



Protection Contract Services Unit

2016 IFCA Newsletter

April 2016

Protection from Fire Program

From the Unit Coordinator

During the month of March the PCSU staff met with IFCA contractors to engage in conversations about the effectiveness of the current IFCA, suggestions for improvements to the evaluation process for the next solicitation period, and overall IFCA business functionality. I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your willingness to meet and for the candid conversations and feedback. In the coming months we will conduct a comprehensive review, meet with various agency groups to vet concepts, and draft a plan for moving forward. We plan to post the solicitation on ORPIN in the late fall, and expect to implement the new IFCA prior to the 2017 fire season.

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IFCA Amendment 4

The Amendment allows contractors to make a written request for special price adjustment, clarifies the meaning of ‘season’ in relation to yellow/red dot firefighter classification, and updates wildland firefighting training resources list.

Government signed copies of page 6 have been mailed to contractors for their records.

2016 Award Summary Sheets

Award Summary Sheets updated with the 1.25% price increase have been mailed to contractors. **Contractor signed copies must be received by PCSU by 4:00 p.m., April 15, 2016.**

2017 Fire Season Outlook

ODF meteorologists are predicting that with the near average snowpack throughout the state as well as drought diminishing and the forecast calling

for near average moisture throughout the spring and summer, the expectation is for a closer to average fire season than the past three seasons. This information may indicate a reprieve from the intensity of the last three fire seasons; nevertheless, we urge our contractors to be trained and prepared to engage at the highest level as other factors could dictate a more active fire season.

Upcoming DDL Inspections

Bob will be contacting each company within the next few weeks to schedule DDL reviews for some time in late May/June. The purpose of these visits is to ensure previously approved standards are being maintained. Additionally, records inspections can be performed during these visits. Please discuss your need to have records inspected with Bob when you are contacted for the DDL review.

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Company Manifests

2016 Company Manifests may be sent to PCSU any time from now through July 01 once crew standards are met. If you are submitting your manifest prior to mid-June, please be aware that we will require another complete manifest no later than July 01 to capture all of the updates for our official records.

ROSS Statusing

Once crew standards have been met and your company manifest has been submitted to PCSU, you may status your crew(s) as available in ROSS. Please be sure to indicate your availability as local, GACC, or national appropriately. If you need assistance with ROSS login or statusing, please call the Helpdesk at 866-224-7677.

LSA Schedules

Visit the college websites below to register for spring 2016 Language Skills Assessments.

Clackamas CC: <http://www.clackamas.edu/FireScience/LanguageSkillsaSSESSMENT/>

Clackamas CC would like to remind folks to complete the most current registration form, and send the form in with payment at least 10 days prior to the scheduled assessment. This will greatly facilitate CCC's administrative processes and help to keep registration costs down in the future.

Rogue CC: <http://go.roguecc.edu/department/emergency-services/wildland-fire>

Treasure Valley CC: http://www.tvcc.cc/academics/cbwcl/wildland_fire.cfm

Web Updates

Please visit our webpage often. We are in the process of making updates to the IFCA (adding Amendment 4), updating Award Summary Sheets, and uploading 2014-2015 Contractor/Crew Boss Workshop presentation materials for contractor in-house training/review. We will also be posting various additional guidance documents, specifically for crew leadership positions on incident expectations/policies. <http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/Fire/Pages/Contract.aspx>



Chain Saw Operator/Sawyer Requirements

As a reminder, Amendment 3, issued in July 2015, changed the original IFCA language and reduced some of the requirements for sawyers on IFCA crews. Based on the current language in the IFCA, and PMS 310-1, Chain Saw Operator/Sawyer position requirements mirror the FAL3 position requirements, including completion of RT-130, S-212, satisfactory performance as FFT2, FAL3 Task Book completion and certification. Currency is 3 years. Recertification after lapse in currency is a subjective determination by the certifier based on task evaluations, position performance evaluations, and their own judgement of the quality of an individuals experience.

News Across the Agency

The past three fire seasons have been challenging and have stretched The ODF's complete and coordinated wildfire protection system. In response to these challenges, the Oregon Board of Forestry has appointed the Fire Program Review Committee for the purpose of advising ODF in its efforts toward a more sustainable fire organization. If you are interested in learning about this effort, please visit the committee's website at:

<http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/Board/Pages/FireProgramReview.aspx>.

For general information regarding ODF and its programs, please visit our new website at:

<http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/Pages/index.aspx>.

Please contact us at PCSU@oregon.gov if you have any questions or comments.

Have a Safe Fire Season!