

**West Region Wildfire Council
Meeting Minutes
4/14/16**

	Attendee	Attendee	Affiliation
	Last Name	First Name	
	Bair	Betsy	Senator Gardner
	Beckhardt	Dave	Log Hill Fire
	Chappell	Randy	BLM
	Dinsmore	Jennifer	San Miguel County
	Ellis	Steve	DFPC
	Falk	Lilia	WRWC
	Gann	Bob	DFPC
	Gomez	Jamie	WRWC
	Latta	Trevor	Ouray Fire
	Megel	Mike	BLM
	Merritt	Benton	BLM
	Morrill	Scott	Gunnison County
	Mueller	Ted	Norwood Fire
	Odom	Luke	DFPC
	Oxford	Ross	NPS
	Petersen	Drew	Colorado OEM
	Robinson	Cory	USFS
	Rogers	John	Log Hill Fire
	Saunders	Lezah	Red Cross
	Shaver	JT	CSFS
	Sheets	Tori	Plaindealer
	Stevens	Brian	BLM
	Spritzer	Dennis	Gunnison Fire
	Tarantino	Mike	WRWC
	Tisdell	Ben	Ouray County
	Yeager	Brian	BLM

Introductions

Lilia Falk facilitated the meeting/ webinar and initiated a round of introductions.

Feature Presentation

“2016 Fire Weather Outlook” Tim Mathewson, Fire Meteorologist- BLM Rocky Mountain Area

You can view the feature presentation [here](#).

Round Robin

Scott Morrill, Gunnison County EM, provided an update on the CO Wildfire and Incident Management Academy in Gunnison on June 8, 2016. Scott also expressed thanks to DFPC for their efforts in using multi-mission aircrafts to fly for ice jams in Gunnison County over the 2016 winter.

J T Shaver, CSFS, provided an update on the CO/WY SAF Conference in Gunnison on May 12, 2016.

Lilia Falk, WRWC, discussed the Colorado Association of Relators Project Wildfire and the WRWC Community Chipping Program.

Jamie Gomez, WRWC, discussed outreach projects currently underway in the Town of Mountain Village in San Miguel County.

Mike Tarantino, WRWC, discussed outreach projects currently underway in the Blue Mesa Subdivision in Gunnison County and Lake City in Hinsdale County.

Trevor Latta, Ouray Fire, provided an update on their pile burning schedule.

Drew Peterson, Colorado OEM, is in the process of organizing regional MAC groups.

Bob Gann, DFPC/ CoE, discussed Rapid Fire Prediction Models.

Dennis Spritzer, Gunnison Fire, provided an update on the next GBWC meeting.

Randy Chappell, BLM, announced that the BLM will be fully staffed by the end of May.

Ross Oxford, NPS, announced that the NPS has completed pile burning projects and will be starting on resilient landscape fuels projects.

Luke Odom, DFPC, announced that DFPC is fully staffed and undergoing in house trainings. He also announced that the Montrose Helicopter will be operational on June 6.

Betsy Bair, representing Senator Gardner, announced that the Resilient Healthy Forest Act passed in congress, and announced that there are currently three forest bills currently on the senate floor. Betsy promised to continue to push for SRS and Title III funding.

Dave Beckhardt, Log Hill Fire, announced that they are done with all of their spring burning.

Steve Ellis, DFPC, announced that the DFPC director is retiring and that all upper management positions are currently filled. He also announced that the single engine air tanker will be operational the first week of June, the first DFPC helicopter will be operational on April 24, and the medium helicopter will be operational in the middle of summer.

