

Spring 2004
Great Basin Fire Equipment Working Team
Meeting Notes
April 8thth , Reno Nevada

○ **Attendees:**

Willy Acton: Chair and Helicopter rep.	(208)-634-0612
Lance Carbone: Co-Chair and Engine rep.	(208)-587-7961
Buzz Vanskike: Idaho/Wyoming rep.	(208)-737-3227
Bill Neckels: Fleet rep.	(307)-739-5566
Heath Cota: IHC rep	(208)-735-8232
Doug Crocker: Nevada rep.	(760)-932-7070
Millie Grune: Engineering Advisor (vice-Durk until filled)	(801)-625-5184
Dave Provencio: RO Fire Operations-Advisor	(801)-625-5565
Rick Blanton: Great Basin Cache- Advisor	(208)-387-5547
Pat Ward: HTF- Advisor	(775)-355-5374

○ **Review Project Of Work statement for FEWT for FY03:**

Regional Safety- : Vice-Ewing replacement will be a part of the committee and is expected to be in place by the Fall meeting.

Regional/National FEWT Program- : The website for FEWT should be functional this fiscal year.

Great Basin Cache Issues- Blanton: All projects on-going.

Engineering /Fleet Programs-: Millie will cover the Vice-Durk position.

Engine Programs-Lance Carbone: All projects on-going.

Smokejumper Programs- Pete Pride: All projects on-going

Interagency Hotshot Programs- Heath Kota: Retro-fit for rear tow point.

Helicopter Programs-Willy Acton: BAER project ongoing w/SDTDC. Draft operating plans are out for comment.

- **New Projects and current Issues:**

Mike Lipka (BLM, Nevada State Office): Mike presented information on the eight wheel drive Tantra engine. The engine has a 2400-3000 gallon capacity. The engine is capable of operating over extremely rough terrain at all speeds. The Tantra can serve in many roles from a heavy engine to a tactical water tender. S&S Fire make the chassis in the US now. Mike showed the Paul Peters video on the engine.

Max Ewing: Max is retiring. Lee Rackam and George Solverson will be filling the position until it is filled.

Larry Durk: Larry has retired. Millie Grune will be filling the position as a detailer until the position is filled.

BLM FEWT meeting: The BLM FEWT meeting is next Tuesday. Lance Carbone will attend and take notes. We should look at having a representative from our FEWT attend the BLM FEWT meetings.

Frank Mills: Invite Frank Mills (HAZMAT specialist for Region Four Forest Service) to a future FEWT meeting. Suggest Spring FY05 meeting. Willy will invite Frank for Spring FY04 meeting.

Engine Striping and Lettering: Millie presented information on striping and lettering standards. Lance Carbone will work with Millie and the Vice-Durk position to present information at the fall meeting. The R-4 Engine Committee is also working on the striping, numbering, lettering issue. We need to get firm direction on this issue and get closure on it. It has been left as an issue without resolution for too long. This subject will be on agenda for the fall meeting.

Engine Committee: The Engine Committee meeting will be the 1st week in May. There is a proposal to make it an Interagency committee. The Engine Committee would like to see a standardized PT program. The Engine Committee is also looking at the potential to create a Engine Academy for Region Four. They may have some people go to R-3 or R-5 as a “Train the Trainer” session. They would also like to look at taking seven people on assignments as a standard.

Hotshot crew buggy update: Heath Cota presented proposed contract changes for the FS IHC crew carriers to Millie. Millie will carry forward to contracting. Heath will mail the changes to Millie. Heath has one of the buggies and will show his proposals to Millie after the meeting.

“Star of Life” emblem on FS vehicles: Currently the H-T has the star of life on the medical compartment of their engines. The question was raised as to if this is appropriate for the FS. Lance will follow up with the Engine Committee and Millie in conjunction with the striping issue.

Interagency status for FEWT: Dave will approach the region about making it interagency. Will present at the fall meeting.

National FEWT meeting: Pat ward will cover R-4 for the National FEWT meeting.