned the task of investigating the possibility of developing fixed rates for resource exchanges. Although the fixed rate concept does offer several benefits for resource exchange, there are challenges to overcome before all US based members would be comfortable and accepting of a fixed rate. Additional discussion will be required before recommending fixed rates. The Operations Committee was not able to reach a consensus on a fixed rate proposal.

The Compact Incident Management Team (IMT) continues to struggle to obtain opportunities to be mobilized. One reason is because the Compact does not have a standing IMT, and therefore no national visibility for the IMT. There are also issues with agencies and individuals making the commitment to

this IMT when there are other IMT opportunities available as well as agencies being short staffed. Operations decided to develop and implement an application process and develop an availability list that can be continuously updated.

The Operations Committee reviewed the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) program to investigate whether it would be useful as a mechanism to qualify candidates based on previous or local experience that doesn't get captured on red cards, or on national assignments. Although ops members agreed this is a good program, there was very little interest in including this program in the Compact's functions.

The initial transition period for the two part time positions is complete. Tom is focusing on the financial aspects of the Compact and continues to provide the lead support on various issues. Eric is working on the operational issues, serves as training coordinator and provides support to the various working teams. The next challenge will be replacing the Executive director position when Tom retires.

Future Operations Committee Priorities:

- Develop work plan from results of the Needs Assessment
- IMT assignments and development opportunities
- Compact Fire Danger Operating Plan
- 2019 Winter Awareness Meeting
- Plan for Executive Director Replacement
- NECC Interagency Crew clarification

Compact Assessment Meetings Summary – 2018

1. Executive Director/Deputy Executive Director Position
 - Members are satisfied with the concept of two part time positions.
 - A transition period was required to changeover from full time Executive Director position to two part time positions and allocate the duties and responsibilities to each position.
 - A narrative outlining the responsibilities of the two individual positions would clarify the first point of contact for specific Compact business. Tom remains the first point of contact on most inquiries and this has increased his work load.
 - Tom has indicated he is willing to continue to work part time through December of 2019.
 - Commissioners will need to determine if the Executive Director duties and responsibilities will revert to one full time Executive Director position or if the current situation with two part time positions will remain in effect.

2. Throughout the assessment meetings, the training opportunities provided by the Compact was often mentioned as the most important day to day service available to Compact members.
 - Development of a 5-year training plan will provide an opportunity for the Compact members to plan their individual staff training and development plans.
 - Compact training working team must be more selective in the training opportunities provided as agencies face additional budget challenges and staff reductions.

3. Recent attempts at rostering a Compact Incident Management Team have not been successful. Compact members are unable to commit staff members for specific periods of time. Therefore, rostering a Compact IMT is not practical. Collectively, Compact members may be able to source and provide an IMT if requested at a specific point in time. This will depend on the availability of qualified IMT members. The Compact will continue to support and train individuals to the Type 2 IMT level to support compact and individual agency needs.

4. Working Team Chairperson Duties and Responsibilities
 - Provide training and support for the working team chairs.
 - Serving in the role of the working team chair can be demanding and often the working team accomplishments are directly related to the efficiency and dedication of the team's chair.
 - Operations liaison must play an active role in supporting the working team chairs and provide advice and assistance if necessary.
 - Several agencies would like to see a prescribed fire council function in the compact while not increasing the total number of working teams.
 - Another suggestion was to add an Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) function for the compact.
 - Working teams seem to be working well. Some agencies can't participate fully in all working teams due to staffing.

- There was discussion about establishing working team chairs such as continuing to replace chairs on a rotation basis or filling the positions using another mechanism in order to maintain vitality in the group's leadership.
- The compact should consider providing training to working team chairs as they assume their new responsibilities.
- Working Team liaisons are not always as engaged as expected by the working teams.

5. Communication

- While the current communication is very good, some members would like to add a quarterly newsletter.
- The one to two-page newsletter would outline all Compact activities and keep the Commissioners and member agencies up to date and informed of current and planned events.
- A recommendation was to share the Ops meeting minutes with commissioners every quarter. Doing so may reduce time spent assimilating a separate newsletter.
- Having the compact fil regional and national representation on committees was seen to be of great value.
- Networking was deemed to be essential to the health and effectiveness of the compact. Agency staff from New York to Newfoundland become familiar with each others' programs and develop an ability to mesh together when an event requires. Multi agency crews and IMTs are seamlessly working together as one entity. This aspect of the compact is frequently noted when guests attend compact events.

6. Technology

- Continue to monitor advances in technology to enhance working team member participation.
- New video conferencing technology can provide working team members with an opportunity to participate remotely and reduce travel.
- Attendance at face to face meetings may not be possible for all members due to travel and budget restrictions, but a need to continue having such meetings was deemed important to maintain networking and relationships and to resolve difficult issues when feasible.

7. Member agency staffing and fiscal challenges

- Compact members are experiencing program funding reductions and reduced staffing levels.
- As members retire, some positions are not being filled.
- Staff shortages will create additional demand on Compact resources in the future.
- Firefighter availability at all levels is deemed to be the greatest challenge facing compact mutual aid capability as well as at the national and international levels.

8. Succession planning

- Agencies facing challenges with the high number of staff eligible to retire in the next 5 years.

9. Compact Finances

- Essentially every agency said that the value and services provided by the compact far exceeded the cost.

- The compact has done well acquiring grant funds which benefits all members.
- The current problem with the compact having an agreement with the USFS has proven difficult to resolve and needs to be worked out for everyone's benefit.
- While legislation addresses the relationship amongst the states and provinces, the compact needs to maintain and/or work out specific operational and financial agreements with all associate members.

10. NECC

- NECC was viewed as doing a good job supporting member mobilizations.
- Some agencies have difficulties with Travel & Attendance – Need to Use more electronic communications.
- Need training for Chairs of Working Teams and Managers on conducting meetings and leading working teams and committees.

11. Other

- Need policy on use of the internet and social media – concern for release of personal information and the content /type of information post



**COMPACT FINANCE AUDIT GROUP
AUGUST 1, 2018
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN FISCAL YEAR 2017-18

Introduction: The Compact Finance Audit Group is tasked with review of Compact financial transactions as a supplement and enhancement to external audits by certified public accountants.

Accomplishments:

On the afternoon of November 27, 2017, The Compact Audit Committee met at Maine Forest Service, Bolton Hill, in person and by phone to review selected Compact expenditures in Fiscal Year 2016-17. Pre-meeting discussions determined that the Committee would review April, May and June 2017 expenses to see that these were properly documented and were appropriate expenses for Compact business. Three credit cards and one checking account monthly statements were the basis of identifying expenses. Tom Parent was asked to bring the paper files associated with the expenses. The committee determined that all expenses, other than electronic transfers, were found to be properly documented and associated with appropriate Compact or Compact member expenses. Electronic transfers were generally related to credit card payments, payroll, taxes and insurance. There were no expenses documented in the monthly statements that were of any concern to the committee member checking the credit card or checking account.

Since Deputy Executive Director Eric Earle attended by phone and had already reconciled several monthly bank statements for Fiscal Year 2017-18, it is recommended that he would do 100% review of Compact expenses for Fiscal Year 2017-18 in similar fashion as done by the Audit Committee. Eric can refer questions or concerns to the Audit Committee when needed and a reporting process of his review can be determined later in the fiscal year.

The Committee also discussed the Commissioner's request of a formal, outside-of Compact audit, similar to the one done over 10 years ago. Tom Parent will solicit proposals for a Certified Public Accountant audit and the Operations Committee will determine what audit will be conducted.

Budget and Work Plan: The Compact Finance Audit Group does not have a dedicated budget. Its work plan is to conduct reviews of Compact financial documents throughout the year as is necessary.

Northeastern Forest Fire Protection Commission

Finance Audit Group

2018

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Northeastern Interagency Coordination Center 2018 End of Year Report

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Partners of NECC

2018 Overview

2018 here at NECC started out like any other year, a few resource orders here and there and then wham, come July/August we are busy as bees, just like any other year. At first I thought 2018 was going to be similar to 2017, however even though it was a busy year, 2018 ended up being just a little bit above average for mobilizations. Local reported wildland fires were low except for our Canadian partners especially Quebec, but on the States side, it was relatively a quiet year.

Workload: For those of you who do not know, the dispatch world is built on a tier structure. For NECC, National Coordination Center (NICC) is the 1st Tier, Eastern Area Coordination Center (EACC) is a 2nd tier, NECC is a 3rd tier and DWPC (NPS Delaware Water Gap Dispatch Center) is a 4th tier dispatch center. NECC mobilizes resources from 26 National Park facilities, and DWPC provides the mobilization for an additional 17 units in the NE. When an order comes in for one of DWPC's resources it first comes to NECC, and we filter it down to April at the dispatch center who then fills the order. Because it comes through NECC 1st, it is considered a workload and I count it as a NPS mobilization.

Our first bit of activity was in January bringing a Dozer and personnel from the Huron Manistee National Forest to assist Green Mountain National Forest with burning on DOD lands at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst in New Jersey, but our first out of area mobilization was in March sending a NPS electrician (ELEC) to assist with Hurricane Irma Recovery in the Everglades NP, and our final mobilization was in November to the Woolsey fire in Southern California where we sent a Forest Service Fireline qualified Resource Advisor (REAF) . So basically we went from January through November with mobilizations of resources.

Early spring, we brought in a Type 6 Engine from the Allegheny NF to assist Green Mountain NF with their local prescribed fire program but we also started moving Forest resources around to assist cooperators (DOD/TNC). Once local burning subsided, we began sending resources to other locations within the Eastern Area to assist with their burning programs. Kind of like buffalo roaming to where the grazing is, in our case moving resources to where the prescribed fires are.

The first engines began mobilizing out of area for wildland fire support in April. A MES engine headed to Virginia to assist the George Washington National Forest while another of their engines headed to Minnesota to assist with IA support on the Superior and Chippewa National Forests. Shortly thereafter, we moved engines to other Midwest states, and it continued from there moving resources west to Idaho, Montana and California.

The first crew mobilizations started in July sending MES, NHS, MAS to Quebec to assist with their very active fire season, with an additional MES crew heading north 2 weeks later, but we also provided Quebec with a short NFFPC IMT consisting of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick resources. While these resources were still helping Quebec, we began mobilizing crews on the US side out west with the Forest Service and Connecticut State putting crews together for the Rocky Mountain Geographical Area.

NECC started providing 7 day Coverage on July 22nd when the National PL went to a 4 and a few days later to a PL5 and it stayed that way until winding down to a PL3 on September 22nd, about 10 weeks in all, a bit less than last year, still keeping us busy and needing to bring in additional dispatchers.

Visiting dispatchers started to arrive in April and continued throughout most of the season with the last visiting dispatcher from MAS demobbing in September. This year we brought in 2 Supervisory Dispatchers from out of the area (Colorado and Minnesota) to assist while I was on AL.

Logistics: We had some snafus with the use of the compact purchase card this year and since I am unable to utilize the card to secure anything from a bus to a sandwich, those responsibilities fell onto Don and Mari. Luckily one of them was always here, so we never really had any issues. We secured 11 busses transporting crew personnel into Canada, over to the Harrisburg PA mobilization center and to our own Mobilization center in Manchester NH. We provided meals and motels for those resources located in Manchester during the mobilization and demobilization process.

This year was the first year that the NERV (National Emergency Rental Vehicle) Pilot program was utilized and we found it to be extremely successful and well received by those resources who utilized it. The program allows NECC to secure rental vehicles for individuals going to wildland fires in 4 Geographical Areas (Northwest, Southwest, Southern and Eastern GACC's) where all costs are centrally billed therefore freeing up the resource from the burden of putting a rental vehicle on their personal or agency credit card. Our hope is that this will be a National program in 2019.

Extra activities: The weekly NE LMAC calls continued from April through September with fire administrators updating each other with local activities and available resources. Once again NECC supported the National Forest Health program monitoring flights throughout New England and fortunately this year the weather was very cooperative, so we were able to complete the project without having to staff on weekends. NECC dispatchers also assisted the Forest Service with providing communications support to the radio technicians while they were upgrading mountain top repeaters. We hosted one of the EA ROSS practice sessions bringing in new personnel that wanted to learn about dispatching.

Staffing: Molly continues to be the Administrative Assistant to the EA Coordinating Group providing monthly conference calls and attended the annual teams meeting. Molly attended the Compact Winter Meeting in Portland, attended the Compact's Commissioners Meeting in Rhode Island, participated in the compacts program reviews for most of the agency partners in both Canada and US, presented at one of the Maine State Ranger meetings and attended a retirement seminar (not to many years off ☐). Molly also continues to provide specific services for White Mountain and Green Mountain National Forest with things such as fire qualifications, AD hiring, and updates at fire refreshers.

Don currently is the compacts representative on the EA Dispatch Working Team (will be Chair in 2019), participated in a few of the agency reviews (US side), attended the WildCad Administrators Workshop in March, attended the Compact's Winter Meeting, and attended the ROSS reports training in October.

Don provides the daily WIMS inputs for the White Mountain and FWS 9 RAWs stations and participated in the Fire Net training sessions.

Don started the year as a Seasonal for the Compact which is sponsored by the State of New Hampshire however in June he was hired into the Deputy Center Manager position. This was great news to my ears for many reasons, but the main reason is because now the center will have two supervisors so when I am not here (like during a Federal Government shutdown), Don can take over the Center Manager responsibilities. It also allows me more freedom to attend meetings, training, assignment's and provides a

second dispatcher to assist with getting the winter work completed and share the on call responsibilities during the winter months.

Mari currently is the NPS representative to the EA Dispatch Working Team, attended the Compacts Winter Meeting, attended the ROSS reports training in October, she took one fire assignment and assisted North Country Fire Management with IQCS.

Looking towards 2019

Now that we can hang up the 2019 calendar we begin planning and improving NECC procedures, guidelines, work schedules etc. The Forest Service was given the go ahead to hire an Initial Attack dispatcher which we hope to have in place sometime in 2019. Having the additional dispatcher (if it all works out) allows Don and myself a little bit more leeway in traveling for fire assignments, training, meetings, or just to meet with partners for wildland fire refreshers, answering questions, or just getting to know their programs a bit better. This increases the working relationships among NECC and all our partners which was something I wanted to make sure occurred from the first day I started at NECC.

EA Dispatch AWARD: A congratulations is in order for 2 of the dispatchers which NECC is proud to work with. Don Tucker was selected as the Eastern Area's Dispatcher of the Year, and April Porth, the NPS dispatcher out of DWPC was one of the dispatchers nominated. Both are terrific dispatchers and a huge asset to NECC's success. I'm very proud of what NECC has accomplished over the years and could not have done it without the support from not only the primary dispatchers in the center (s), but all those who come and give us a hand throughout the year. Because of this support, I see nothing but sunshine ahead (Ok a little snow, and a few stormy days and clouds as well, but mostly sunshine☐).

Enjoy

Molly, Don, and Mari



Working Team Duties and Guidelines

- 1) Set up and conduct regular meetings and conference calls – quarterly if practical.
- 2) Expend funds and facilitate the completion of the WT work plans as proposed annually.
- 3) Work with the Executive Director for any logistical and support needs throughout the year.
- 4) Take meeting minutes and get them distributed and posted on the website within 14 days after the event.
- 5) Ensure that the WT section of the website is current and that information is provided to update links and the WT overview.
- 6) Take attendance at each meeting or event and provide federal match forms to the Executive Director.
- 7) Compile and complete an Annual Report which includes the WT Accomplishments and Work Plan. The Work Plan needs to be completed and sent to the Executive Director prior to January 15 of each calendar year, for the upcoming fiscal year. The full Annual Report (work plan for upcoming fiscal year and accomplishments for the past fiscal year) needs to be completed and sent in to the Executive Director, electronically, by July 1 annually.
- 8) Report the WT's activities (Work Plan and Accomplishments) to the Commission at the August Annual Meeting. Provide written copies of the report to the Executive Director and Operations Committee Chair by July 15.
- 9) Coordinate activities with other Working Teams as deemed appropriate.
- 10) Keep the WT liaison and Executive Director informed of all WT activities and needs.
- 11) Implement a smooth transition of the chair and vice chair by using the rotation schedule every two years at the Commission meeting.
- 12) Ensure that cooperators, instructors and contributors to a WT event are properly thanked in writing after the event.

ANNUAL REPORT



Training Working Team 2018

This past year has been an exciting for the Training Working Team (TWT), as the Team collaborated with the North Atlantic Fire Science Exchange (NAFSE) to host an expanded winter workshop in January 31 to February 1, 2018. The workshop titled “Igniting Exchange” and brought together fire scientists, researchers, managers and “boots on the ground” to discuss current fire topics and to collaborate and network. The attendance was 210 people which was a significant increase over the Compact’s Annual Winter Awareness Workshop.

The Training Working Team is responsible for annual winter workshop and is in the process of developing the agenda, securing presenters, setting up the General Session room, running registration and serving as Day Chairs for the January 2019 workshop.

The Training Working Team has been very busy in providing training opportunities for its member agencies, and to fire agencies outside the compact area. The TWT is developing a long term training plan focusing on Type 3 Incident Management Organizations. This is to allow the fire staff within the Compact’s member agencies to acquire training and gain practical fireground experience at the prerequisite fireline positions (Unit Leader and Section Chief levels) and better prepare for incident response within the member’s jurisdictions. This will also prepare compact member’s staff and provide training and experience to maintaining the Compact’s current Type 2 IMT. The TWT recognizes most of the member agencies have a personnel gap between individuals nearing retirement with advanced fire qualifications and newer fire staff who need lower to mid-level fire training to advance. The TWT will continue to offer the trainings that complete this cycle, but intends to lengthen the amount of time between delivery of higher level Command and General Staff Courses (such as S-420, L-481 or CIMC).

Training Sessions Held from Aug. 2017 to August 2018

Nov. 13-17, 2017. South Portland, ME
L-481 Advanced Leadership for Command and General Staff

Feb. 26-Mar 2, 2018. South Portland, ME
Operations Academy
S-230 - Crew Boss
S-339 – Division Supervisor
S-330 - Task Force Leader
E-Isuite
P310 – Fire Prevention Education Team Member

March 2018 - Rutland, VT (Green Mountain NF)
I-300 - Intermediate ICS

I-400 - Advanced ICS

June 7-11, 2018

Wildland Fire Academy (NFFPC, State of New Hampshire, and White Mountain NF)

S-212 Wildland Powersaws

S-230 Crew Boss (Single Resource)

S-270 Basic Air Operations

Training Planned for August 2018 to August 2019

Oct-18 – 27, 2018

NY Wildfire and Incident Management Academy – Instructor Support

Oct 29 – Nov 2, 2018

NFFPC - Fall Academy - South Portland, ME (sponsored by NFFPC)

S-203, NWCG Introduction to Incident Information

S-354, NWCG Facilities Unit Leader

L-964, NIMS ICS All-Hazards Situation Unit Leader

L-965 NIMS ICS All-Hazards Resource Unit Leader

L-975 NIMS ICS All-Hazards Finance/Administration Unit Leader

NIMO - Risk Management Workshop (2 Days)

Nov26 – 29, 2018

ESRI - Collector / GIS Training (2-2day sessions) (sponsored by NAFSE and NFFPC)

Jan 28-Feb 1, 2019

Annual Winter Awareness Workshop – South Portland, ME

Feb 25-Mar 1, 2019

NFFPC - Winter Academy - South Portland, ME

Proposed –

S-300 - Extended Attack IC

S-290 - Intermediate Fire Behavior

I-300 - ICS - Intermediate

M-410 - Facilitative Instructor

S-491 - NFDRS 2016 (Coordinate with EACC)

June 2019 –

Spring Field and Crew Boss Academy (NFFPC, State of New Hampshire, and White Mountain NF)

Proposed -

L-280 - Followership to Leadership

S-230 - Single Resource Boss

S-219 - Firing Operations

S-212 - Chainsaws

S-212R - Chainsaw Refresher (Include an Instructor Refresher)

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ANNUAL REPORT



Equipment and Technology Working Team

August 2018
Providence, RI

Accomplishments 2018

1. Organized vendors for 2018 winter meeting, 16 vendors were represented.
2. Continue to update the list of “useful” fire/forestry APPS and posted on website.
3. Continued to work on web site upgrades.
4. Completed the Compact equipment inventory
5. 2018 June Call Up in Roscommon MI, 7 participants in total from 7 agencies. It was a huge success for Compact members.
6. Started expanding on this Equipment and Technology web site page.
7. Finalize wetting agents report.

Home News Information Management Working Teams Members NECC English français Log In

NFFPC.org NORTHEASTERN FOREST FIRE PROTECTION COMPACT

Equipment and Technology: Research and Development
Contact Information **Research and Development** Vendors

Tech Tips

- [Ethanol in Gasoline: ETWT Recommendations \(2010\)](#)
- [Hurricane Sandy: Lessons Learned](#)
- [Mobile Data Collection](#)
- [USDA Forest Service Fire Publications](#)

Equipment Links

- [FireSafe](#)
- [Insurance Resources: Preparing For An Emergency](#)
- [Missoula Technology and Development Center](#)
- [Roscommon Equipment Center](#)
- [San Dimas Technology and Development Center](#)
- [Wildland Fire Chemical Systems](#)

Annual Reports

- [Annual Report 2014](#)

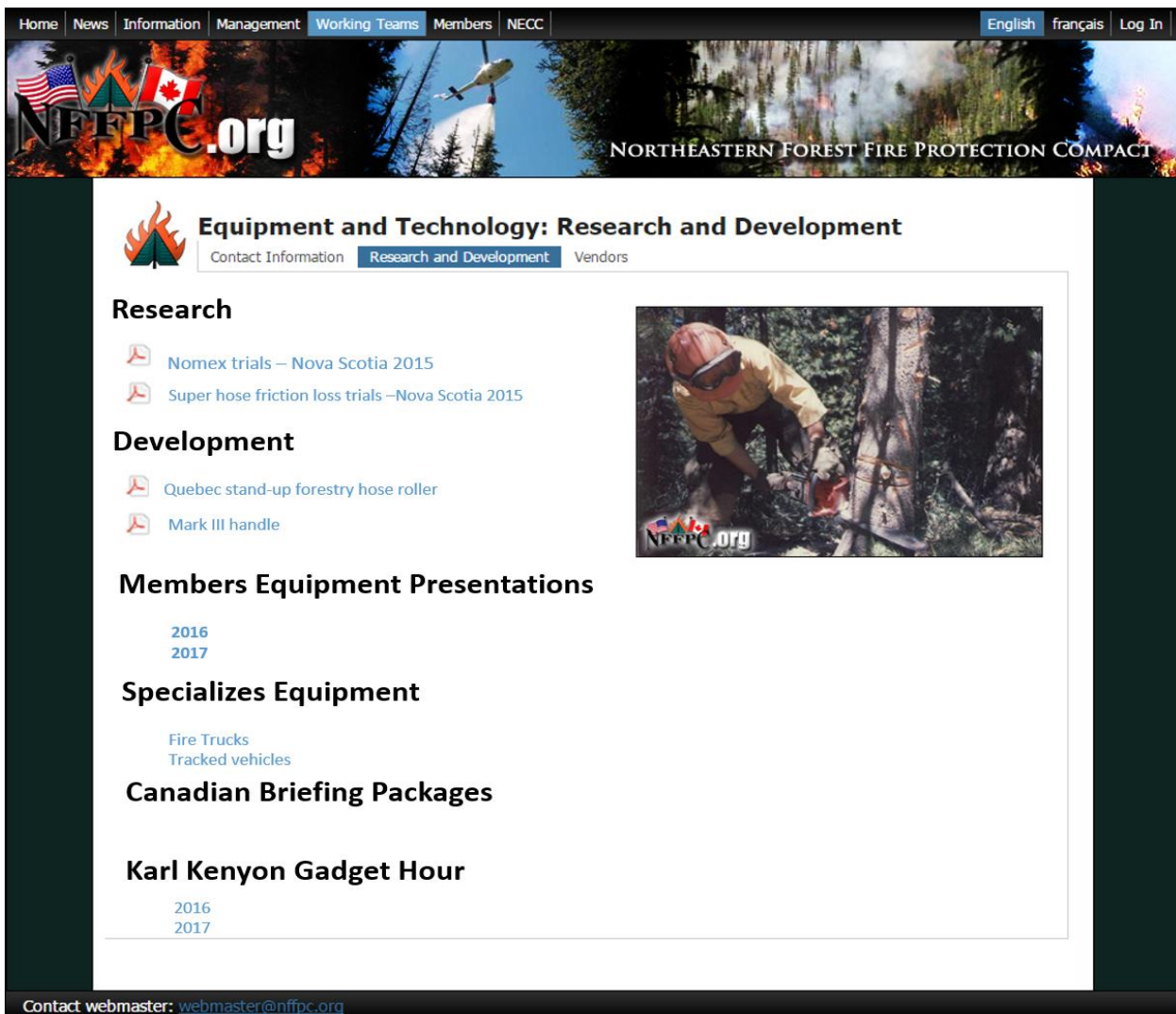
Other Files

- [Collection of Useful Apps 2015](#)

Contact webmaster: webmaster@nffpc.org

Work plan 2018/2019

1. Continue work on the Quarterly Newsletter
2. Radio Communication Guide with each States Comm. Tech contact information
3. Preparing for the 2019 Winter Meeting
4. Continue to update the Compact member equipment inventory for 2019
5. Purchase, Test, and Report on “NEW” Handheld Weather Instruments
6. Expand on the ETWT website to include Research, Development, Members yearly updates, Specialized Equipment and a Karl Kenyon Gadget Hour Archive



The screenshot displays the website for the Northeastern Forest Fire Protection Compact (NFFPC.org). The top navigation bar includes links for Home, News, Information, Management, Working Teams, Members, and NECC, along with language options for English and français, and a Log In button. The main header features the NFFPC.org logo and the text 'NORTHEASTERN FOREST FIRE PROTECTION COMPACT'. The page content is organized into several sections:

- Equipment and Technology: Research and Development**: This section includes sub-links for Contact Information, Research and Development, and Vendors.
- Research**: Lists two items: 'Nomex trials – Nova Scotia 2015' and 'Super hose friction loss trials – Nova Scotia 2015'.
- Development**: Lists two items: 'Quebec stand-up forestry hose roller' and 'Mark III handle'.
- Members Equipment Presentations**: Includes links for the years 2016 and 2017.
- Specializes Equipment**: Includes links for 'Fire Trucks' and 'Tracked vehicles'.
- Canadian Briefing Packages**: A section with no visible links.
- Karl Kenyon Gadget Hour**: Includes links for the years 2016 and 2017.

An image of a firefighter in a yellow jacket and red helmet using a chainsaw is visible on the right side of the page. The footer contains the contact information: 'Contact webmaster: webmaster@nffpc.org'.

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ANNUAL REPORT



Prevention and Education Working Team

**August 2018
Providence, RI**

Compact Prevention and Education Working Team Annual report for the Commissioners Meeting in August 2018

1. On Oct 17 – 18, 2017, two members of the PWT helped organize, staff and attend an event to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the 1947 fires in Maine. SOPFEU posted some of the 1947 fire information on the Compact PWT's fire prevention website www.northeastwildfire.org. The Northeast Fire Science Exchange used their website for the registrations. The event featured discussions and a field trip of the burn area in Acadia National Park, near Bar Harbor, Maine.

2. In late December 2017, an email was sent out to all Compact PWT members about upcoming wildfire prevention courses and conferences available in the U.S. in late winter / early spring. Although we have grant funds to cover meals, lodging and transportation, no one was available to attend these conferences. We had interest from one PWT member to attend a conference, but they were denied out of state / country travel. Also, the P310 course was close to the same time as a lot of the conferences.

3. January 31 – February 1, 2018: Igniting Exchange, the North Atlantic Fire Science Exchange and Northeastern Forest Fire Protection Compact's joint meeting. The Compact PWT helped "bridge the gap" between science and management by sponsoring Matt Lovitt from the Pigeon Forge, TN Fire Department to participate in the discussion on the 2016 wildfires in Gatlinburg, TN.

The 2018 winter meeting was well attended (10 PWT members present). Several members have retired and have been replaced by new members. PEI sent a representative for the first time.

The Compact PWT also displayed several fire prevention research based posters (one based on a speaker we brought to Mystic CT in 2016 for the "Wildfire in the Northeast" conference). We also displayed the new IBHS research factsheets provided by NFPA.

Within the PWT meeting, a presentation was given about the NFPA fire prevention conference that four members attended in Boston in June 2017.

Maureen Brooks (from the USDA Forest Service's State and Private Forestry) participated in the PWT meeting and clarified that we have the grant funds available for the Smokey Bear Hot Air Balloon in 2019. It's all part of Smokey's 75th Birthday celebration with a strong emphasis on wildfire prevention.

Several sub-committees were formed for various projects. A follow-up conference call in February occurred with target dates for completing projects.

The Fire Prevention Award was presented to Bryan Nowell from NH and the Compact Outstanding Service Award went to NECC.

Current and future projects with the Mid Atlantic Compact were discussed. Spring 2019 supplement in Highlights magazine will feature Smokey Bear. After the meeting, one Compact PWT member participated in several conference calls / trainings with the Mid – Atlantic Compact about the quickseries wildfire preparedness app and pocket guide.

4. February 26 – March 1, 2018. The P310 “Fire Prevention and Education Team” member course was held at the Compact Winter Training Academy in S. Portland. Twelve students and three instructors participated. Two of the instructors were from the NFFPC and the lead instructor came up from the Mid Atlantic Compact. FPET shirts were provided to PWT FPET trainees. Partially as a result of the training, one instructor was mobilized on a FPET assignment in early May. He will use his experience to run the upcoming “FPET training Day” during the NFFPC Commissioner’s meeting.
5. March 2018. Several Compact members researched purchasing banner ups and tradeshow displays. An informal poll was taken via email to decide how many states and provinces would benefit from and use these displays. We also surveyed the type of fire prevention message that would be most effective.

Results of informal “poll” to see what states and provinces are interested in getting tradeshow displays:

- a. Nine replied they would be interested in getting displays this round.
 - b. One declined the offer.
 - c. Two are interested, but can wait until the next round.
 - d. Seven preferred tabletop, four preferred banner up, but that did not consider cost.
 - e. Seven preferred WUI theme, three preferred campfire theme, but obviously they both are good for wildfire prevention.
6. Wildfire prevention week is usually the third week of April. A few states still do fire prevention events during this time, but Maine has shifted towards participating in NFPA’s Wildfire Community Preparedness Day, which is the first Saturday in May.
 7. Compact PWT members participated in three of the Compact Training Working Team’s conference calls. For the upcoming NFFPC Winter meeting, we have booked Professor Ed Struzik to come and talk about his book “Fire Storm – How Wildfire will shape our Future.”
 8. An email reminder was sent out in July to remind all the Compact members to submit recommendations for this year’s Outstanding Service Award.
 9. With Smokey Bear’s 75th birthday coming up in 2019, the Compact PWT has already started making plans. Contact has been made with the Boston Red Sox to try and have Smokey throw out the first pitch at a Red Sox game near his birthday in mid-August. They have also contacted the Friends of Smokey Bear Hot Air Balloon and have plans to work with the Mid Atlantic Compact to get Smokey in the Northeast on several weekends in 2019.

10. The Compact FPET team also has grant money available to work on an invasive insect project with the Forest Health Team. We have contacted members of the Compact Forest Health Team to offer our FPET services, but have not had the opportunity to help out. The Asian Long Horned beetle project in Queens, NY has been postponed until the fall.

11. As in the past, the www.northeastwildfire.org website has been updated each month with a featured fire prevention message. In May, New Brunswick posted a historic display of old fire prevention posters. On the February PWT conference call, a request for new fire photos was discussed. Several ideas were tossed around about how to promote the website in the future. During the 1947 fires event in the fall of 2017, the website pageview showed quite an increase of viewers. The PWT is discussing other ways to get more viewers to the website.

ANNUAL REPORT



Fire Science Working Team

August 2018

Providence, RI

FIRE SCIENCE WORKING TEAM

ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2017-2018

- October, 2017 Tess Greaves (VT), Joe Mints (ME), & Kevin Grady (CT) attended ‘The Great Acadia Fire 70 Years Later: Lessons and Future Challenges’ October 16-18, 2017 at Bar Harbor, Maine. Field bus tour, walking tour; & panel lecture. Joe Mints also worked at the Maine Forest Service “Fire Fighting Equipment” station (walking tour).

- **January 30, 2018:** The Fire Science Working Team conducted a meeting during the ‘Igniting Exchange Meeting’ in Portland, ME. This meeting served as our annual winter meeting. Topics discussed included:
 - OPS Liaison Dave Celino updated the Fire Science Working Team on the following:
 - “Recognized Prior Learning” (RPL) national initiative and the need for the COMPACT to participate in RPL by coming up with some “SME”s (subject matter experts). FSWT may be asked to suggest appropriate positions that we have SMEs.
 - Inter-COMPACT mobilizations and liability issues inter-regional cooperation going on (the Northeast Regional Strategy Committee or RSC) with the Cohesive Strategy and how the Rx burn council would fit nicely within the “Resilient Landscapes” focus point.
 - OPS stated they want us to leave Wx stations and moving on with new technologies; working with Cohesive Strategy and evaluate need for a COMPACT Rx Council.

 - Update on I.R.W.I.N (fire reporting system) by Joe Mints, Maine Forest Service.

 - “Does COMPACT Need A Prescribed Burn Council?” power point & discussion (raised more questions than were answered).

 - Megan Sebasky, WI-DNR, gave a ‘LANDFIRE’ presentation.

 - Steve Marien , Eastern Area Predictive Services, gave a presentation on NFDRS 2016 and how it will be deployed (need for “train-the-trainer” / transition teams)

 - Eric Evenson, NWS, Burlington, VT discussed what’s new on-line with NWS including Canadian Interactive map.

 - Reviewed and finalized the FY2019 work plan.

- **April, 2018** Tess Greaves (VT) & Joe Mints (ME) attended NFDRS 2016 “Transition Team” SMEs training that was held in Tucson, AZ Cost: +/- \$4,000.
- **July, 2018** QD (NEFIRE Portable 1) went down, sent to BLM for repair estimate.

**NORTHEAST COMPACT
FIRE SCIENCE WORKING TEAM
FY 2019 WORK PLAN PROPOSAL**

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|--|---------|-----------------|
| 1. | Quick Deploy Weather Station Annual B.L.M. Maintenance Contract | Budget: | \$3,600 |
| 2. | Working Team General Operating Expenses (e.g. Winter Meeting, travel & incidental expenses related to new projects, etc.) | Budget: | \$4,000 |
| 3. | Sponsor FSWT members to attend training relevant to fire science and technology (e.g. S-490 Advanced Wildland Fire Behavior, S-491 Intermediate National Fire Danger Rating System, numerous Rx courses, and others) | Budget: | \$5,000 |
| 4. | Continue collaboration with the National Weather Service (NWS) and North Atlantic Fire Science Exchange (NAFSE) | Budget: | \$0.00 |
| 5. | Continue to investigate and integrate new technology (e.g. Avenza, Drones) | Budget: | \$2,000 |
| 6. | Examine website and evaluate for additions/deletions & updates | Budget: | \$0.00 |
| TOTAL REQUESTED: | | | \$14,600 |

**NORTHEASTERN FOREST FIRE PROTECTION COMPACT
FIRE SCIENCE WORKING TEAM
CONTACT INFORMATION**

| | |
|--|---|
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| <p><u>FDNY</u> (vacant)</p> | <p><u>Operations Committee Liaison</u> David Celino Dept. of Conservation and Recreation Chief, Bur. of Forest Fire Control & Forestry 251 Causeway St., Suite 600 Boston, MA 02114 508-326-2403 David.Celino@state.ma.us</p> |

ANNUAL REPORT



Resource Sharing Working Team

August 1, 2018

Providence, Rhode Island

ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-18

Introduction:

This report is intended to highlight and summarize those areas and activities where the Resource Sharing Working Team (RSWT) focused most of their attention over the last Compact fiscal year.

Report:

- Budget Review and editing: Budget set at \$14,000 (see attached)

- Review of Mobilization problems in 2017:
 - US mobilizations went well; no issues reported.
 - Canadian crews with embedded US firefighters (FF) works very well and is considered the best means of mobilizing US FF into Canada, except;
 - When US FF are embedded into Canadian crews, the US FF must meet CIFC annual fitness standards (WFX-FIT) and S-170 helicopter hover exit training. Fitness tests must be in Canada; training may be done in states.
 - US crews and single resources only need to meet their agency standards.
 - US FF are covered by their agency's workers compensation.
 - Compact-to-Compact resource sharing provides the best protection for sending agencies.

- Review and consensus on a Compact Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL):
 - Canadians already self-certify their firefighters and IMT members
 - There is limited interest among the states to implement RPL.
 - There will be a lot of RPL work for little gain to Compact or states.
 - RPL can increase or decrease liability to agencies.
 - A draft RPL is submitted to Commissioners for approval.

- Review and consensus on internal Compact fixed mobilization daily rates:
 - Canadians will continue with fixed rates as set by CIFC MARS agreement.
 - Canadians can continue to pay actual costs for US resources.
 - The US-Canadian currency exchange rate is a critical variable
 - 2017 CIFC MARS daily rate was \$575/crew member and \$825/single resource, plus \$200 marshalling rate.
 - States are asked to estimate their acceptable fixed rates (see below):

| Proposed Fixed Mobilization Daily Rates | | |
|--|--------------------|-------------------|
| State | Crew Member | IMT Member |
| Maine | \$1,130 | \$1,869 |
| New Hampshire | \$365 | \$981 |
| Vermont | | |
| Massachusetts | | |
| Rhode Island | \$857 | \$1,019 |
| Connecticut | \$721 | \$918 |
| New York | \$1,029 | \$1,190 |
| Average | \$0 | \$0 |

- Discussion on Compact Incident Management Team (IMT)
 - Compact has missed many Type 2 or 3 IMT assignments each year because the team is not posted as available.
 - Agency and member commitment to the Compact IMT continues to be less than it takes to post the team as available.
 - FDNY IMT members are encouraged to help fill out a team, however, FDNY members cannot travel to Canada and would still need to be reimbursed under New York City rules.
 - A FEMA Draft IMT Resource Typing Definition for Response Operational Coordination, dated September 2017, was provided and is attached.

- FDNY Full-Scale Exercise, April 16-20, 2018, Oriskany, NY
 - FDNY IMT invited the Compact IMT and IMT members to participate with FDNY at a week-long all-hazard exercise at the New York State Preparedness Training Center, Oriskany (near Rome), New York. New York Forest Ranger participated.

- Compact Staff Ride
 - A staff ride is planned with Thayer Leadership Development Group at West Point, NY for May 1, 2019 as part of the Spring Operations Committee for 30 attendees at a cost of \$12,830.
 - Dave Celino has suggested Bunker Hill. He has contacts with retired military officers who conduct such rides and can develop new ones.

RESOURCE SHARING WORKING TEAM WORK PLAN PROPOSAL FY 2018-19

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Operations Committee: | \$6,000 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support travel of Ops members to attend quarterly meetings | |
| Developing a Compact Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Program: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review other RPL programs • Develop draft Compact RPL Program for Commission review (WR grant) \$5,000 • Develop or conduct leadership staff ride (Wildfire Response Grant) \$5,000 | |
| Agency Briefing Packages: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members submit or amend their agency briefing packages. \$0 • Need aviation pricing in agency briefings which can include a quote that changing fuel prices will vary the cost of every resource. \$0 | |
| Inter-Compact Meetings: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two NFFPC representatives attend the annual Alliance of Forest Fire Compacts meeting scheduled for October in New Orleans. \$4,000 • Continue the process of changing Compact statutory language to allow for Compact-to-Compact resources sharing including amendments to federal legislation. \$0 | |
| Border Crossings: | |
| \$1,000 | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide the opportunity for NECC staff to visit Canadian dispatch centers, border crossings and fire management offices. | |
| Compact Incident Management Team (IMT): | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to support and develop of the IMT by developing new members through training and experience. (WRR grant of \$50,000) • Provide for an annual spring meeting of the team (\$3K from FY14/15) \$3,000 | |
| Report to Commissioners | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide Commissioners with a report about successes, needs, failures and problems with compact-to-compact mobilizations. \$0 | |

Compact Operating Budget Summary

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| 1. Operations Team quarterly meetings | \$6,000 |
| 2. Inter-Compact meeting | \$4,000 |
| 3. NECC Staff visit to Canadian EOCs and Border Crossings | \$1,000 |
| 4. <u>Incident Management Team Support</u> | <u>\$3,000</u> |
| TOTAL | \$14,000 |

**NORTHEASTERN FOREST FIRE PROTECTION COMMISSION
RESOURCE SHARING WORKING TEAM
2018**

| | | |
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ANNUAL REPORT



Forest Health Working Team

August 2018

FOREST HEALTH WORKING TEAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2017-2018

- July 2017: A FHWT initiated Oak Wilt/Emerald Ash Borer training was set up through Rob Cole (for Jerry Carlson, NY) and Isabel Munck (USDA Forest Service). Meeting was held in Pittsburg, PA, a city with a model approach to management of oak wilt. The cost of 20 rooms was covered by the compact for members from 7 jurisdictions. Total participation from outside and inside the compact was 48.
- January 2018: An in-person working meeting was held at the Compact Winter Meeting in Portland, ME. Eight FHWT members participated in person or by teleconference. Action items included investigating the need for a flow chart for mobilizations; exploring a joint meeting of Northeastern Forest Pest Council and NFFPC in 2020; Explore engagement of communications team for ALB mobilization.
- February 2018: FHWT Chair communicated with USDA APHIS and FS regarding potential Asian Longhorned beetle survey mobilization to Brooklyn/Queens, NY. Anticipated mobilization before end of April 2018. Communicated with FPEWT member Kent Nelson re: potential need for assistance.
- March 2018: Proposal to continue exploring a joint meeting between Northeastern Forest Pest Council and NFFPC supported by executive team and in business meeting of NEFPC. Working Team Chair provided proposal to Executive Director to bring to the Operations Team and Commissioners.
- March 2018: FHWT Chair provided update on FHWT and Compact at annual meeting of NAASF Forest Health Committee
- March 2018: FHWT chair with USDA Agencies re: proposed mobilization for Asian longhorned beetle survey. Agencies' request was not in time for spring deployment of survey team. Plans for call for assistance in the Fall for survey team to Brooklyn/Queens.
- Notes on 2017-2018 Workplan items not accomplished:
 - Mobilization for ALB delayed as described above
 - Southern pine beetle saw crew needs in NY obviated due to work by State of NY crews; request for assistance in MA tendered, but required MOU not produced.

FOREST HEALTH WORKING TEAM WORK PLAN PROPOSAL 2018-2019

- Continue to mobilize and train forest health personnel while assisting member agencies in survey and mitigation work that has impact on forest fire hazards. Compact to cover travel and other support costs.

\$25,500
- Mobilize assistance for Southern Pine Beetle response on federal lands. Compact to cover costs as defined by the USFS grant covering these activities.

\$50,000
- Mobilize assistance for Asian Longhorned Beetle surveys and/or other live action event(s) within the Compact area. Compact to cover travel costs.

\$18,000
- Workgroup meetings will be held, as needed, to continue progress on mobilization protocols, training resources, and activities related to the US Forest Service grants. Compact to cover travel costs over and above attendance at the host meeting. The Forest Health Working Team Chair, or other representative(s), will attend the NEFFPC annual meeting. Compact to cover travel costs. Periodic conference calls

\$2,000
- Support for the Northeastern Coordination Center.

\$3,000

Budget Summary

| | |
|---|----------|
| 1. Forest Health Working Team Meeting | \$25,500 |
| 2. Southern Pine Beetle (Fed Lands) | \$50,000 |
| 3. Asian Longhorned Beetle Project (Coop Lands) | \$18,000 |
| 4. Workgroup meeting(s) and NFFPC annual meeting. | \$ 2,000 |
| 5. Northeastern Interagency Coordination Center | \$ 3,000 |

| | |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Total | \$98,500 |
|--------------|-----------------|

Since activities began in 2013, the Forest Health Working Team has significantly leveraged available funding, with the Compact supporting seven forest health mobilizations and a training to date.

Maintaining a General Fund helps provide uniform services throughout the Compact area, helps build capacity, allows more immediate response to extraordinary forest health events, and contributes to non-federal match of grant funds, when required. Requests for voluntary dues have been sent to members in FY14, with nine members contributing, and in FY17, with seven members contributing.

FHWT activities are also supported by US Forest Service grants. A FFY14 grant from Forest Health Management – Cooperative Lands in the amount of \$75,000 has facilitated FHWT startup, training, public information, and multiple mobilizations within the US.

The FHWT is grateful for support from the US Forest Service, and the NAASF Executive Committee and the NFFPC Commissioners for their efforts in obtaining additional grants. In FFY17 grants were received from Forest Health Management – Cooperative Lands in the amount of \$35,000 to conduct Asian long-horned beetle surveys and other mobilizations, and to continue other FHWT activities. In addition, the FHWT will facilitate mobilizations for response to southern pine beetle on federal lands through a \$50,000 grant for this purpose.

| Source | Activities | Balance | Expiration |
|--|---|-----------|--|
| USDA FS | Compact activities | \$25,473 | Sept 2019 (no extensions) |
| USDA FS | Southern Pine Beetle work on Fed.Lands | \$50,000 | September 2021 (1 yr extension possible) |
| USDA FS | Asian Longhorned Beetle Survey on Cooperative Lands | \$18,000 | September 2021 (1 yr extension possible) |
| USDA FS | Compact Activities | \$12,500 | September 2021 (1 yr extension possible) |
| Voluntary Dues: Solicited 2014 (\$1500 ea), 2017 (\$1000 ea) | Compact Activities | \$22,112 | No expiration |
| | Total: | \$128,085 | |

| Compact Forest Health Mobilizations 2013 -2017 | | | | | | | | |
|--|---------------|----------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--|------------------------|------------------|
| Date | Issue | Location | Host Agency | Task | # Mobilized | Home Agencies | Source of Travel Funds | Salaries Paid by |
| Spr-13 | EAB | NH | NH | Survey | 6 | ME, MA | NH | Home Agency |
| Fall-14 | ALB | MA | MA | Survey | 20 | ME, CT, NS, NH, VT, USFS, USDA-PPQ | USFS Grant | Home Agency |
| Mar/Spr-15 | SPB | NY | US-FWS* | Tree Felling | 20 | QC, NB | US-FWS | US-FWS |
| Apr-15 | SPB | NY | NY | Survey | 6 | NS, NH, ME | USFS Grant | Home Agency |
| Jun-15 | SPB | NY | NY | I&E | 5 | ME, NS, NY, VA, NJ | USFS Grants | Home Agency |
| Nov-15 | SPB | NY | NY | Survey | 8 | MA, RI, ME, VT | USFS Grant | Home Agency |
| Nov-15 | SPB | NY | NY | Tree Felling | 10 | QC | NY | NY |
| Apr-17 | BSLB | NB | NB | Survey | 6 | ME, NH, VT | USFS Grant & Dues | Home Agency |
| Jul-17 | Oak Wilt, EAB | PA | NFFPC | Training | ~30 | Compact: ME,NH,VT,RI,MA,NY, USFS --Outside Compact: PA, NJ | USFS Grant & Dues | Home Agency |

ALB - Asian Longhorned Beetle

EAB - Emerald Ash Borer

BSLB-Brown Spruce Longhorned Beetle

*United State Fish & Wildlife Service

SPB - Southern Pine Beetle

NFFPC Forest Health Working Team Roster

| Member Agency | Rep | Email |
|-----------------------|-----------------|--|
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| USFS NA Forest Health | Mike Bohne | mbohne@fs.fed.us |
| USFS NA Fire Program | Tom Brady | tbrady@fs.fed.us |
| USFS NFS | Chris O'Brien | chrisobrien@fs.fed.us |
| FDNY | Michael Kendall | Michael.Kendall@fdny.nyc.gov |
| Operations Committee | Jim Rudderham | Jim.Rudderham@novascotia.ca |



APPENDIX A – NFFPC COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS and REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

| | |
|---|----------|
| Northeast Interagency Coordination Center Agreement | Page 88 |
| New Hampshire – NFFPC Agreement – NECC Staffing | Page 100 |
| Communications Trailer | Page 104 |
| NFFPC Code of Conduct policy | Page 106 |
| NFFPC By-Laws - Revised 08/08/2012 | Page 110 |
| NFFPC Proxy Form | Page 120 |
| NFFPC Chair Selection/Rotation Table - Revised 08/08/2012 | Page 121 |
| Alliance of Forest Fire Compacts Briefing Paper | Page 122 |
| Alliance of Forest Fire Compacts Agreement | Page 126 |

NORTHEASTERN INTERAGENCY
COORDINATION CENTER (NECC)

COOPERATIVE FIRE PROTECTION AGREEMENT



2018 OPERATING PLAN

| | |
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I. Purpose

This Annual Financial and Operating Plan is based on, and is part of, the Master Cooperative Fire Protection Agreement for the Northeastern Interagency Coordination Center (NECC). This plan supplements but does not replace existing, local agreements. The purpose of this Operating Plan is to describe the services provided to the partners through NECC.

II. Partners

Partners in this AOP are:

- Northeastern Forest Fire Protection Compact
- USDA Forest Service-White Mountain National Forest
- USDA Forest Service Green Mountain/Finger Lakes National Forests
- USDA Forest Service Northeastern Area State & Private Forestry
- USDI Fish & Wildlife Service-Northeast Region
- USDI Bureau of Indian Affairs-Eastern Region
- USDI National Park Service- Northeast Region

The mission of the Northeastern Interagency Coordination Center (NECC) is to provide interagency support in the mobilization of incident resources for its member agencies.

III. Guidance

The Northeastern Interagency Coordination Center operates under the general guidance and oversight of a Board of Directors. The current Board is comprised of the following individuals:

| | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| USDA-FS:WMNF | <i>Shannon Gurney</i> | NFFPC | <i>Tom Parent***</i> |
| USDA-FS: GMNF | <i>Kevin Boness</i> | USDI BIA | <i>Lucas Minton</i> |
| State of Maine | <i>Bill Hamilton</i> | USDI NPS USDI FWS | <i>Tony Davis*</i> |
| State of New Hampshire | <i>Steve Sherman</i> | USDA-FS:NA | <i>Tom Brady</i> |
| Province of Quebec | <i>Luc Dugas**</i> | | |

*Chair **Vice Chair***Past Chair

The rotation of the 2 year term chair will move to NPS, Quebec, USFS-NF, and then NH.

NECC recognizes the differences in policies and legal requirements under which each agency operates within the Cooperative Agreement established by the participating agencies.

IV. Services

NECC will conduct, but is not limited to, the following activities:

Develop and implement a system for maintaining cost effective and timely coordination of interagency emergency response for wildland fire and all hazard incidents. This will be accomplished through planning, situation monitoring, and expediting resource orders between the interagency wildland fire management members within NECC; and between NECC and the Eastern Area Coordination Center (EACC).

NECC will establish standard procedures, which guide the operations of multi-agency logistical support activity in the NECC area. These procedures will be described in a local mobilization guide or dispatch operating plan prepared and updated annually by NECC and approved by the NECC Board. This guide is intended to facilitate the interagency mobilization and coordination of resources, ensuring that the most timely and cost effective incident support services are provided. It is designed to accommodate amendments as required, and will be retained as current until amended.

The mobilization guide or dispatch operating plan will include minimum elements and procedures to guide the operations of the center as described in [Appendix P of the Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations](#). These elements include:

| | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| 1. Organization | 10. Briefings |
| 2. Dispatch Operations | 11. Preparedness Levels |
| 3. Daily Duties | 12. Aviation |
| 4. Initial Attack/Response Plan Elements | 13. Expanded Dispatch Plan |
| 5. Emergency Operations (Fire/Non-fire) | 14. Service and Supply Plan |
| 6. Local Agreements | 15. Administrative Items |
| 7. Communications | 16. Medical Plan |
| 8. Weather | 17. Media Plan |
| 9. Fire Danger | |

All federal and state wildland fire management members in the Eastern Area will:

1. Provide NECC with accurate status of agency resources in the Resource Ordering and Status System (ROSS) annually.
2. Advise NECC if restrictions must be placed on member resources due to local agency policy.
3. Provide appropriate funding codes for all requested resources.
4. Provide NECC with annual agency wildfire and prescribe burn statistical reports by calendar year no later than mid-January.

V. Supervision/Administration

NECC daily operations are under the overall direction and responsibility of the NECC Center Manager. Day to day supervision of NECC staff will be delegated to the Center Manager from the agency with the supervisor of record.

The supervisor of record for agency employees remains with the respective agency sponsoring or holding the respective position.

The Center Manager will:

- Initiate Performance Evaluations/Appraisals, Individual Development Plans, and Travel/ Training Plans of NECC employees and forward documents to the respective agencies for review and approvals.
- Meet bi-annually for Performance Evaluations/Appraisals with the official supervisor of record and their employee.
- Additional meetings may be called by any party to this Agreement after consultation with other parties, at such time and place as agreed upon to discuss any problems arising under this Agreement.

An “acting” or “duty officer” shall be designated when the center manager will not be readily available.

VI. Financial Plan

The current fiscal year budget and the proportionate agency costs are outlined in this Financial Plan.

It is understood that all funding from partner Agencies is subject to budget appropriations for the applicable fiscal year.

Agencies agree to provide or support the following:

| | |
|---|--|
| White Mountain National Forest | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • appropriate office and operating facilities, including utilities, equipment, administrative support and supplies, as deemed necessary • host (hold the FTE) a permanent, full time, Center Manager position • provide direct funding for two thirds of the cost of the center manager position |
| Green Mountain/Finger Lakes National Forest | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide direct funding for one third of the cost of the Center Manager position |
| US Forest Service, Northeast Area State & Private Forestry (NA) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide grant funding to NFFPC and the States, which can, at the recipients discretion, be used to support NECC; provides technical assistance with grants and mobilization agreements |
| USDI National Park Service | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • host (hold the FTE) a permanent, dispatcher position (subject to furlough) • provide funding to support 100% the cost of the permanent (subject to furlough) dispatcher position |
| USDI Fish & Wildlife Service | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide funding to the NFFPC, according to the financial table, for NECC administrative support |
| USDI Bureau of Indian Affairs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide funding to the NFFPC, according to the financial table, for NECC administrative support |

| | |
|---|--|
| NFFPC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> provide funding to the State of New Hampshire for a dispatcher position at NECC serve as a point of collection for receiving/ distribution of funds received in support of NECC operations from Federal Agencies, States, Provinces and other partners with which NECC provides services. provide needed administrative, financial, and logistical support to NECC for operations and mobilizations. |
| New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> host and manage the NFFPC dispatcher position. See agreement between NFFPC and State of NH on file with NFFPC Executive Director |
| NFFPC Agencies | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> provide funding for the NFFPC dispatcher position and/or NECC operational costs |

Estimated Operating Costs and Contributions

| Agency | Position | Salary Amount | Training/ Travel | Facility Operations | Total |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------------|----------|
| USFS-WMNF | Center Manager | \$62,000 | \$5,000 | \$ | \$67,000 |
| USFS-GMNF | Center Manager | \$31,000 | \$1,500 | 0 | \$32,500 |
| NPS | Logistics Dispatcher | \$41,000 | included | 0 | \$41,000 |
| | | | | | |
| New Hampshire | Dep Ctr Mgr | fixed | | | \$10,000 |
| Quebec (SOPFEU) | Dep Ctr Mgr | fixed | | | \$10,000 |
| Connecticut | Dep Ctr Mgr | calculated | | | \$4,474 |
| | | | | | |
| Maine | Dep Ctr Mgr | calculated | | | \$8,816 |
| Massachusetts | Dep Ctr Mgr | calculated | | | \$4,449 |
| New Brunswick | Dep Ctr Mgr | calculated | | | \$500 |
| New York | Dep Ctr Mgr | calculated | | | \$4,325 |
| Newfoundland & Labrador | Dep Ctr Mgr | calculated | | | \$500 |
| Nova Scotia | Dep Ctr Mgr | calculated | | | \$500 |
| Prince Edward Island | Dep Ctr Mgr | calculated | | | \$500 |
| Rhode Island | Dep Ctr Mgr | calculated | | | \$1,397 |
| US Bureau of Indian Affairs | Dep Ctr Mgr | calculated | | | \$1,844 |
| US Fish & Wildlife Service | Dep Ctr Mgr | calculated | | | \$6,905 |

| | | | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------|------------|--|--|----------|
| Vermont | Dep Ctr Mgr | calculated | | | \$1,298 |
| Forest Health Working Team | Dep Ctr Mgr | calculated | | | \$2,836 |
| | DCM Total | | | | \$58,344 |

The NFFPC will invoice each contributing agency annually around Oct 1 for those contributing to the Deputy Center Manager position. Calculated contributions are based on personnel mobilized over a 5 year period. The intention is to update the inputs and calculations every 5 years, unless the actual cost of the position exceeds total contributions by greater than 10% and other funds are not available from NFFPC to cover additional costs.

Final approval to create a Deputy Center Manager (DCM) position, hosted by the State of NH, with base funding provided by NFFPC agencies, was given at the August 2017 Compact Commissioner’s meeting with implementation planned for 2018.

Detailers are used when incident activity warrants, incurring additional expenses that are charged to a pre-assigned support code. Overtime and other incident specific costs are invoiced to the party financially responsible for the incident, using appropriate agreements, authorities, and protocols.

The NECC Center Manager or representative thereof will meet annually with the NECC Board to review and ascertain NECC expenditures. Adjustments for additional funds or reimbursement for individual agencies will be negotiated.

Financial obligations of each member are payable at the beginning of the current federal fiscal year (October 1- September 30) or current state fiscal year (July 1-June 30) and are contingent upon funds for that purpose being appropriated, budgeted, and otherwise made available.

Indirect costs are those items of expense incurred as part of general management and administrative support of an organization. These costs are not attributable to a specific project, program or output, but are distributed among many benefiting activities. Often they are proposed as a percentage of direct project costs and are referred to as administrative costs, overhead, or burden. Examples may include office space, computer equipment, postage, utilities, salaries for administrative activities, such as procurement, personnel, accounting, and so forth. Direct charging of these costs, however, may be appropriate if they can be specifically identified to a project or program and the nature of the work performed creates a unique need or requires an extensive amount of support.

Indirect cost rate rates may vary for each agency.

When indirect cost rates are applied to federal reimbursements, the Parties agree to the following.

1. If the payment recipient has never received or does not currently have a negotiated indirect cost rate, they are eligible for a de minimis indirect cost rate up to 10% of Modified Total Direct Costs (MTDC). MTDC is defined as all salaries and wages, fringe benefits, materials and supplies, services, travel, and contracts up to the first \$25,000 of each contract.
2. For rates greater than 10%, the payment recipient shall provide either an applicable negotiated indirect cost rate agreement (NICRA) from a cognizant Federal agency, or an indirect cost rate summary in a format that clearly defines the indirect cost rate and MTDC.

3. The payment recipient must maintain adequate documentation to support the methodology and computation of the indirect cost rate. Documentation must be made available to the Federal agency upon request.
4. Failure to provide adequate documentation supporting the indirect cost rate could result in disallowed costs and repayment to the Federal agency.

VII. Procedures

Resource Orders

Resource orders will be processed by NECC in compliance with established channels. Standard Incident Command System (ICS) forms and the Resource Ordering and Status System (ROSS) will be used. Resource orders will be coordinated by NECC in conjunction with individual area agencies and appropriate mobilization channels such as NECC. These channels are detailed in the following guides:

- NECC mobilization guide / dispatch operating plan
- [Northeastern Compact Operations Manual](#)
- [Eastern Area Mobilization Guide](#)
- [National Interagency Mobilization Guide](#)
- [Interagency Standards for Fire and Aviation Operations](#) (Red Book)

If an agency has confirmed that it cannot fill a resource order within one hour, NECC will determine the appropriate action to be taken at the time.

Resources

NECC will decide from which agency to fill an order based on posted available resources and the need to provide a fair and equitable distribution of orders. NECC dispatchers make routine daily decisions on the mobilization of resources. The NECC Center Manager / Acting Center Manager / lead dispatcher has the responsibility for final decisions on the filling of resource orders.

Shopping Lists

NECC will make every reasonable effort to find resources that are needed in response to incidents including the assembly of interagency crews.

Resource mobilization

Procedures described within the most recent version of the [Interagency Incident Business Management Handbook](#)-(National Wildfire Coordinating Group Handbook 2) apply for use of Federal resources.

Requests for Federal resources for Canadian incidents, within or outside the NE Compact area, will be coordinated through NECC, EACC, National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC), and the [Canadian](#)

[Interagency Forest Fire Center \(CIFFC\)](#). NICC will assign a firecode to charge against and will coordinate reimbursement through CIFFC.

Coordinate all requests for Federal resources on non-Federal incidents (State & Private lands) within the US Compact area through NECC with applicable reimbursement from the receiving agency.

NECC will assign an incident code for resource reimbursement on state incidents using the federal mobilization system, as authorized. Authorization will generally be through the Agency Fire Supervisor.

Coordinate all requests for State resources on Federal incidents within the US Compact area through NECC with applicable reimbursement from the receiving agency.

National ([NWCG](#)) qualification standards apply for extended attack resources on Federal incidents since they fall under Federal jurisdiction, unless local agreements specify otherwise. NWCG recognizes the ability of cooperating agencies at the local level to jointly define and accept each other’s qualifications for initial attack, extended attack, large fire operations, and prescribed fire. Aircraft used on Federal incidents must be pre-approved for such use (carded) by Regional Forest Service aviation inspectors or the DOI Aviation Management Directorate (AMD).

For fire incidents on Federal lands within the NECC area, requests for Canadian resources will be dispatched in accordance with the [National Interagency Mobilization Guide](#). Requests from NECC will be forwarded to EACC who will inform NICC, which will coordinate the request with (CIFFC).

State and Provincial resources will be mobilized in accordance with Compact mobilization plans within the NE Compact. (See the NFFPC Administration & Operations Plan; section C. Operations, Resource Sharing Guide).

Resources within the NE Compact area may be mobilized for all-hazard incidents. If the incident is a Presidentially-declared disaster managed by the [Federal Emergency Management Agency \(FEMA\)](#) , the authority for mobilization and re-imburement of State and federal resources is based on the [Stafford Act](#). If the all-hazard incident is not a Presidentially - declared disaster, any mobilization and subsequent re-imburement must be done under a different authority, such as a cooperative agreement appropriate for such activities. The NECC Master Agreement as well as other Master Cooperative Fire agreements, with the proper wording and clauses, may be appropriate.

The mobilization matrix below summarizes the processes, qualification standards and reimbursement method for the different combinations of resources for sending and receiving agencies within the Compact area. A second table depicts the processes for FEMA incidents within the US.

Mobilization Matrix (NE Compact Area Agencies)

| Sending Agency | Receiving Agency | Mobilization Process | Qualification Standards | Reimbursement |
|----------------|------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| State | State | Compact, EMAC | Compact | Direct or via Compact |
| State | Province | Compact | Compact | Direct; via Compact |
| State | Federal | EA MOB GUIDE ¹ | NWCG ⁵ | Federal Fire code |
| Province | Province | CIFFC ² | Province | Direct |

| | | | | |
|----------|----------|---|----------------------|---------------------|
| Province | State | Compact | Compact | Direct; via Compact |
| Province | Federal | EA MOB GUIDE- NECC ³ -NICC ⁴ -CIFFC Std | Canadian National | Federal Fire code |
| Federal | Federal | EA MOB GUIDE | Federal | Federal Fire code |
| Federal | State | EA MOB GUIDE, Coop Fire Agreement | Federal | Direct |
| Federal | Province | EA MOB GUIDE- NECC-NICC-CIFFC | Federal | Direct |

¹ Eastern Area Mobilization Guide; ² Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Center; ³ Eastern Area Coordination Center, ⁴ National Interagency Coordination Center; ⁵ National Wildfire Coordinating Group

Mobilization Matrix (FEMA¹ incidents under the Authority of the Stafford Act only)

| Sending Agency | Mobilization Process | | Reimbursement |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| | Fire | All-risk | |
| State except NYS | Coop Fire Agreement | Coop Fire Agreement | Mission Assignment Code |
| State EMAC ² | EMAC EMAC | | Agreement |
| Province | EA MOB GUIDE- NECC-NICC-CIFFC | None | Mission Assignment Code |
| Federal | EA MOB GUIDE | EA MOB GUIDE | Mission Assignment Code |

Exception: the NPS Eastern Interagency Coordination Center (EICC) is the "all-hazards" deployment point (for NPS personnel) for any National Response Framework (NRF) Emergency Support Function(ESF) other than ESF #4 Firefighting (this ESF uses the wildland fire dispatch hierarchy). That includes any order from FEMA for other than that single ESF, as well as, any "all-hazard" event that is using NPS personnel regardless of agency or department. This is policy per DO 55. The EICC also deploys FEMA Type III teams as requested by FEMA.

¹ Federal Emergency Management Agency

² Emergency Management Assistance Compact

Manchester Mobilization Center (MHT)

After consultation with the EACC, NECC will notify the State of New Hampshire to activate the Manchester Mobilization Center when dispatching/demobilization is necessary that requires its use. Communications with NECC and MHT will be maintained while the MHT is activated. The current Manchester Mobilization Guide can be referenced on the [NFFPC](#) website.

Transportation and Lodging

NECC may arrange, through the resource ordering process, transportation, lodging and feeding for detailers to the coordination center. The NECC Center Manager will ensure that purchase authority is available to provide MHT with fiscal support during mobilizations, and when resources are returning. Appropriate resource orders will be generated and sent to the respective resources or to support logistical arrangements.

VIII. 2018 Contact Information

| | |
|--|---|
| NORTHEASTERN INTERAGENCY COORDINATION CENTER (NECC) | FIRE TELEPHONE NUMBER: 603-536-6208 |
| 71 White Mountain Drive Campton, NH 03223 | NIGHT OR 24 HOUR TELEPHONE NUMBER: 603-536-6208 |
| FAX: 603-536-3709 | ELECTRONIC ADDRESSES: necc.dispatch@gmail.com |

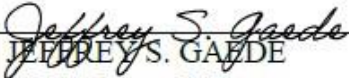
...IF NO ANSWER ON ABOVE NUMBERS, CALL IN ORDER LISTED BELOW...

| NAME/TITLE | OFFICE/ CELL/ HOME | E-Mail |
|---|---|--|
| CAMPBELL, Molly Center Manager USFS WMNF | 603-536-6108 | macampbell@fs.fed.us |
| CARELLO-BIGNER, Mari Logistics Dispatcher NPS | 603-536-6208 207-512-0646 | mari_carelobigner@nps.gov |
| TUCKER, Donald Dispatcher NH Div of Forests & Lands | 603-512-0647 | donald.tucker@decr.nh.gov |
| GURNEY, Shannon Forest Fire Management Officer USFS WMNF | 603-536-6262 603-452-8081 | sgurney@fs.fed.us |
| PARENT, Tom Executive Director NFFPC | 207-968-3782 207-512-0645 207-968-2755 | necompect@fairpoint.net |
| EARLE, Eric Deputy Executive Director NFFPC | 709-388-8888 | earle@nffpc.org |

Authorized Representatives. By signature below, each party certifies that the individuals listed in this document as representatives of the individual parties are authorized to act in their respective areas for matters related to this award/agreement.

IX. Approvals:

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Agencies hereto have executed this Cooperative Wildland Fire Management Agreement as of the last date written below:

| |
|--|
| The authority and format of this instrument have been reviewed and approved for signature |
| The authority and format of this instrument have been reviewed and approved for signature |
|  JEFFREY S. GAEDE USFS Grants Management Specialist |
| Date: 03/15/2018 |
| JEFFREY S. GAEDE USFS Grants Management Specialist |
| Date: |

Thomas G. Parent 4/5/18 *Art Canterbury* 4/5/18
THOMAS G. PARENT Date ART CANTERBURY Date
Executive Director Regional Fire Coordinator
Northeastern Forest Fire Protection Commission
USDI Fish and Wildlife Service
Northeast Region

Maureen Brooks 3/27/2018 *Mark Musitano for* 3/30/18
MAUREEN T. BROOKS Date MARK MUSITANO Date
(Acting) Director, Fire and Aviation Management
U.S. Forest Service
Northeastern Area
Regional Fire Management Officer
USDI National Park Service
Northeast Region

John A. Sinclair 3/19/18 *Clare R. Mendelsohn* 3/20/2018
JOHN A. SINCLAIR Date CLARE R. MENDELSON Date
Forest Supervisor Forest Supervisor
Green Mountain / Finger Lakes National Forest
White Mountain National Forest

Bernie Toyekoyah 3/16/18 *Lucas Minton* 3/16/18
BERNIE TOYEKUYAH Date LUCAS MINTON Date
Grants Management Specialist Regional Fire Management Officer
USDI Bureau of Indian Affairs
Eastern/Southern Plains Region
USDI Bureau of Indian Affairs
Eastern Region

Brad W. Simpkins 3/21/18 *Joelyn Little Chief* 4/6/18
BRAD W. SIMPKINS Date Joelyn Little Chief
Director Contracting officer
New Hampshire Division of Forests
And Lands

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
between
DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION OF FORESTS AND LANDS
and
THE NORTHEAST FOREST FIRE PROTECTION COMMISSION (NFFPC)

The Department of Resources and Economic Development, Division of Forests and Lands and the Northeast Forest Fire Protection Commission agree to cooperate in the staffing of a sub-regional coordination center as described in the COOPERATIVE FIRE PROTECTION AGREEMENT for the NORTHEASTERN INTERAGENCY COORDINATION CENTER (NECC) (Which is Attached as APPENDIX A) and further described below:

Project Title: Northeast Interagency Coordination Center (NECC) Staffing

Project Outline: The Department of Resources and Economic Development (DRED) shall perform the following services during the period April 1, 2016 to June 30, 2020.

1. Post, hire, fill, manage, and supervise a wildland fire and all hazards dispatcher position at the Northeast Interagency Coordination Center (NECC) in Campton, NH.
2. Provide support and benefits for the position as a State of New Hampshire employee as authorized by New Hampshire statutes.
3. Transfer scheduling and routine duties of the position to the NECC Center Manager stationed at Campton, NH. DRED dispatcher shall be subject to all department policies and procedures. Furthermore, DRED shall maintain all other management responsibilities pertaining to personnel matters, disciplinary issues, and work performance.
4. Manage the salary and seasonal or intermittent payroll of the dispatcher as deemed necessary and appropriate.

Funds:

The total project will be funded by the Northeast Forest Fire Protection Commission as provided by NFFPC member agencies under the NECC Cooperative Agreement.

The Northeast Forest Fire Protection Commission agrees to reimburse the Department of Resources and Economic Development for expenses in providing the services outlined above, and further described in Exhibit A. This amount may be adjusted as deemed necessary by modification of the NECC Annual Operating Plan. The total amount will be credited or adjusted down for employee time and other costs that are reimbursed for work completed during normal base eight (8) operations due to incident support. Reimbursements will be utilized by NFFPC to enhance funding for staffing NECC. A copy of the program budget is attached to this agreement (Exhibit B).

The Department of Resources and Economic Development shall bill the Northeast Forest Fire Protection Commission on a quarterly basis within thirty (30) business days for the total project expenses and the Northeast Forest Fire Protection Commission shall reimburse the Department of Resources and Economic Development for those expenses within thirty (30) days of billing. The bill for the final quarter ending June 30 shall be in the hands of the Northeast Forest Fire Protection Commission no later than fifteen (15) days after the end of the quarter.

The Department of Resources and Economic Development shall maintain financial records in order to comply with State and Federal requirements. These funds are to be used to carry out the listed services (Exhibit A)

The continuation of this agreement for the full project period is subject to the availability of state funds, compact funds, and/or federal funds for this purpose. If funding is not available, the Department of Resources and Economic Development will be reimbursed on a prorated basis for project expenses incurred up to the termination date.

Amendment

This agreement may be amended, waived or discharged only by an instrument in writing signed by the parties hereto.

Termination of Agreement

Notices of intent to terminate the Agreement before the completion date shall be given, in writing, by either party desiring the termination, at least three (3) months in advance of such termination date.

Covenant Not to Discriminate: Prevention of Discrimination

The Department of Resources and Economic Development will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. The Department of Resources and Economic Development will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed and that employees are treated during employment without discrimination because of their race, color, religion, sex or national origin. Such action shall include, but not be limited to, employment, upgrading, demotion or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; lay-off or termination; for training, including apprenticeship.

Notice of Advertisements of Employment

The Department of Resources and Economic Development will, in all solicitations of employees or advertisements of employment placed by or on behalf of the Department, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex or national origin.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the respective parties have hereunto set their hand on the dates indicated.

Date _____

Thomas Parent, NFFPC Executive Director

Date _____

Brad W. Simpkins, Director, Division of Forest and Lands

Approved by Attorney General (Form, Substance, and Execution)

Date _____

Attorney General's Office
New Hampshire Department of Justice

SUPPLEMENT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
AND NORTHEAST FOREST FIRE PROTECTION COMMISSION MEMORANDUM OF
AGREEMENT

Exhibit – A

**COOPERATIVE FIRE PROTECTION AGREEMENT For the NORTHEASTERN
INTERAGENCY COORDINATION CENTER (NECC)**

Exhibit – B

**ANNUAL OPERATING PLAN For the NORTHEASTERN INTERAGENCY COORDINATION
CENTER (NECC)**

SUPPLEMENT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
AND NORTHEAST FOREST FIRE PROTECTION COMMISSION
MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

Exhibit - C

NECC Staffing April 1, 2016 – June 30, 2016

| | NFFPC pass through | Grantee contribution |
|-----------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Personnel | \$ 9,000 | |
| Fringe benefits | 8,654 | |
| | | |
| | | |
| TOTALS | \$ 17,654 | |

NECC Staffing July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017

| | NFFPC pass through | Grantee Contribution |
|-----------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Personnel | \$ 21,000 | |
| Fringe benefits | 21,100 | |
| | | |
| | | |
| TOTALS | \$ 42,100 | |

- a) Grantee shall apply for reimbursement of actual costs on a quarterly basis through submission of an invoice on a quarterly basis within thirty (30) business days after the end of the quarter. Invoicing shall include a summary of personnel expenses for the period.
- b) Continuation of this contract for the full project period is subject to availability of funds for this purpose. If funding is not available, the grantee will be reimbursed on a prorated basis for the project expenses incurred up to the termination date.
- c) NFFPC Federal ID Number: 02-0498700
- d) The grantee agrees to maintain financial documents necessary to comply with the state and federal regulations.

NFFPC Communications Trailer - Transfer and Use Agreement

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE NORTHEASTERN FOREST FIRE PROTECTION COMMISSION AND THE STATE OF MAINE FOREST SERVICE

It is hereby mutually agreed to and understood between the Northeastern Forest Fire Protection Commission (hereinafter referred to as the COMPACT) and the State of Maine Forest Service (hereinafter referred to as MFS) that the Communications trailer and all installed equipment and improvements therein, and all portable radios and all other such items as are included in the Compact Trailer inventory shall be given over by the COMPACT to the MFS subject to the following provisions:

1. The MFS will continue to maintain the Communications trailer in good working order for as long as it is economically feasible to do so.
2. The MFS will duly register and insure the Communications trailer in accordance with all laws, rules and regulations as may be currently in effect for all MFS vehicles and/or trailers.
3. The MFS will make the Communications trailer available to any and all COMPACT members for use by COMPACT members on wildland fires, planned exercises or training exercises to the greatest extent possible. Provided, however; that the COMPACT and its members will recognize that use of the Communications trailer for an emergency by the MFS or any other COMPACT member will have precedence over all planned events and/or training exercises, including the removal of the Communications Trailer from a planned event and/or training exercise in progress. The MFS reserves the right to deny use of the Communications trailer to the COMPACT and/or its members for a planned event or training exercise, if in the MFS opinion, the trailer may be needed for a wildland fire during the time of the event or exercise.
4. The MFS will assume the responsibility to ensure that any and all equipment purchased with funds from the USDA Forest Service will be disposed of in accordance with all pertinent federal laws, rules and regulations governing such equipment, including, but not limited to, reimbursing the USDA Forest Service for any such equipment as they may require.
5. The MFS shall be entitled to keep any funds gained from the sale of any and all items of equipment that are either in excess of funds required by the USDA Forest Service, or are from equipment purchased by the MFS
6. The MFS may dispose of the Communications trailer according to MFS laws, rules and regulations, if in the MFS opinion, the trailer is no longer economical to maintain and/or repair.
The MFS shall offer the Communications trailer to the COMPACT and/or its members prior to disposing of the trailer. The decision to replace the Communications trailer will be at the sole discretion of the MFS.
7. The COMPACT or any of its members will be expected to reimburse the MFS for the transportation of the Communications Trailer both to and from any use of the trailer outside the state of Maine, unless the COMPACT or its members provide trucking or have otherwise made an agreement with MFS.

8. The COMPACT, and/or its members, will be responsible for any loss, damage, or theft of any equipment on the Communications Trailer whenever the trailer is in their custody. The COMPACT or its members will promptly reimburse the MFS for any and all such losses.

9. The COMPACT may request the MFS to install or place additional equipment in the Communications Trailer. Approval for any such equipment will be agreed to jointly by the MFS and the COMPACT in advance of the fact. The COMPACT cannot require the MFS to install or place any equipment in the Communications Trailer which the MFS does not wish to purchase, and for which the COMPACT is not providing a source of funding. Further, the MFS may refuse to place or install equipment in the Communications Trailer if, in its opinion, the liability for such equipment is beyond the ability of the MFS to accept.

David L. Wight, Chair
Northeastern Forest Fire Protection Commission

Date

Thomas C. Doak
Director, Maine Forest Service

Date

**NORTHEASTERN FOREST FIRE PROTECTION COMMISSION
STANDARDS FOR INTERPERSONAL AND ETHICAL CONDUCT
REVISED 08/03/2012**

INTRODUCTION

The Northeastern Forest Fire Protection Commission (Herein called the Compact) is a governmental entity dedicated to performing its public service duties with the highest standards of interpersonal and ethical conduct. When engaged in any Compact activities, members and cooperating entities have a duty and responsibility to conduct themselves in a manner that complies with all laws, enhances the delivery of services, and promotes a positive image of the Compact and its individual members.

PURPOSE

The Compact conducts much of its activities through the use of member staff and cooperating entities. When so engaged, the standards of interpersonal and ethical conduct are governed by the employing member agency or cooperating entity. This policy is intended to clarify the expectations of all individuals engaged in Compact activities and to establish procedures for dealing with substandard interpersonal and ethical conduct when it occurs.

PROCEDURES

When engaged in Compact activities, individuals are expected to adhere to their agency or organization's standards for interpersonal and ethical conduct. Consequently, the employing or sponsoring entity is responsible for receiving, investigating and addressing any allegations of substandard interpersonal and ethical conduct resulting from their staff's involvement in Compact activities.

REPORTING

Allegations of interpersonal or ethical misconduct associated with Compact activities shall be reported to the Compact individual in charge of the activity, to the Executive Director, and to the employing agency or cooperating entity. In all cases, the Executive Director will ensure continuity in the investigation, a proper conclusion to the incident, and implement procedures to help prevent future occurrences.

Misconduct may occur in different degrees of seriousness. Some incidents may readily be resolved on scene or as they are unfolding. For this reason, and for the sake of expediency, the initial allegation of misconduct can be a verbal report to the appropriate individual(s) in charge.

In all cases, the responsible entity will document the allegations, take steps to mitigate the incident as much as feasible, ensure that the incident is investigated, and compile a final report.

All reports, verbal or written, should include as much information as feasible to answer the questions of Who, What, When, Where, Why, and How.

GUIDELINES

Since each member agency or cooperating entity has its own standards for interpersonal and ethical conduct which will be used to evaluate specific allegations of misconduct, the Compact puts forward these guidelines to help individuals understand and comply with the minimum basic expectations of interpersonal and ethical conduct while engaged in Compact activities. If a Compact member has stricter standards than those described below, then the stricter standards will prevail for personnel from that member's jurisdiction. All legal issues will be dealt with by the employing jurisdiction.

These guidelines form the basis for bringing forward allegations of interpersonal and ethical misconduct.

STANDARDS OF WORK

A. Members of the Compact and Cooperating Entities are expected to:

1. Comply with all local, state, provincial, and federal laws in the process of conducting their business.
2. Conduct themselves in a manner which reflects positively on the Compact.
3. Conduct their work in a conscientious, diligent and efficient manner.
4. Perform their duties with due care and in accordance with Compact standards.
5. Treat members of the public and one another fairly to ensure that the workplace is free from discrimination and harassment.

B. The Compact is expected to:

1. Treat members fairly;
2. Deal in good faith with all members or representatives of the members;
3. Ensure awareness of and compliance with Compact policies in order to provide a safe, non-discriminatory, harassment-free environment for its members and others in the workplace.

DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this policy, harassment in the workplace includes **personal and sexual harassment and poisoned work environment, personal disrespect, and electronic communications.**

A. Personal Harassment

Personal harassment means any objectionable or offensive behavior that is known or ought reasonably to be known to be unwelcome. It includes objectionable conduct, comment or display made on either a one-time or continuous basis that demeans, belittles, or causes personal humiliation or embarrassment.

Without limiting the above, personal harassment includes harassment on the basis of the following prohibited grounds of discrimination: race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, place of origin, age, physical disability, mental disability, marital status, sexual orientation or gender.

B. Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment means any conduct, comment, gesture or contact of a sexual nature, whether on a one-time basis or a series of incidents,

1. That might reasonably be expected to cause offense or humiliation; or
2. That might reasonably be perceived as placing a condition of a sexual nature on employment, an opportunity for training or promotion, receipt of services or a contract.

Examples of behavior that can constitute sexual harassment include, but are not limited to:

- unwanted touching, patting or leering;
sexual assault;
- inquiries or comments about a person's sex life;
- telephone calls with sexual overtones;
- gender-based insults or jokes causing embarrassment or humiliation;
repeated unwanted social or sexual invitations; and
- Inappropriate or unwelcome focus/comments on a person's physical attributes or appearance.

C. Poisoned Work Environment

A **poisoned work environment** is characterized by an activity or behavior, not necessarily directed at anyone in particular, that creates a hostile or offensive workplace. Examples of a poisoned work environment include but are not limited to: graffiti, sexual, racial or religious insults or jokes, abusive treatment of an employee and the display of pornographic or other offensive material.

D. Personal Disrespect:

Is objectionable or offensive behavior that is directed at an individual and is known, or ought reasonably to be known, to be unwelcome. It includes objectionable conduct, comment or display made on either a one time or continuous basis that demeans, belittles or causes personal humiliation or embarrassment.

Examples can include:

- * Bullying behavior
- * Rumors or gossip
- * Isolation and exclusion at work
- * Denigration of a co-worker, colleague or person in authority via face to face contact or via another medium, including during computer use or social networking.

E. Electronic Communications:

Interpersonal and ethical misconduct is inappropriate during personal interactions associated with computer and social media activities including the following:

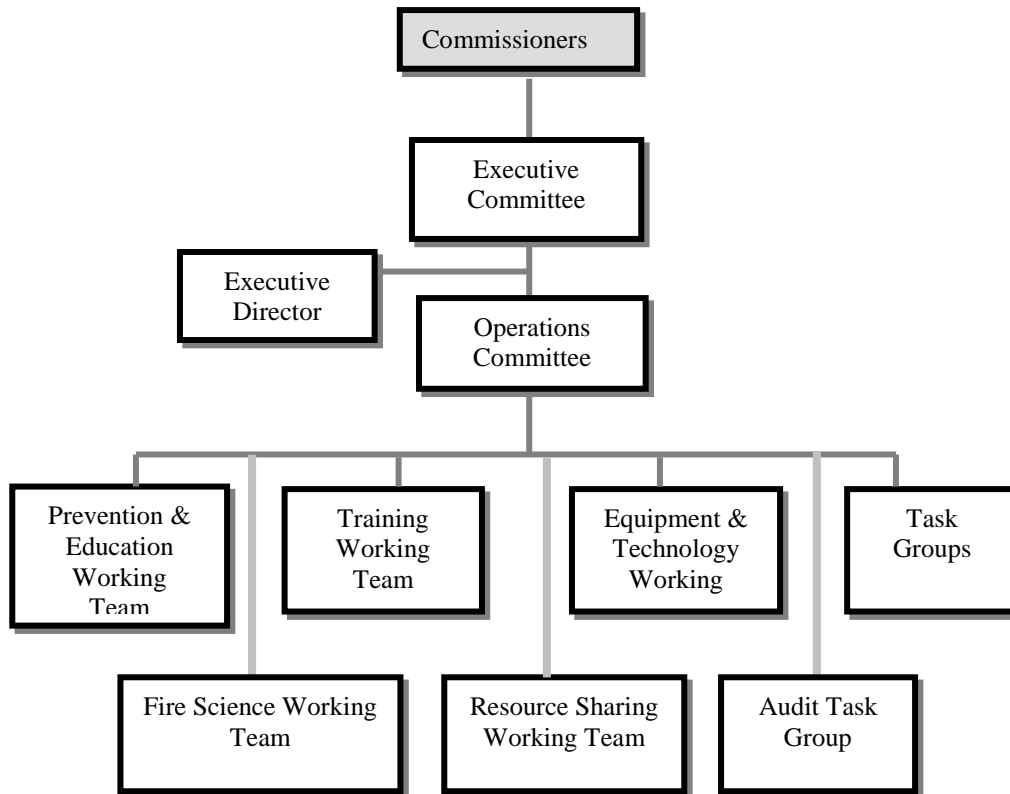
- Inappropriate use of agency computers
- Blogging
- Email
- Voice mail
- Face book
- Twitter
- Instant messaging
- Texting
- Sexting
- Any other form of electronic or digital medium of communication.

The use of social media and its impact is not restricted to the physical workplace.

NFFPC By-Laws

Revised at Commission Meeting 08/08/2012

NFFPC Commissioners



Authority

Authority is given for the Northeastern Forest Fire Compact to be directed by appointed commissioners under **Article III** of Public Law #129 – 81st Congress where it states that:

“Each state joining herein shall appoint three representatives to a Commission hereby designed as the Northeastern Forest Fire Protection Commission.”

Mandate of Commissioners

To promote effective prevention and control of forest fires in the northeastern region of the United States and adjacent areas in Canada.

Membership

Any adjacent state or, with the approval of Congress, any adjacent Canadian province. As of this date (August 2011), Commissioner membership represents:

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| MAINE | NEW HAMPSHIRE |
| VERMONT | MASSACHUSETTS |
| NEW YORK | CONNECTICUT |
| RHODE ISLAND | QUEBEC |
| NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR | NEW BRUNSWICK |
| NEW ENGLAND NATIONAL FORESTS | NOVA SCOTIA |
| US FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE | US NATIONAL PARK S |

Organization

The articles of the compact (Article III) calls for 3 Commissioners from each agency. For the U.S. membership, Commissioners for each agency will be:

- The State Forester, Fire Control officer ex-officio, or equivalent;
- A legislative member or equivalent; and
- A representative of the Governor or equivalent.

For Canadian membership, each agency will designate three Commissioners who will approximate the pattern associated with the U.S. selection.

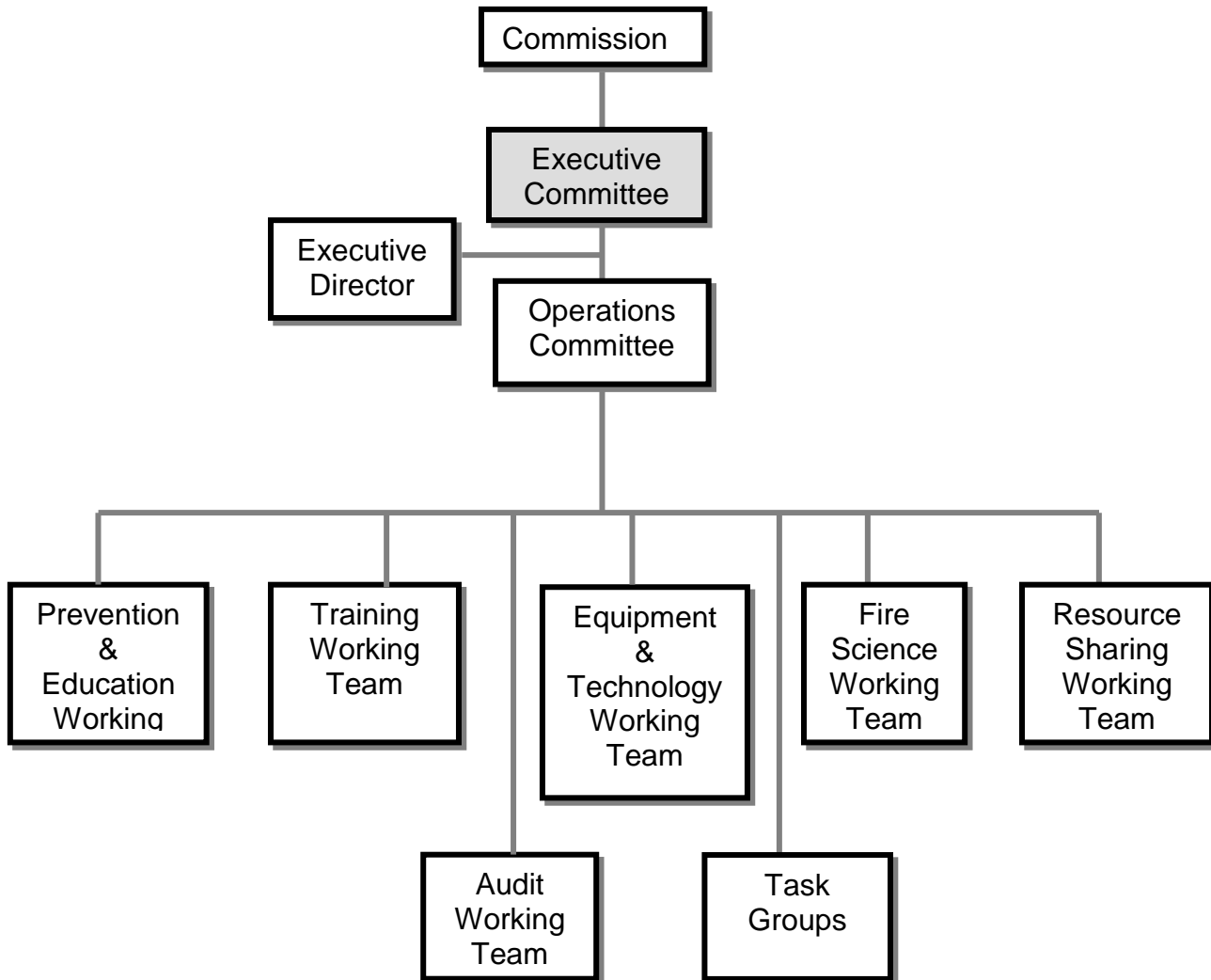
Objectives

- a) Develop integrated forest fire plans.
- b) Maintain adequate forest fire fighting services by member agencies.
- c) Provide for mutual aid in fighting forest fires and procedures that will facilitate such mutual aid.
- d) Establish a central agency to coordinate the services of the member agencies and to perform such common services ad the member agencies want.

Duties/Responsibilities

- a) To ascertain methods, practices and circumstances for bringing about prevention and control of forest fires.
- b) To coordinate the forest fire plans and work of the several member agencies.
- c) To facilitate the sending and receiving of mutual aid.
- d) To formulate and revise a regional forest fire plan to serve as a common fire plan for the region.
- e) To recommend to the several Governors and State Legislatures measures to promote the purpose of the Compact
- f) Recommend to the member agencies any and all measures that will effect the prevention and control of forest fires.

NFFPC Executive Committee



Authority

Authority is given for Commissioners of the Northeastern Forest Fire Protection Commission to appoint from its ranks, a *Chair and Vice-Chair* under **Article VII** of Public Law #129 – 81PP^{stPP} Congress where it states that:

“The Commission shall annually elect from its members a chairman and a vice-chairman”.

Authority is given for Commissioners of the Northeastern Forest Fire Protection Commission to appoint from its ranks, a *Past Chair* under **RULES AND REGULATIONS** NORTHEASTERN FOREST FIRE PROTECTION COMMISSION as amended at the Annual Meeting of the Commission at White River Junction, Vermont, on August 3, 1994 where it states in **Article IV, Section 4**, that:

“There shall be an office of Past Chair to be held without Commission action by the individual whose term of office as Chair has most recently expired”.

Mandate

The Executive Committee provides for NFFPC administration and coordination on behalf of the NFFPC Commissioners and provides appropriate direction to the Executive Director and the Operations Committee.

Committee Composition

The Executive Committee is made up of a:

- Chair;
- Vice-Chair; and
- Past Chair (most recent).

Term of Office

The Chair of the NFFPC

Is elected by the Commission and shall serve for a term of **one year** as provided by Article VII of the Articles of the Compact as modified by Article IV, Section 2, of the Rules and Regulations of the Compact.

The Vice-Chair of the NFFPC

The Vice Chair of the NFFPC is elected by the Commission as provided by Article VII of the Articles of the Compact and by Article IV, Section 2 of the Commission Rules and Regulations. The Vice Chair shall serve an elected term **concurrent with that of the Chair**.

The Past Chair of the NFFPC

The Past Chair assumes office automatically, as provided under Article IV, Section 4, of the Commission Rules and Regulations, upon passing of the chairmanship of the Commission to his successor. The Past Chair shall serve in that position **until replaced by the next immediate or elected Past Chair**. In the event the Past Chair is absent and/or unable to fulfill the assigned responsibilities, the position will remain vacant until the next change of officers.

Duties/Responsibilities

The Chair of the NFFPC

- a) Chair the annual meeting of the Commission, and the Executive Committee meeting(s) when held.
- b) Call such Executive Committee meetings as may be needed to conduct the necessary business of the Compact.
- c) Provide direction and guidance to sub-committees and appoint such additional sub-committees as may be necessary to carry out the business of the Compact.
- d) Work closely with the Executive Committee of the Compact to maximize efficient and effective use of Commission resources.
- e) Make recommendations to the Executive Committee and the Commission as may be appropriate in improving the effectiveness and efficiency of the Compact in meeting its goals and objectives.
- f) Represent the NFFPC at any function or meeting of such agencies, Compact, associations or groups that deal in whole or in part with problems, programs or issues in which the NFFPC has an interest and would benefit from such representation.

The Vice-Chair of the NFFPC

- a) Serve as Chair in the absence or disability of the elected Chair, with all the power and authority of the Chair's office.
- b) Assist the Chair with Compact Commission activities, so far as is practical, to benefit as a training exercise. The Vice Chair will be the leading candidate for the next chairmanship.
- c) Supervise the activities of Commission sub-committee, insuring completion of assigned tasks and responsibilities, even distribution of committee workload and frequent reports to the Chair.
- d) Be responsible for maintaining Commission membership at full staffing, with periodic progress report to the Chair.
- e) Work closely with the Past Chair and the Commission Executive Director to promote efficient and effective use of the Commission resources.
- f) Perform other tasks as assigned by the Chair.

The Past Chair of the NFFPC

- a) Provide advice to incumbent Commission officers based on recent experience gained in the Chair position.
- b) Be responsible for the Compact Commission accreditation program, including scheduling of member agency reviews, preparation of review team findings, and presentation of recommendations for program improvements to the full Commission.
- c) Assist the Vice Chair in coordinating the activities of all Commission sub-committees.
- d) Perform other tasks as assigned by the Chair.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

NORTHEASTERN FOREST FIRE PROTECTION COMMISSION As Amended at the Annual Meeting of the Commission at Corner Brook, Newfoundland & Labrador On August 8, 2012

Preamble

In conformity with the provisions of Article VII of the Northeastern Interstate Forest Fire Protection Compact, entered into by and among the states and provinces named in a cooperative compact and assented to by an Act of Congress entitled "An Act Granting the Consent and Approval of Congress to an Interstate Forest Fire Protection Compact", Public Law #129, 81PPstPP Congress, 1PPstPP Session, approved June 25, 1949; and enabling provincial law, the Northeastern Forest Fire Protection Commission hereby adopts the following rules and regulations for the conduct of its business.

Article I. Names and Powers

Section 1. The Commission is a fact finding, coordinating and deliberative body with power to make recommendations to the member states. All findings of fact and recommendations made by the Commission shall be evidenced by resolutions duly passed by vote in accordance with the Compact and with these rules and regulations.

Article II. Meetings

Section 1. An annual meeting of the Commission shall be held in the month of August of each year and such other meetings shall be held as the Commission or Chair deems advisable. Upon the written request of the Commissioners of two or more states, the Chair shall call a meeting of the Commission.

Section 2. The Chair shall cause the Executive Director to notify the Commissioners of the compacting states of all meetings at least two weeks prior to the date of each meeting.

Article III Quorum, Voting and Proxies

Section 1. Quorum and voting procedures shall be in accordance with Article VII, second paragraph, of the Compact.

Section 2. Any commissioner who is unavoidably absent from a meeting of the Commission may deliver a proxy to another Commissioner representing the same member state who shall thereupon perform the duties of the absent Commissioner. A proxy may be exercised only by a Commissioner of the concerned member state. Such proxy shall be valid only when presented in written form as prescribed by the Commission and submitted to the Executive Director prior to a Commission meeting. The proxy format is attached to this document as Appendix A.

Section 3. The following definitions and procedures shall interpret the terms of Article VII, second paragraph, of the Compact as referenced in Section 1 above, and shall govern and guide all voting of the Commission.

- A. Voting shall be by state units with each signatory state having one vote. No obligation to the Commission shall be imposed, however, on any member state not eligible to vote on an issue or that votes in a minority action.
- B. In order for a state to have the right to vote on any issue or business at any regular or special meeting of the commission, such state must be represented at such meeting by at least one of its duly appointed Commissioners. In those instances when only one of such Commissioners is in attendance in person, such state shall not have the right of vote unless such Commissioner carries a proxy from at least one of the two absent commissioners, or another Commissioner is in attendance electronically, so as to constitute a majority of the representation of such state. To vote, a state must have at least two appointed Commissioners, one of which must be present and another that can be present electronically, or be represented by proxy as indicated in Section 2 above.
- C. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the signatory states represented as specified in B. above.
- D. The voting criteria can be waived by vote of the Executive Committee in emergency situations.

Article IV. Officers and Committees

Section 1. The officers of the commission shall consist of an elected Chair and an elected Vice Chair as provided in Article VII of the Compact and an Executive Director and office of Past Chair, as hereinafter provided. In the absence or disability of the Chair, the Vice Chair shall have all the power and authority of the Chair. In the event that the offices of Chair and Vice Chair both are vacant, or in the event that the offices of Chair and Vice Chair are unable to perform the duties of Chair by reason of illness, disability, or absence, the commissioners shall designate a Commissioner as Acting Chair, who shall then perform the duties of Chair.

Section 2. Such officers shall be elected at the annual meeting one year terms and shall serve until their successors have been duly elected and qualified. Unless otherwise decided at the Annual Commission Meeting, an election from competing candidates will be held when vacancies need to be filled. To the degree feasible, the selection table in Appendix B shall be used to nominate the Commission Chair and Vice Chair, and serve to equitably distribute the duties and responsibilities of the Commission members over time.

Section 3. There shall be an Executive Director who shall be appointed by the Commission and hold office at the pleasure of the Commission. He shall be the executive officer of the Commission and perform all the duties customarily performed by a secretary and a treasurer. He shall keep all records of the Commission's business and meetings, and its finances, supervise and direct any staff and, under the guidance and control of the Chair, manage all affairs of the Commission.

Section 4. There shall be an office of Past Chair to be held without Commission action by the individual whose term of office as Chair has most recently expired. In the event that the immediate Past Chair is not available to assume the post, the office shall be filled by an alternate with the approval of the Commission. The Past Chair shall assist the Chair and Vice Chair in coordinating the activities of the Commission.

Section 5. The Commissioners from each state shall select one of their number to act as Chair of the state's delegation.

Section 6. The Chair of the Commission shall appoint such committees as necessary for the functioning of the Commission.

Section 7. There shall be an Executive Committee composed of the Chair, the Vice Chair, and the Past Chair. The Executive Committee shall have power to act for the Commission in the interim between meetings.

Section 8. The Eastern Regional Representative of the Council of State Governments and the Chair of the Commissions of Interstate Cooperation of the Several member states by virtue of their offices constitute a special contact committee and may be invited to attend meetings or conferences of the Commission and its Sections.

Section 9. The United States Forest Service shall be notified of all meetings of the Commission and in accordance with Article VI of the Compact may be invited to attend such meetings.

Section 10. To achieve segregation of duties and to facilitate the operational business of the Compact without conflict of interest, the Chair of the Commission and the Chair of the Operations Committee shall not be the same person.

Article V. Finance

Section 1. Finance procedures of the Commission shall be governed in accordance with the provisions of Article X of the Compact.

Section 2. The fiscal year of the Commission shall begin on July 1.

Section 3. Unless specifically stated otherwise by vote of the Commission, the annual budget approved by the Commission authorizes continued expenditures into an additional fiscal year. These expenditures shall be taken from the NFFPC Reserve Account, approved grants and other known revenue sources provided that such funds are available to continue operations. Expenditures are authorized at the same amount as that of the recently completed fiscal year, pro-rated by month. Authorization of expenditures shall continue until a new budget has been approved or until other action is approved by vote of the Commission.

Article VI. Operation of Sections

Section 1. In accordance with Articles V and VII of the Compact, sections established by groups of member states shall have the same powers with respect to officers, employees and the maintenance of offices as are granted to the Commission.

Section 2. Sections shall adopt such rules, regulations and procedures as may be necessary for the conduct of their business.

Article VII. Amendment to Rules and Regulations

Section 1. These rules and regulations may be amended at any regular meeting of the Commission by the affirmative vote of a majority of the member states, provided due notice thereof was given in the call of the meeting and such voting is conducted in accordance with the provisions.

Article VIII. Membership

Section 1. Authorized membership in the Northeastern Forest Fire Protection Compact is defined by federal, state and provincial statutes. Additionally, the Commission requires members to be a federal, state, or provincial governmental entity that has been granted primary wildland fire management responsibilities over a geographic area and such authority is defined by their enabling legislation.

**Proxy Form
Northeastern Forest Fire Protection Commission (NFFPC)**



I, _____, a Commissioner of the above Commission, duly
(Print Commissioner's Name)

appointed to represent _____ and being unable to attend
(Print Name of State/Province/Agency)

the _____ meeting of such Commission, do hereby authorize
(Date of Meeting)

_____, also a Commissioner duly appointed to represent
(Print Proxy Commissioner's Name)

_____, to act as my agent, to substantiate NFFPC
(Print Name of State/Province/Agency)

business, and to participate in my behalf in the voting on any issues and business brought
before such meeting.

Commissioner Signature

Witness (Signature)

Date

Date

NORTHEAST COMPACT CHAIR SELECTION/ROTATION TABLE

For Committees and Working Teams

| New Chair Annually | New Chair Even Numbered Years | New Chair Odd Numbered Years | New Chair Even Numbered Years | New Chair Odd Numbered Years | New Chair Even Numbered Years | Determine Chair as Needed | Determine Chair as Needed | New Chair odd numbered years |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| COMMISSION | OPERATIONS COMMITTEE | TRAINING WORKING TEAM | PREVENTION WORKING TEAM | EQUIPMENT WORKING TEAM | FIRE SCIENCE WORKING TEAM | RESOURCE SHARING WORKING TEAM | AUDIT COMM. | Forest Health |
| NH | MA | CT | CT | CT | CT | ME (2) | NY | NH |
| NL | NENF | QC | QC | QC | QC | NB (2) | NH | VT |
| NY | NB | NPS | NPS | NPS | NPS | NENF | NENF | QC |
| NB | ME | ME | ME | ME | ME | NY | Ex. Director | ME |
| VT | NH | MA | MA | MA | MA | QC (2) | | NS |
| CT | NS | NB | NB | NB | NB | NL | | MA |
| QC | NPS | NENF | NENF | FWS | NENF | Ex. Director | | CT |
| MA | NY | NH | NH | NH | NH | | | NL |
| ME | QC | NL | NL | NL | NL | | | NY |
| NS | VT | NY | NY | NY | NY | | | RI |
| RI | FWS | VT | VT | VT | VT | | | NB |
| | CT | FWS | FWS | NENF | FWS | | | |
| | NL | NS | NS | NS | NS | | | |
| | RI | RI | RI | RI | RI | | | |

The rotation sequence for committees and working team chair persons is as noted in the table, in descending order, but must remain flexible when an agency cannot fill a position as expected. When a problem arises with the rotation sequence, the current chair polls the group, comes up with a suggested chair, which must be approved by the Operations Committee. Rotation returns to the original normal sequence for the next term. Chair rotations normally occur at the end of the Commission meeting.

The incoming chair is the next agency in the list going down a column and acts as Vice Chair. This position takes notes, prepares minutes for each meeting, and sends minutes to team members and to the Executive Director for distribution to fire supervisors and for posting the website. The Vice Chair acts as chair and takes over meetings when the chair is absent.

The Past Chair works with the Chair and Vice Chair as needed. This position is also responsible for updates to the Committee or Working Team section of the website.

For the Resources Sharing WT and Audit Committee, not all agencies have a member. There is no rotation established for the Chair. The Chair is to be determined within the group as deemed necessary. Numbers in parentheses indicate the number of members from that state or province.

Approved: 08/08/2012

Briefing Paper for Alliance of Forest Fire Compacts

What is the Alliance of Forest Fire Compacts?

The Alliance of Forest Fire Compacts is a consortium of the eight existing forest fire compacts representing 42 states and all of Canada except one province and one territory. It will serve as a mechanism for dialogue and communication among the compacts (including Provincial members), in support of NASF's role with the states and U.S. territories. The recommended leadership structure would be one U.S. member from each of the eight compacts, one Canadian member from the three international compacts, and one state forester from each of the three NASF regions.

What is the purpose of the Alliance?

The purpose of the Alliance is to establish a more formal partnership among the compacts than currently exists so that common issues may be addressed for the good of all compacts rather than as separate and individual initiatives. It will serve to bring coordination, efficiency and effectiveness in addressing these common issues. Simply, it is a way to better organize and communicate among the eight various compacts. Currently, none of the existing entities (CMS, NWCG, etc.) serve this specific role.

Why do we need the Alliance?

Over the last several years numerous issues have arisen in regards to procedures and agreements for the exchange of resources between states for wildland fires. This is due in large part to the fact that NWCG's mobilization system has not been designed for state or compact needs nor between the states and Canadian provinces. Issues around qualification standards, financial and administrative procedures, international IMTs, and restrictions on supporting non-standard mobilizations (i.e. Compact to Compact) all point to the need for an entity that focuses on issues specific to states and compacts. The Alliance will create a focused forum and voice for issues such as firefighter liability, state-to-state billing, international mobilizations, inter-compact exchanges of resources, and many other issues not addressed in any other forum..

Will this require additional travel and resources?

No. The various compacts have been meeting once per year on an ad-hoc basis for several years. It is anticipated that there would be only one face-to-face meeting per year, and therefore would not require any additional costs above and beyond what has already been occurring. The only recommended change would be the addition of state foresters to the Alliance to create a more formal relationship with NASF.

What the Alliance is not:

The Alliance is not a governance structure. Each compact is established and authorized by state and/or federal statutes. Compacts have their own legal rights and privileges under interstate and international law and would retain their autonomy. No decisions by the Alliance would be binding on any compact. It is not meant to create further bureaucratic levels. It is not meant to replace or duplicate NWCG initiatives.

For further information contact:

Brad W. Simpkins, NASF Forest Fire Protection Committee member
Brad.simpkins@dred.state.nh.us Telephone: 603-271-2214

ALLIANCE of FOREST FIRE COMPACTS (AFFC)

June 15, 2012



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INTRODUCTION

Recognition that states may enter into compacts for the protection of forest and watersheds is noted in the 1911 Weeks Law.

The first Interstate Forest Fire Compact was established by Congress in 1949 to promote effective prevention and control of forest fires in the Northeastern Region of the United States. In 1952, Congress approved the addition of Canadian provinces/territories that were interested in international mutual aid. There are currently 8 Forest Fire Compacts in the United States and Canada representing 42 US states and 11 Canadian provinces and territories.

The purpose and focus of these forest fire compacts is to facilitate the sharing and coordination of information, prevention efforts, training, fire management knowledge, lessons learned, and resources. The exchange of resources between compacts is intended to be for states, provinces and territories using established procedures. Federal agencies use a separate mechanism and process for sharing resources and for acquiring resources from states and other countries.

Communication among the Forest Fire Compacts had been on an as needed basis until 2010 when the first joint meeting of all 8 Forest Fire Compacts occurred. Recognition that consistency and continuity over time would improve the efficiency and effectiveness of Forest Fire Compacts has led to the development of this Alliance of Forest Fire Compacts, along with the contingent structure and process that follows.

Forest fire compacts fill a very unique niche in responding to wildland fires for states, provinces and territories. Although there are other national groups that represent states in their role in supporting federal and state incidents in the U.S., there is no group that focuses on the specific needs of resource exchanges amongst the states, provinces and territories. A primary goal of the Alliance of Forest Fire Compacts is to develop procedures and processes which enhance the collective ability of all forest fire compacts to work together, share resources and information, collaborate on important initiatives, and constructively add to the coordination and management of wildland fire in North America.

The intent of this alliance is to address issues common to the states, provinces and territories and to provide a collective voice on matters that affect state and provincial forest fire incident management. Acceptance of this document by each forest fire compact formalizes this group and adds structure to the way that forest fire compacts desire to do business.

ALLIANCE of FOREST FIRE COMPACTS (AFFC)

Preamble

By consent of the interstate forest fire protection compacts, which are established by U.S. federal statutes and ratified by the member states, provinces and territories of each compact, an Alliance of Forest Fire Compacts (AFFC) is formed for the benefit of all participating forest fire compacts. The purpose of the AFFC is to: provide structure for effective communication among compacts; provide for consistency and continuity over time, provide a forum for the identification, discussion, and resolution of common issues among compacts; and facilitate the exchange of information to improve training, wildland fire knowledge, fire prevention, and resource exchange opportunities amongst the compacts and cooperators.

Article I. Definitions

Section 1. *Alliance* refers to the group as a whole.

Member refers to the individual compact.

Representative refers to the individual person serving as the authorized spokesperson for a specific compact or group.

Article II. Names and Powers

Section 1. The Alliance is a fact finding and deliberative body. Recommendations and/or actions resulting from such fact finding and deliberation shall respect the individual authorities of the member compacts. All findings of fact and recommendations made by the Alliance shall be evidenced by consensus of all members and shall not infringe upon, bypass, or over-ride individual member authorities.

Article III. Membership

Section 1. Membership in the Alliance of Forest Fire Compacts is defined by federal, state and provincial statutes. The Alliance requires members to be recognized as an established forest fire protection compact whose voting members are state, provincial or territorial government entities with primary wildland fire management responsibilities over a geographic area. Such recognition is defined by their governmental enabling legislation. As of the creation of this Alliance, recognized forest fire compacts include the following:

The Northeastern Forest Fire Protection Compact
The Mid-Atlantic Interstate Forest Fire Protection Compact
The Great Lakes Forest Fire Compact
The Big Rivers Forest Fire Management Compact
The Southeastern Interstate Forest Fire Protection Compact
The South Central Interstate Forest Fire Protection Compact
The Great Plains Interstate Forest Fire Compact
The Northwest Forest Fire Protection Compact

Each valid forest fire compact will be authorized one representative to the Alliance. Forest Fire Compacts that have both Canadian and U.S. participation will be authorized two representatives, one U.S. and one Canadian, but will carry only one collective voice for that compact.

Section 2. In addition to compact representation specified in Section 1 of this Article, the National Association of State Foresters, whose members individually comprise some of the leadership of the individual compacts, is invited to provide one non-voting representative as a liaison.

Article IV. Meetings

Section 1. An annual meeting of the Alliance may be held each year. Additional meetings may be held as the Alliance Chair deems advisable. Upon the written request of two or more forest fire compacts, the Chair shall call a meeting of the Alliance. Such meeting may be face to face or through use of other technologies such as conference calls, webinars, video conferencing, or other acceptable medium.

Section 2. The Chair shall notify the Alliance members of all meetings as soon as practicable and preferably at least two weeks prior to the date of each meeting.

Section 3. Business conducted at general meetings, executive meetings, or committee meetings will be documented in written notes or minutes. The notes or minutes will be shared with the Alliance representatives and kept by the current chair. Notes or minutes will pass from the outgoing chair to the in-coming chair

Article V Quorum, Consensus, and Proxies

Section 1. A quorum shall be attained when at least two thirds of the members are present. Each forest fire compact will have one voice through its designated representative(s) or alternate(s).

Section 2. Consensus. Decision making shall be by forest fire compact with each individual compact having one membership vote. Action items will require the consensus of all members. Consensus is defined for this purpose as being able to support or otherwise live with the decision or course of action. Compacts that are not present during a consensus vote shall be consulted to assure consensus.

Section 3. Proxies. Any compact representative who is unavoidably absent from a meeting of the Alliance may be represented by an alternate from the same compact who shall thereupon perform the duties of the absent representative. A proxy may be exercised only by a representative of the concerned member compact. Notice of an authorized proxy should be given in writing to the Chair of the Alliance prior to any business meeting.

Article VI. Officers and Committees

Section 1. The officers of the Alliance shall consist of a Chair and a Vice Chair and the immediate Past Chair. In the absence or disability of the Chair, the Vice Chair shall have all the power and authority of the Chair. In the event that the offices of Chair and Vice Chair both are vacant, or in the event that the offices of Chair and Vice Chair are unable to perform the duties of Chair by reason of illness, disability, or absence, the Alliance shall designate a representative as Acting Chair, who shall then perform the duties of Chair.

Section 2. Officers shall fill positions on a rotational basis, and not by election. Each officer will serve a 1 year term and shall serve through the next annual meeting. A rotation schedule (see Exhibit A) shall be established by the members and may be modified as needs require, but with the intention that every compact serve as officers over a period of rotation.

Section 3. There shall be an office of Past Chair to be held by the individual whose term of office as Chair has most recently expired. In the event that the immediate Past Chair is not available to assume the post, the office shall be filled by an alternate with the approval of the members. The Past Chair shall assist the Chair and Vice Chair in coordinating the activities of the Alliance.

Section 4. Each compact shall select an authorized representative to act as Chair of the Alliance when that compact's turn comes up in the rotation.

Section 5. The Chair of the Alliance shall appoint such committees or work groups as necessary for the functioning of the Alliance.

Section 6. There shall be an Executive Committee composed of the Chair, the Vice Chair, and the Past Chair. The Executive Committee shall have authority to act for, and represent, the Alliance in the interim between meetings on matters which have already received consensus of the members.

Section 7. Cooperating federal agencies including but not limited to the United States Forest Service, the National Park Service, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Bureau of Land Management or Border Security, along with their Canadian counterparts, other agencies, cooperators, or guests may be notified of meetings of the Alliance and may be invited to attend such meetings.

Article VII. Finance

Section 1. Finance procedures of the Alliance shall be governed by the procedures of the individual compacts.

Section 2. The fiscal year of the Alliance shall begin on July 1 and end on June 30 of the following calendar year.

Article VIII. Committees and Working Groups

Section 1. Committees and working groups established by the Alliance shall be managed and governed by the Alliance. Such committees and working groups need to report to the Alliance for final decisions, recommendations and/or action plans. Committees and Working Groups will follow the consensus model for doing business.

Article IX. Amendment to Rules and Processes

Section 1. These rules and processes may be amended at any regular meeting of the Alliance by consensus of all forest fire compact members.

Article X. Formation and Dissolution

Section 1. The Alliance shall exist as an entity when at least two compacts have agreed to membership.

Section 2. The Alliance shall continue in force for each compact accepting this Guidance Document until the leadership of such compact takes action to withdraw therefrom. Such action shall not be effective until sixty days after written notice thereof has been sent by the chief executive of the compact desiring to withdraw to the Chair of the Alliance. The Chair of the Alliance will notify the chief executives of all compacts then Parties to the Alliance.

Section 3. The Alliance shall dissolve when less than two compacts remain as members.

Legislative History of Forest Fire Compacts in the United States

| Compact | Member States | Authorizing Legislation |
|--|--|--|
| Northeastern Interstate Forest Fire Protection Compact. (a.k.a Northeast Compact) | Maine New Hampshire Vermont Rhode Island Connecticut New York Massachusetts | Public Law 129, 81 st Congress, 25 June, 1949 |
| | New Brunswick Quebec Nova Scotia Newfoundland & Labrador | Public Law 340, 82 nd Congress, 13 May, 1952 |
| South Central Interstate Forest Fire Protection Compact | Arkansas Louisiana Mississippi Oklahoma Texas | Public Law 642, 83 rd Congress, May 1953. |
| Southeastern Interstate Forest Fire Protection Compact | Alabama Florida Georgia Kentucky Mississippi North Carolina South Carolina Tennessee Virginia West Virginia | Public Law 536, 83 rd Congress 27 July, 1954. |

| Compact | Member States | Authorizing Legislation |
|---|---|---|
| Middle Atlantic Interstate Forest Fire Protection Compact | Delaware Maryland New Jersey Pennsylvania Virginia West Virginia Ohio | Public Law 790 84 th Congress 25 July, 1956. Public Law 100-609 100 th Congress 5 November, 1988 |
| Great Lakes Forest Fire Compact | Michigan Minnesota Wisconsin Ontario Manitoba | No Congressional action is required beyond that given in the Weeks Law of 1911, except as to the participation of Ontario & Manitoba |
| The Big Rivers Forest Fire Management Compact. (a.k.a Big Rivers Compact.) | Iowa Indiana Missouri Illinois | No Congressional action is required. (See above note on Weeks Law of 1911) |
| Northwest Compact | Oregon Washington Idaho Montana Alaska British Columbia Alberta Saskatchewan Yukon Territory Northwest Territory | Public Law 105-377 105 th Congress 12 November, 1998 |
| Great Plains Interstate Forest Fire Compact | North Dakota South Dakota Colorado Wyoming | Public Law 110-79 110 th Congress 04 January, 2007 |
| Canadian – Provincial Membership Authority | | Public Law 340 Chapter 267 HR 4764 82 nd Congress 13 May, 1952 and as additionally included as part of the border compacts above |

Forest Fire Compacts of the United States and Canada



Exhibit A

Rotational Sequence of Officers
(As decided at the Jan 16, 2013 Alliance meeting)

- The Northeastern Forest Fire Protection Compact
- The Southeastern & South Central Interstate Forest Fire Protection Compacts
- The Mid-Atlantic Interstate Forest Fire Protection Compact
- The Great Plains Interstate Forest Fire Compact
- Big Rivers Forest Fire Management Compact
- The Great Lakes Forest Fire Compact
- The Northwest Forest Fire Protection Compact

Signature Page

Printed Name

Signature

Date


Eric Earle
For the Northeastern Forest Fire Protection Compact 08/07/12


John P. Monzie
For the Northwest Forest Fire Protection Compact 11/05/13


Tim Kark
For the Southeastern Interstate Forest Fire Protection Compact 11/4/12


John P. Best
For the Mid-Atlantic Interstate Forest Fire Protection Compact 12/12/12


B. W. Laht - Chair
For the Big Rivers Forest Fire Management Compact 12-17-12


Trent Marty
For the Great Lakes Forest Fire Compact 2-28-13


GEORGE L. GESSLER
For the South Central Interstate Forest Fire Protection Compact 11/6/12


Ron Graham
For the Great Plains Interstate Forest Fire Compact 12/12/12



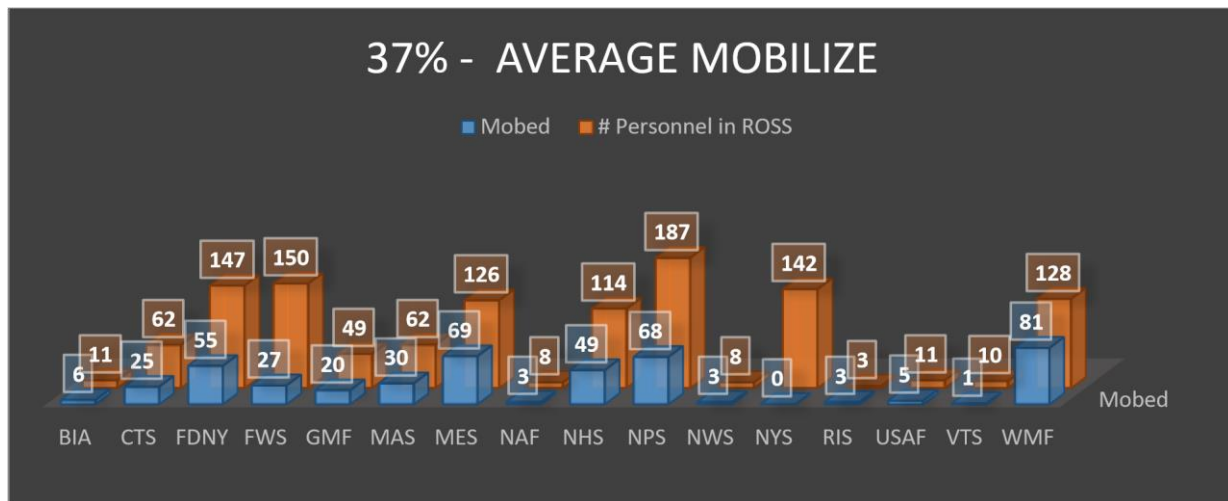
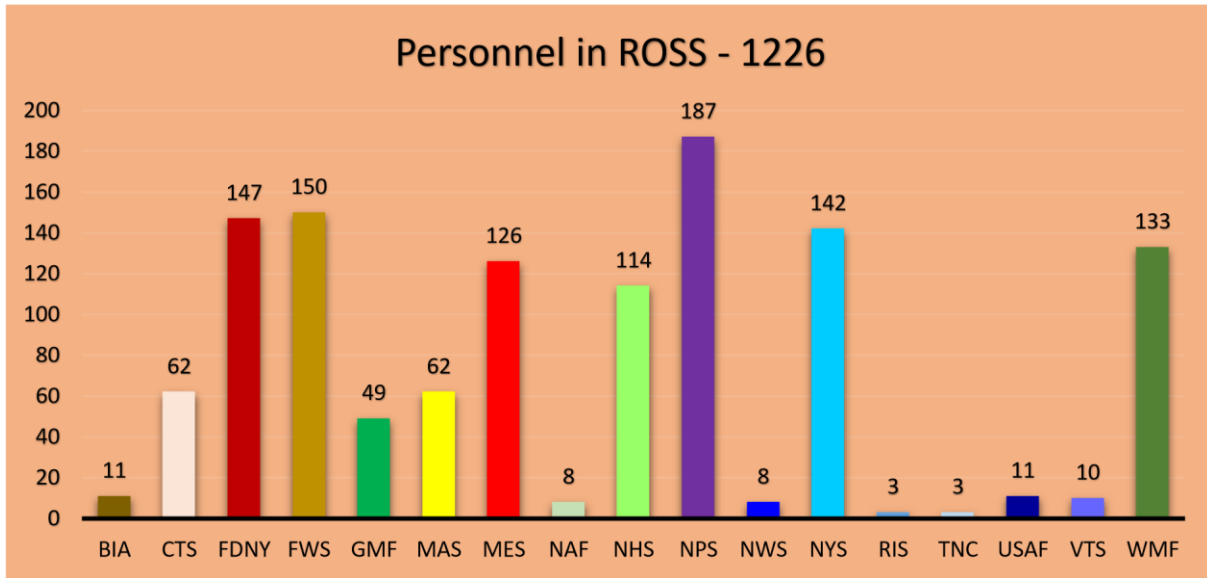
**APPENDIX B – NORTHEASTERN INTERAGENCY
COORDINATION CENTER (NECC)**

NECC Activity & Mobilizations..... Page 135

Fire Activity and Prescribed Fire Page 145

ROSS (Resource Ordering and Statusing System)

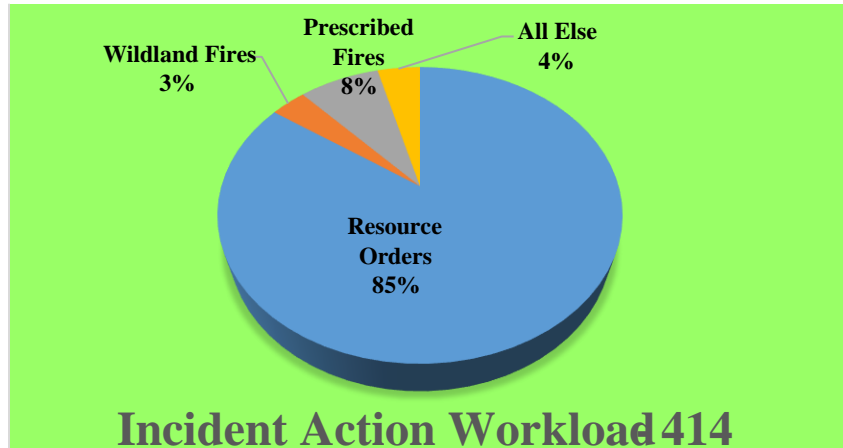
One of the things I wanted to get a feel for was how many personnel we have in ROSS and how many actually go out. On average, 37% of personnel in ROSS actually mobilized this year. The reason I wanted to do this was because I feel many of these folks don't necessarily need to be in ROSS, and keeping them active is an additional work load to those of us that do qualifications/redcards, so I'm hoping it will prompt folks to review their IQS/IQCS to see if folks in their data bases are participating.



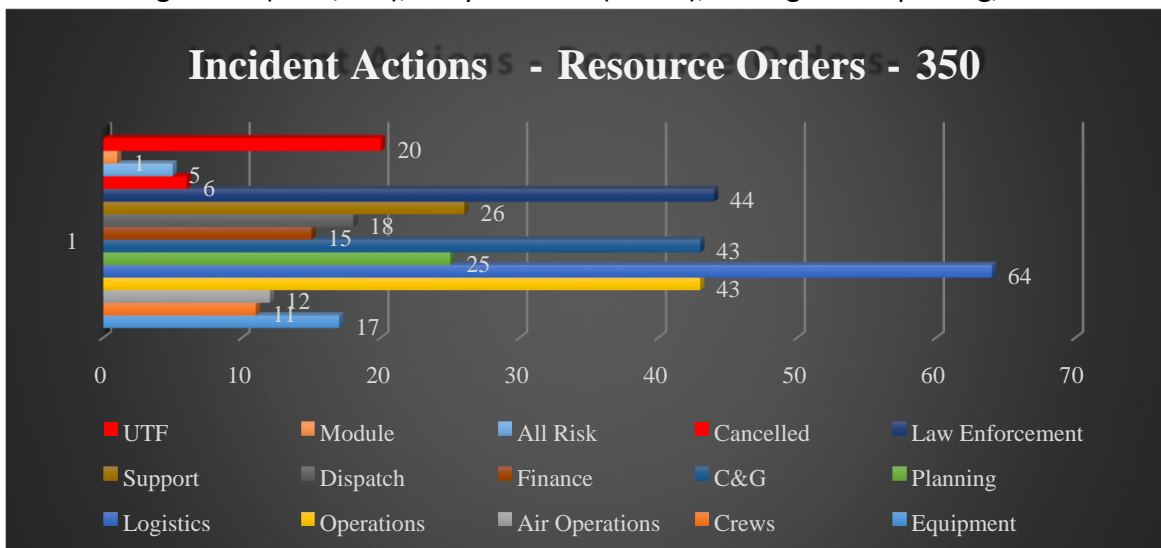
Note: 2018 was a busy year with local incidents and activities in the State of New York which prevented national resource mobilizations. If however, they were able to participate the average number of individuals mobilized would be closer to 40% participation.

Incident Actions

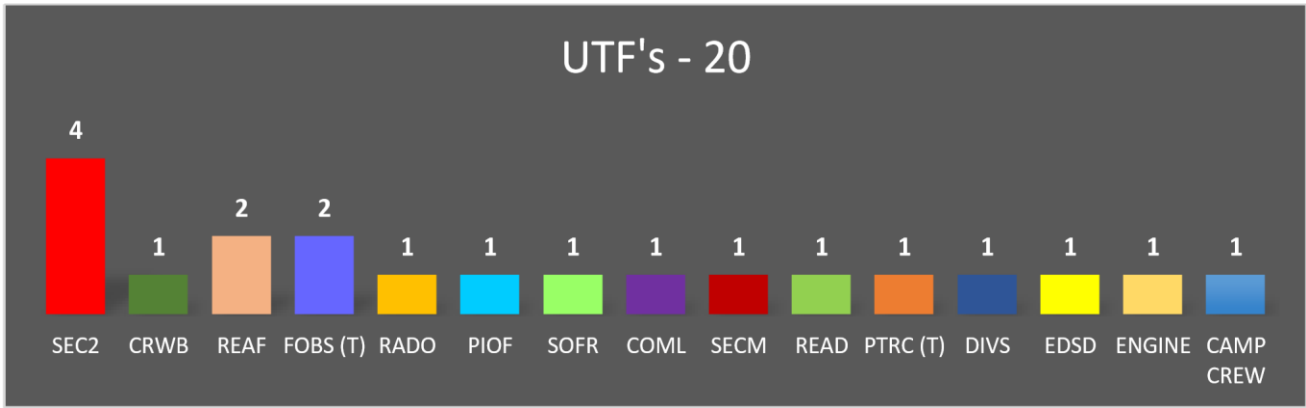
NECC has numerous tools to keep track of wildland fires, prescribed fires, mobilizations etc. The tools most used are ROSS and WildCad. ROSS is the National tool for mobilizing resources, however WildCad is a tool we use for tracking our workload. Every resource order, every fire report, every prescribed fire, and every miscellaneous activity which NECC dispatchers participate in whether it be over the radio or phone, gets captured in WildCad, through the “Incident Actions” tab.



The “All Else” tab above includes: S&R’s, Flight Following, LE assists, Managed Resource Objective projects, Smoke Checks, False Alarms and basic miscellaneous items. As you can see Resource Orders are by far our biggest workload as they are every year, however there are numerous other “behind the scenes” work we do that are not captured in WildCad. Agency specific duties like AD hiring, qualification management (IQCS/IQS), daily weather (WIMS), intelligence reporting, etc.



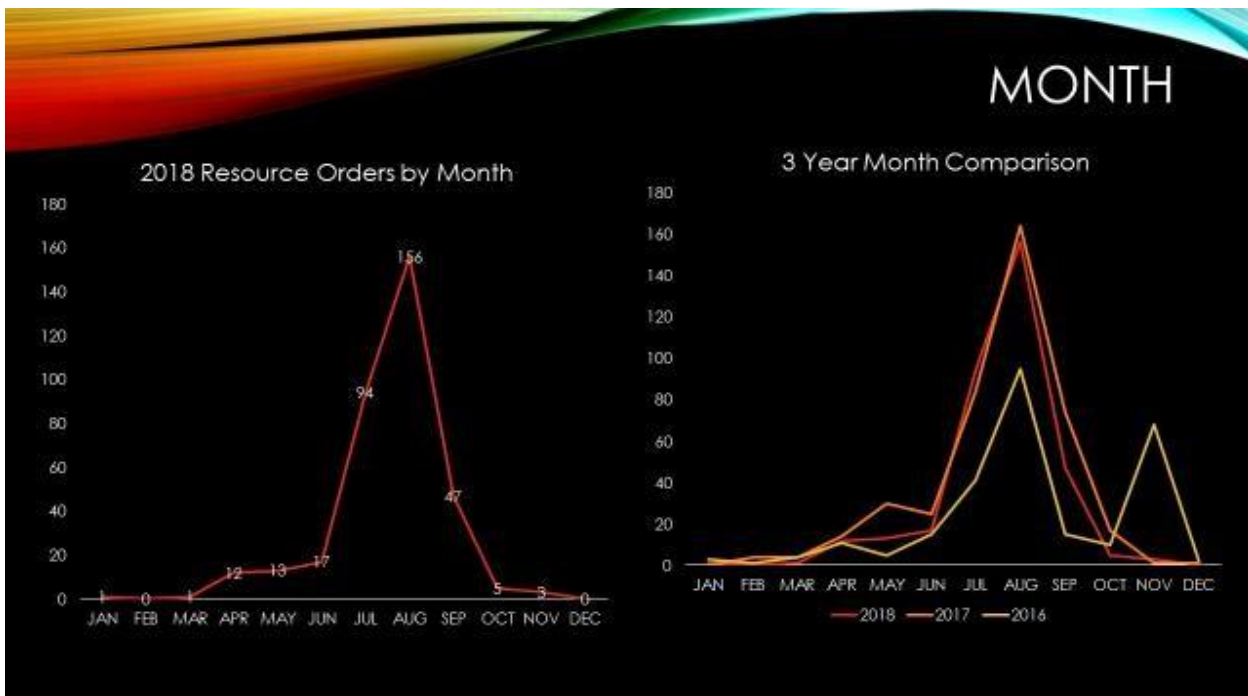
Of the 414 Incident Actions NECC generated, 350 of those were for resource orders. Here is a breakdown of orders which we received. Keep in mind that one of these orders may have 20 resources attached (crew for example).



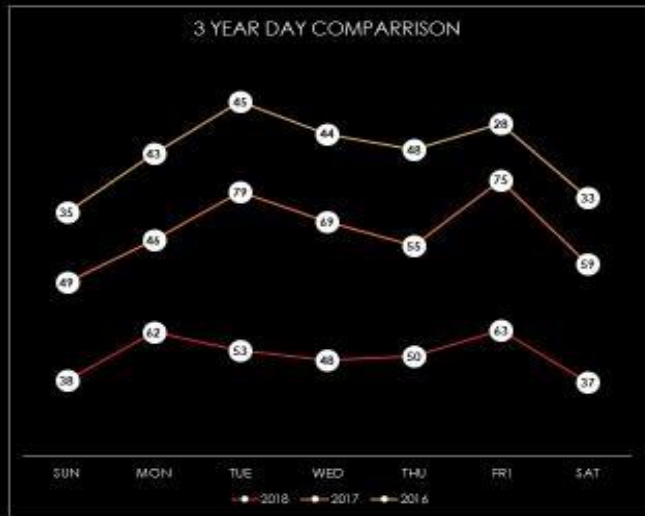
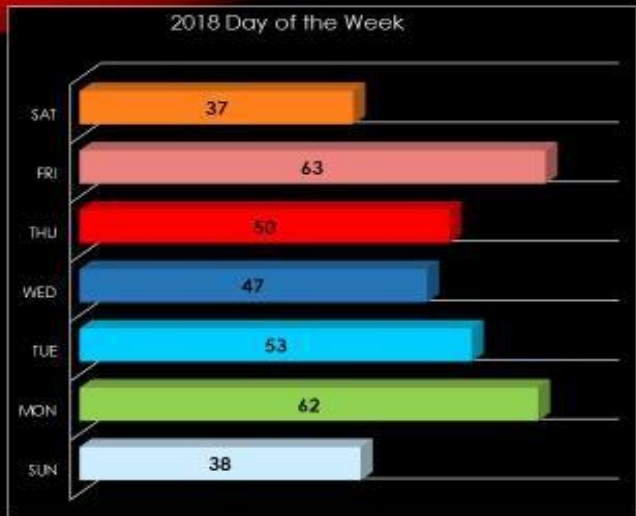
UTF's occur when we are unable to fill a resource order which we received. Some of these are orders are sent to us to "shop around" to partners in hopes they can break someone free to fill, others may of occurred due to a incorrect status in ROSS (not really available to go out), or someone may have been available only to work on a task book and the rest of their qualifications did not get masked. UTF's however play an important role in the mobilization process because it shows the positions where shortages occur which in turn can gives fire managers information for planning/ training purposes.

Incoming Resource Orders

One of the things I enjoy learning is how the current year compared to previous years. The below graphs depict our resource order activities by month, day of week and time of day for 2018 and then I compared with the last two years. Each year you will notice is very similar.



DAY OF WEEK



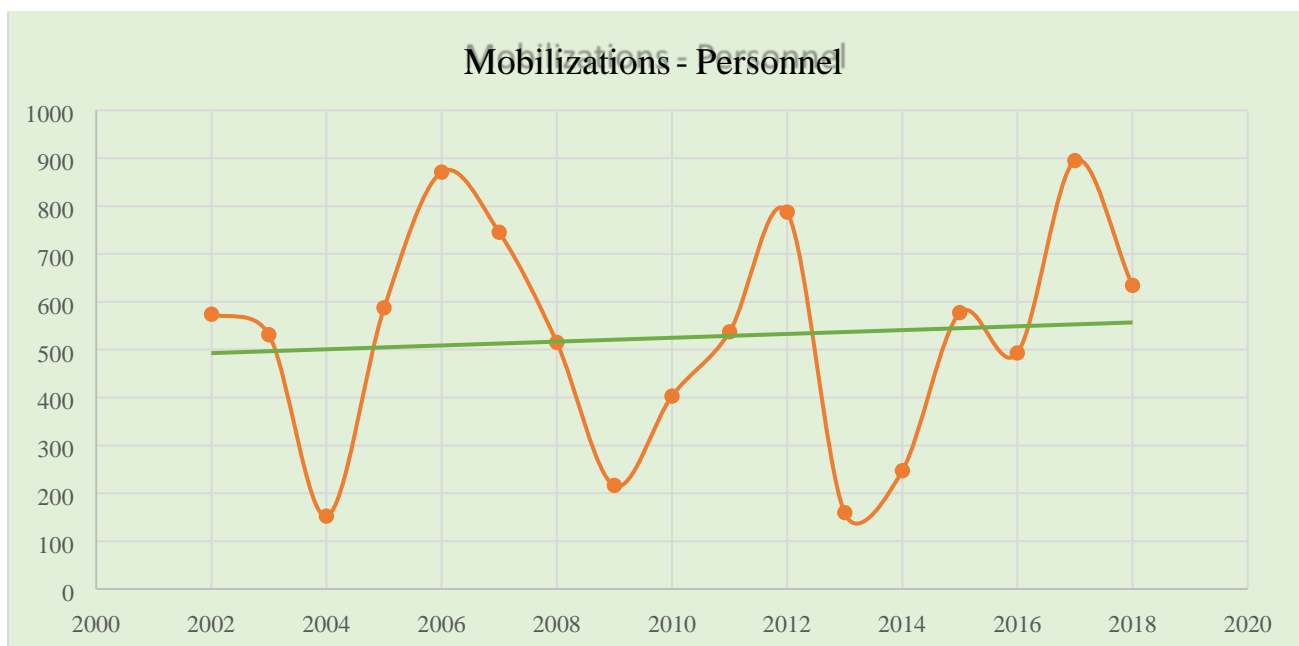
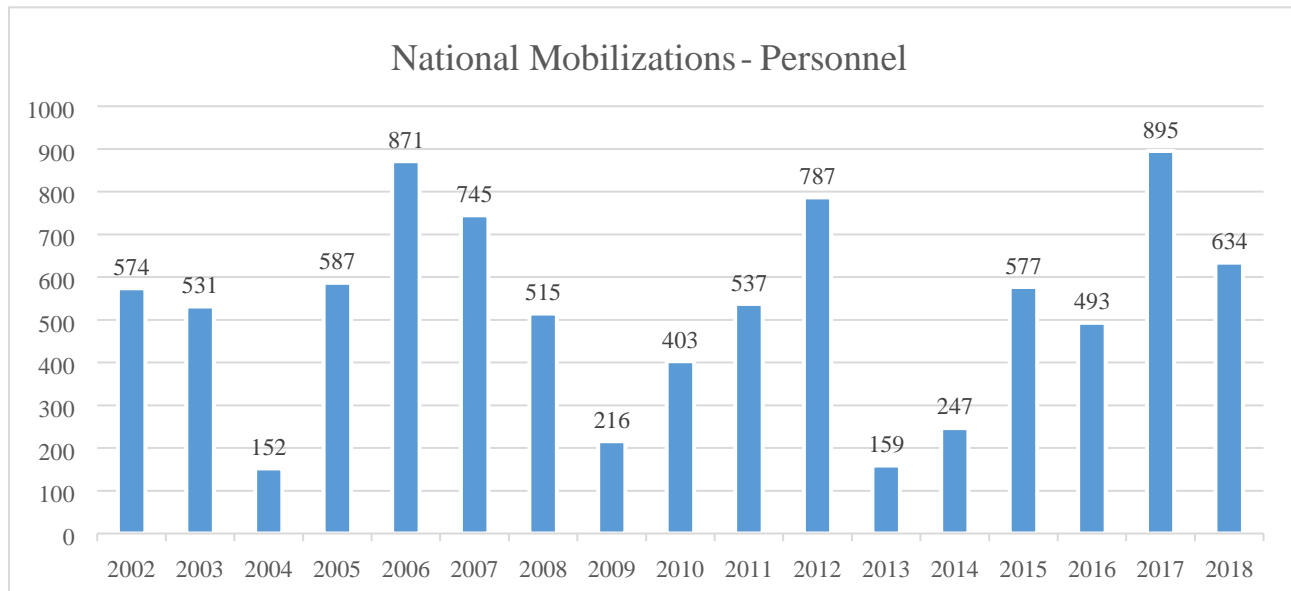
TIME OF DAY



Mobilizations

2018 was no different than any other year in the sense that mobilizations create our biggest workload here at NECC. You can see below we were not quite as busy in 2018 as we were in 2017, but busy none

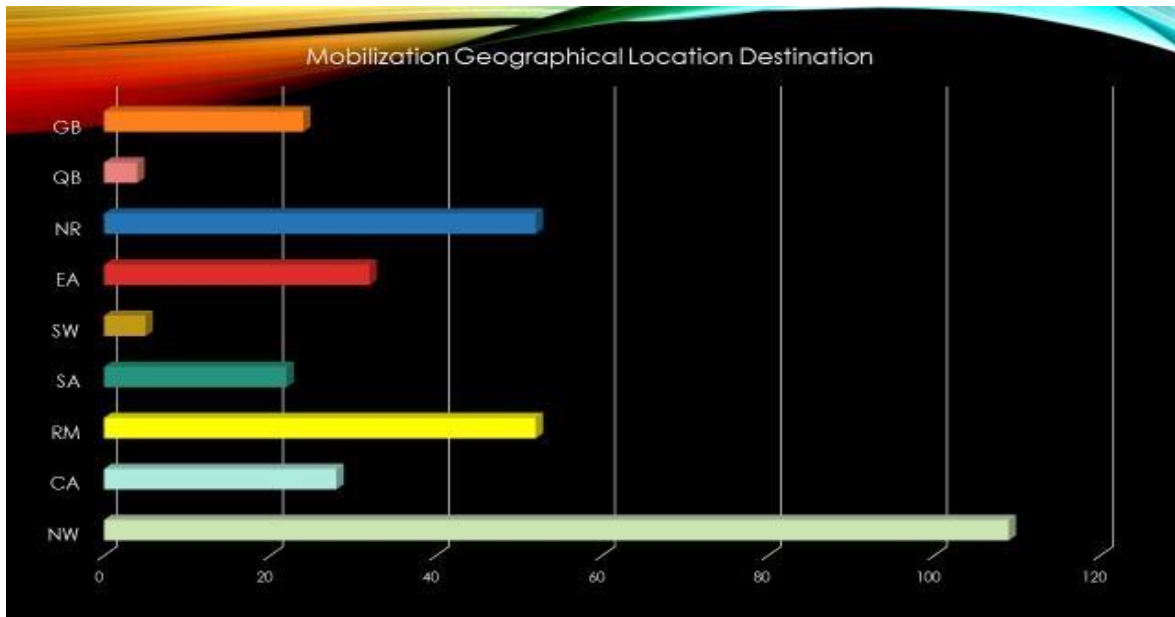
the less. The below graphs show the last 17 years personnel were mobilized out of NECC. The second graph clearly shows the ups and downs of activities from year to year, but it also shows a steady trend in mobilizations overall. It is very hard to predict what the next year will be like when it comes to wildland fire activities, however looking at the graphs one would think it will be a little bit slower in 2019 than the last few years. But then again I could be wrong 😊



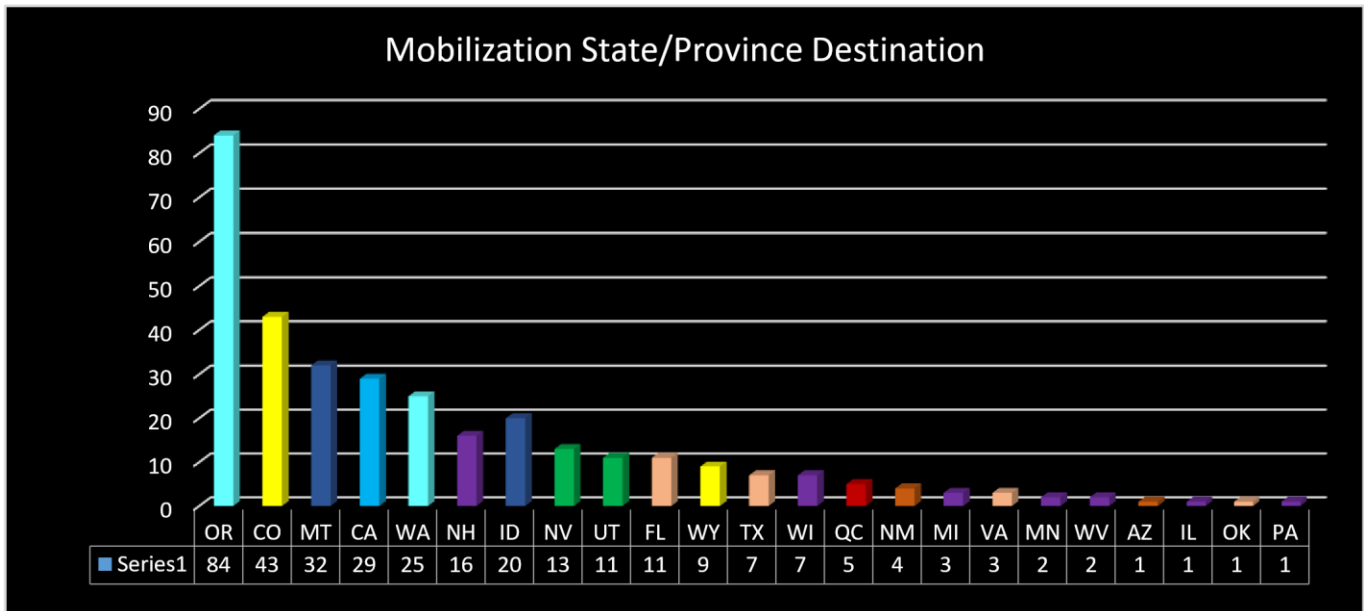
2018 Mobilizations

It is always fun to see where we send resources throughout the year. This year we sent 82 folks up to Quebec (QB) to assist with their very busy fire season, and on the US side of the border the Pacific Northwest was where most of our resources went, however the Rocky Mountain and Northern Rockies also was a popular destination for resources. Most of NECC partner agencies participated this year,

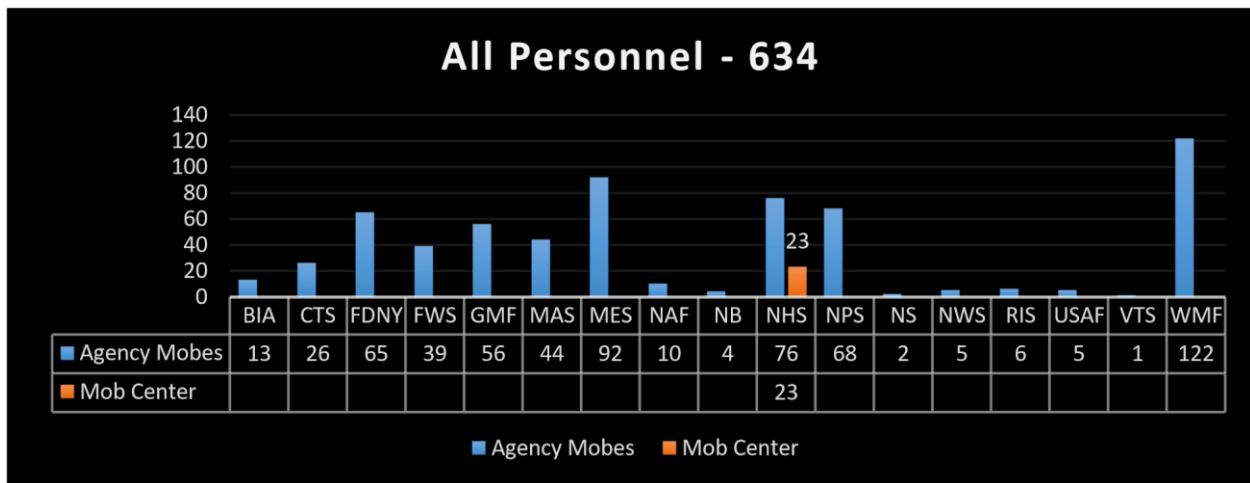
whether it was helping neighbors as many of the compact Canadian provinces did or helping those on the other side of the country. We're all here to help and we do it in great numbers.



The below numbers are resource order requests, not individuals mobilized.



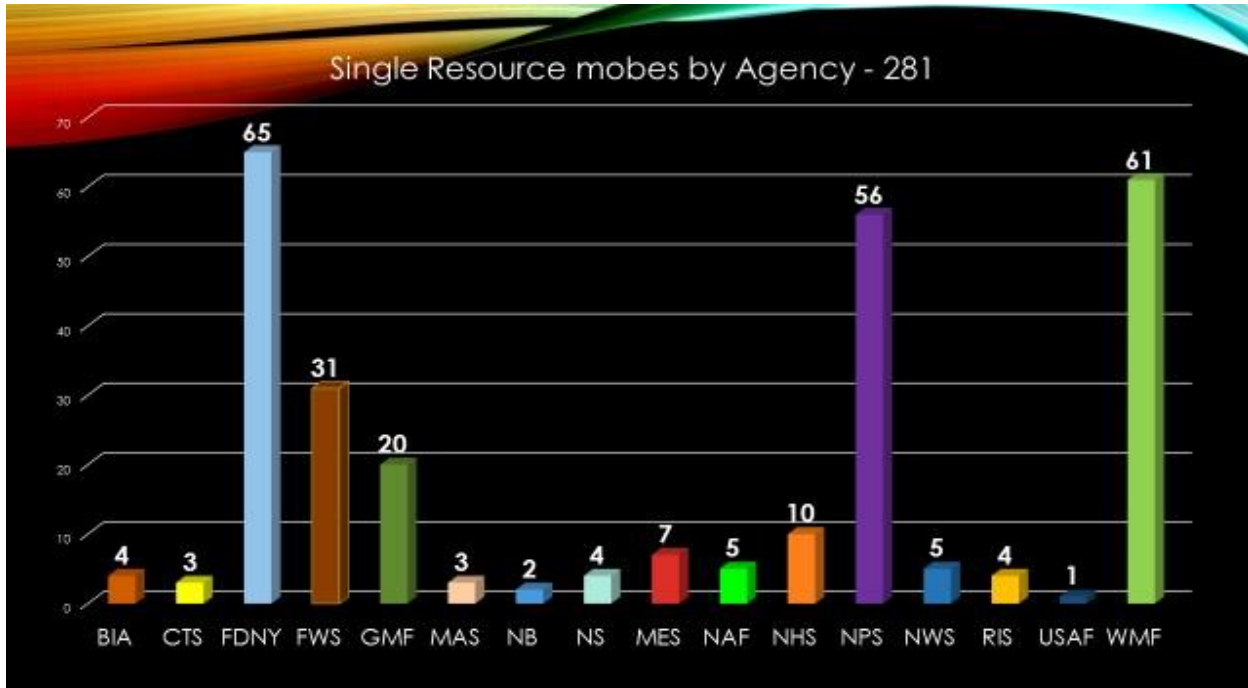
Note in below documentation: NB= New Brunswick; NS = Nova Scotia

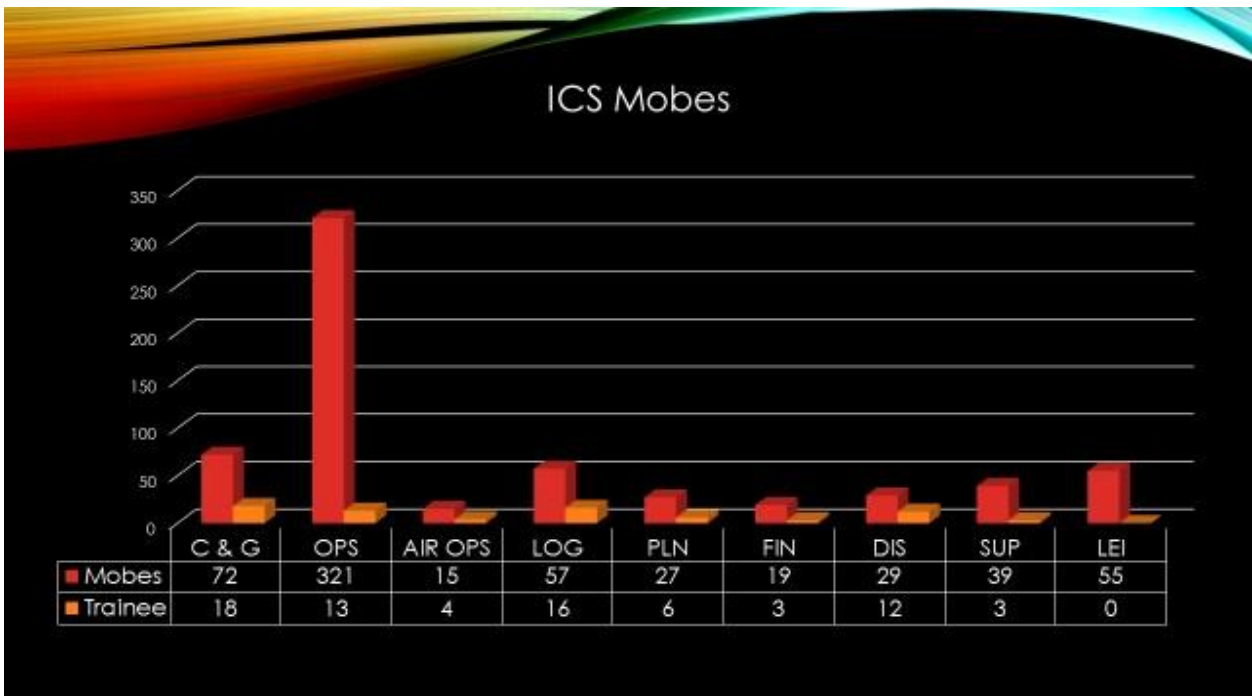


Manchester Mob Center is a huge partner when we are mobilizing crews, they do a lot of work and need numerous resources to provided services. The 23 that participated this year are also incorporated in the total NHS personnel that participated in mobilizations throughout the year.

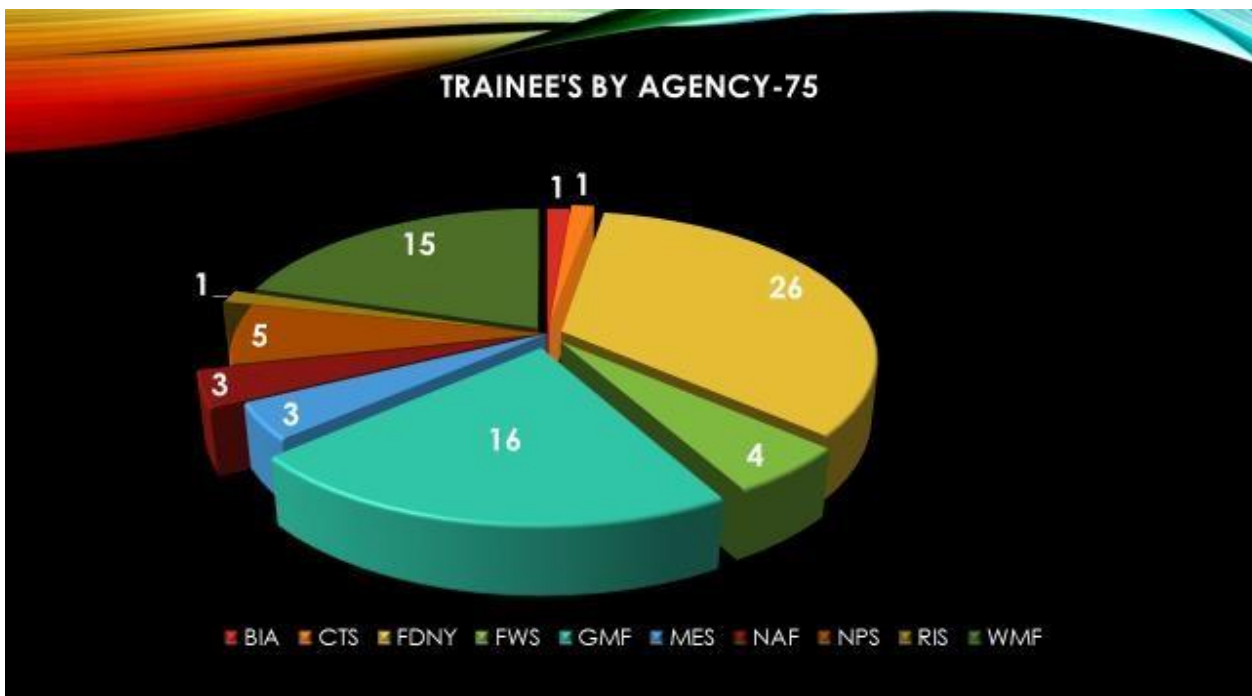
Overhead – Single Resources

Single resource orders made up 85% of the orders we received. As in every year, the majority of our mobilizations are in the Operations with Air Operations and Finance still the least “active” ICS section. I hear that Finance is really a fun section to get into if only folks will give it a chance. (RG ☺)





The trainee numbers above are included in the “Mobes” numbers



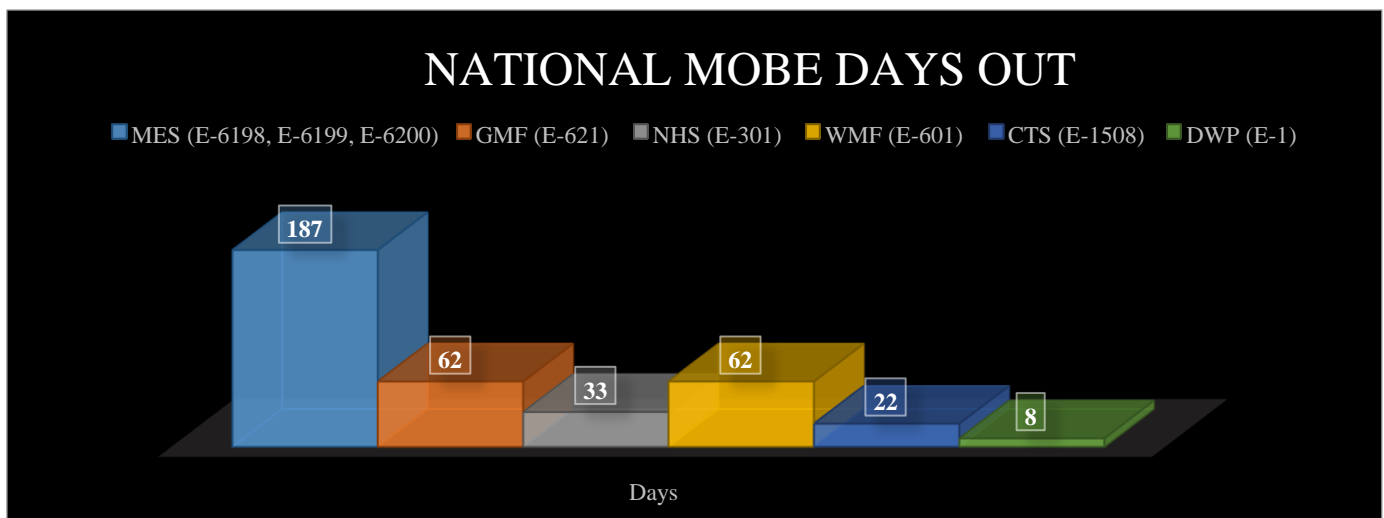
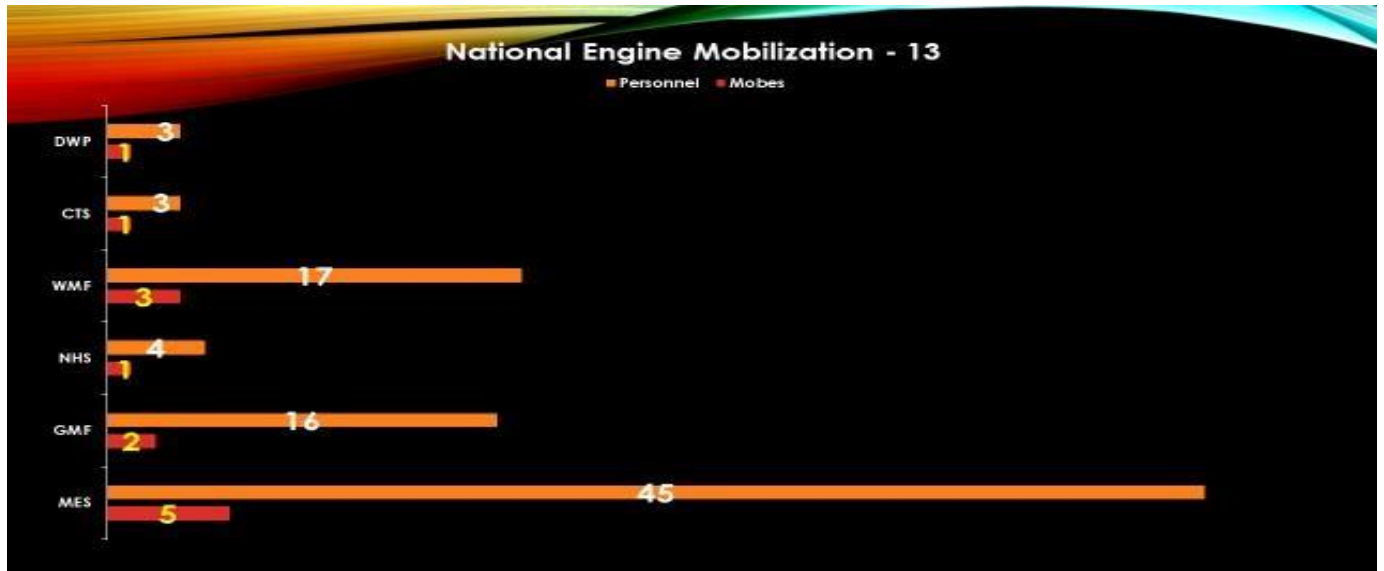
Note: NECC creates resource orders for Forest Service resources when they go assist DOD or TNC with prescribed fire. These projects gives many Green Mountain and White Mountain National Forest personnel opportunity to work on task books, however the majority of the trainee assignments above were single resource orders outside of the Northeast.

Engines

Getting engines out is a big deal because it saves agencies money, so when things get busy nationally, there is opportunity to get our available engines out on assignments. In 2018 Maine State had 3

engines out numerous times going to Virginia, Minnesota and California; White Mountain National Forest put a lot of miles on their Type 6 engine traveling to Illinois, Michigan and Montana while the Green Mountain engine visited Michigan and Idaho. New Hampshire and Connecticut took the very long journey to California and Delaware Water Gap's traveled to Virginia.

Crew rotations are essential especially on the long distance mobilizations. NECC works with the home unit and receiving unit to get crews rotated in and out as simply as possible. This is a lot of work and time consuming so we like to get the ball rolling about 1 week before the transition. Below you can see the number of engines and number of personnel we mobilized in 2018, as well as the day's each piece of equipment was committed.



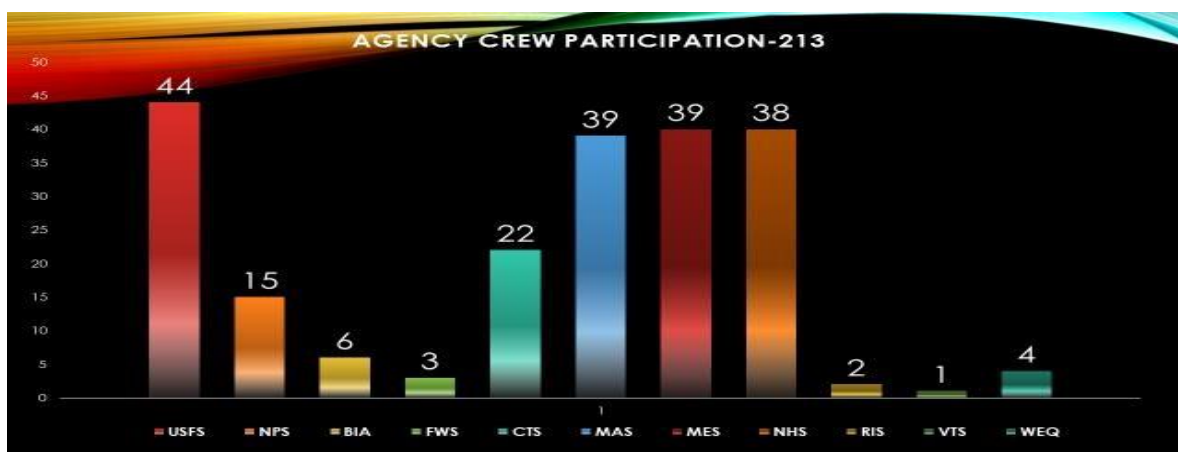
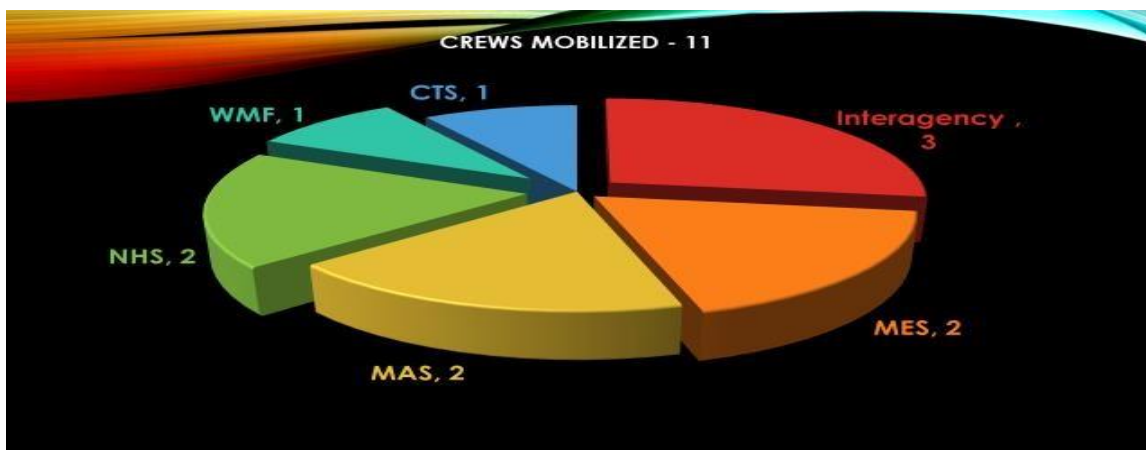
Crews

I'm not sure why but crews are fun to get out. Maybe because we can get a large number of folks out all at once, maybe because there is always a need for crews, or maybe because we like stress, but one thing I know for sure is crew mobilizations take a lot of time and team work, not just among us dispatchers but with the sending and receiving units. Whether we are mobilizing a Type 21A or a Type 2

(which we did this year) crew, we have to make sure position and crew weight standards are met. We have to make sure everyone gets to the mob centers or airports in time, and if flying commercial we work close with the travel agents assuring the names are spelled correctly and each person gets into the same destination close to the same time as others (this does not always happen). On Canadian mobs we have to assure border crossings go smoothly, and if needed for any mob, make sure someone on the other end picks them up or secure vehicles and rooms if needed.

213 personnel participated in crew mobilizations this year. Crews began Mobilizing during the first week of July with the last crew returning home on October 3rd.

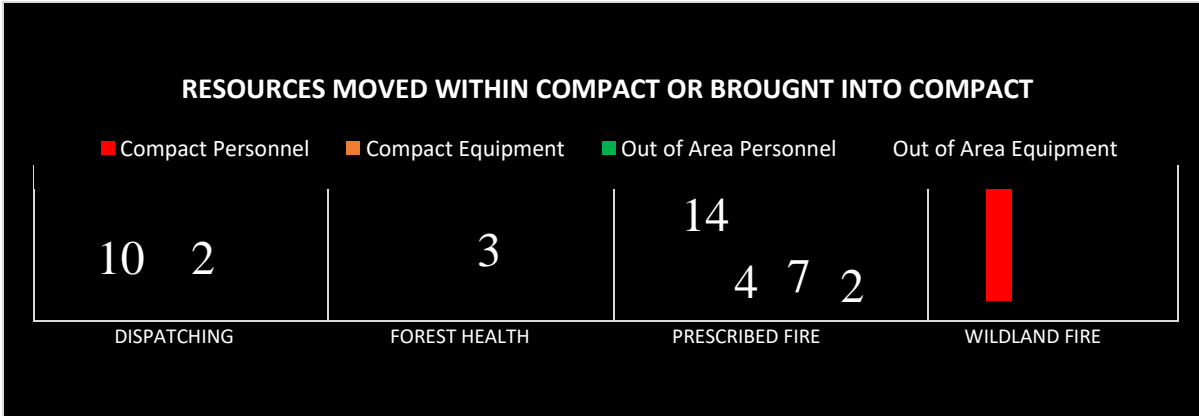
- 4 State Crews were mobilized to Quebec Incidents going to the: Maniwaki, Matagami, Val –d’Or and Baie Comeau fires
- 7 Crews (3-Interagency, 3-State, 1-USFS) were sent out west beginning July 25. Colorado (2), Oregon (1) and Montana (4)



Local Movement of Resources

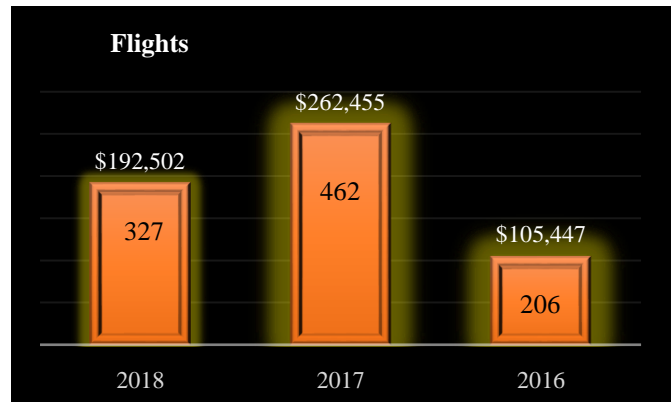
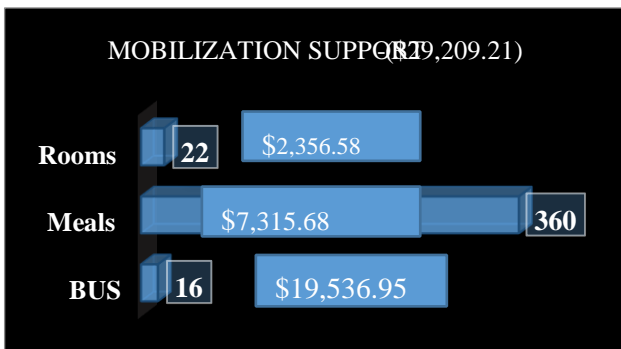
Besides mobilizing resources to national incidents, NECC assists all our partners when they are in need. For example whenever our Canadian partners have wildfire activities, we mobilize resources to assist them, whether it is hand crews from the US or team members from other Canadian Provinces. When Gettysburg NP was planning to do some prescribed fire projects and needed an engine, we assisted DWPC with the order, or when the Forest Service assisted the DOD with burning or invasive species

work, we keep track of compact resources used as well as resources we bring in to assist. Any need our partners may have, NECC does everything we can to provide them with what they request. Just ask!



Support

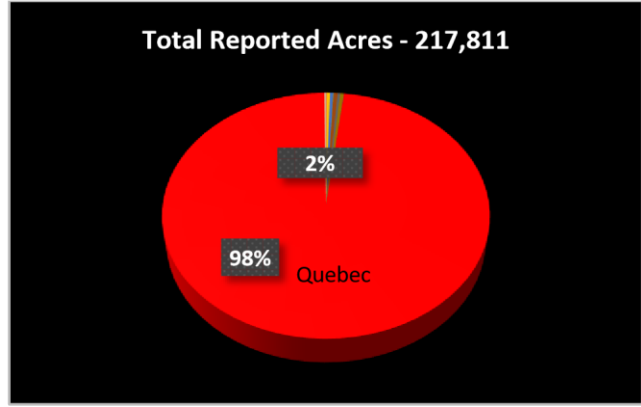
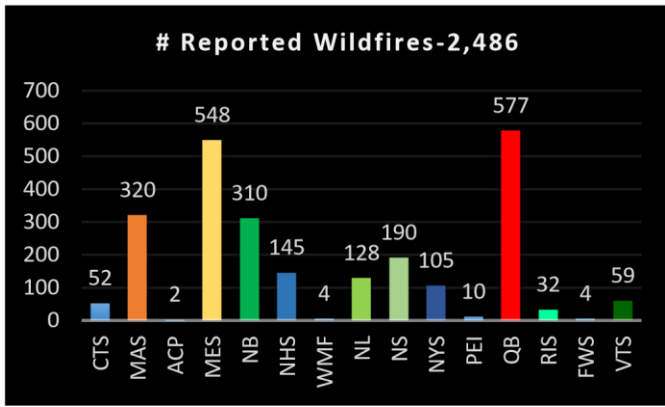
As we all know, wildland fires are expensive (pay attention to US National daily sit reports just to give you an idea of the costs), and I know the numbers below are a drop in the bucket in the final tallies and the whole scheme of things but NECC secured almost a quarter of a million dollars of support in 2018 just to get folks to where they are going. This does not include all the mob center costs or the cost of a NICC jet, but it is none the less a lot of money. So just keep in mind that when we are making flight arrangements or securing busses/meals or motel rooms that we do consider costs and we do have to assure we are spending money wisely. So you may get a middle seat instead of a first class seat (you can always dream you’re in first class), and you may have to share a room instead of getting your own room, but keep in mind we will get you to your destination, and hopefully it is by the time and date needed.



Reported Wildfires and Prescribed Fire

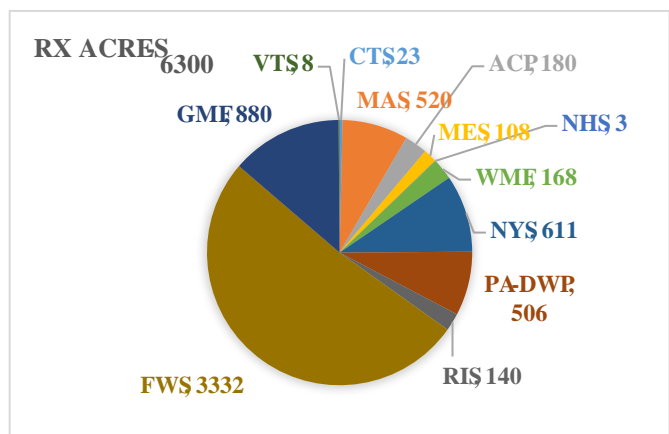
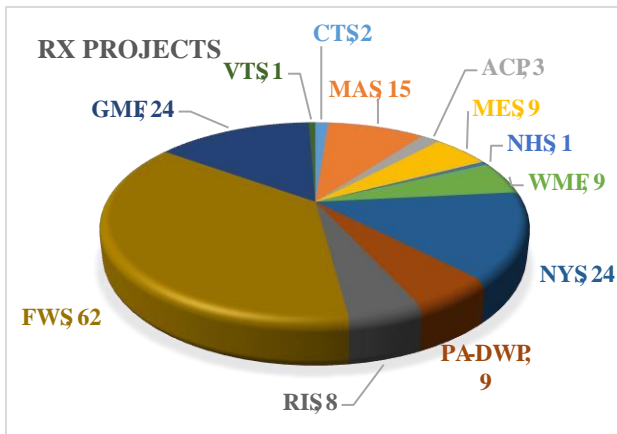
NECC provides communications for initial attack and prescribed fire activities for the Green Mountain and White Mountain National Forests, however we also support all our agency partners in their local fire activities if needed. All agencies report their activities to NECC, and for the US partners, NECC reports these activities onto the daily national situation report.

We don’t always receive the totals until the end of year for final reporting, however what the information shows is whether it is wildland fire activities or prescribed fire activities, NECC partners are active.



The above and below graphs shows the activities partners had in 2018. The above acres for wildland fires just goes to show how active Quebec was this year. 98% of the acres reported were from Quebec, the other 2 % are from the other 14 units that reported fires and acres.

You can see between the two graphs (WF/RX) that our Canadian partners were very busy with wildland fire activities whereas the US partners were able to focus on prescribed fire activities.





This Outstanding Service Award was presented to NECC for the 2017 season, however we had not yet received it prior to the publication of our 2017 Year End Report. I just wanted to state how proud I am of what all we have accomplished at NECC and we all thank the Compact for this recognition. It truly means a lot to all of us who work her at NECC.

Molly

This document, and some of the work described in it, was made possible through grant support from the USDA Forest Service.

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