

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

PACIFIC SOUTHWEST FOREST AND RANGE EXPERIMENT STATION
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5170
November 19, 1976

Same letter sent to: Barlow
Barrows
Borden
Halliburton
Masson
Millar
Philpot
Schori



The fourth meeting of the FIRESCOPE Operations Team was held November 9, 1976. Present were:

Stanley E. Barlow	Stanley E. Masson
Frank W. Borden	Herb McElwee (for Halliburton)
Richard A. Chase (for Philpot)	Richard R. Millar
Robert L. Irwin	Charles Ulrey

The following record of the meeting is presented:

- I. Limited copies of the new FIRESCOPE brochure were distributed. These are "advance" copies: a few are being sent to the Board of Directors; adequate supply for public distribution will be given to Task Force members later.
- II. Irwin distributed copies of a letter from State Senator-elect William Campbell. This letter supports the concept of State funding of FIRESCOPE operations and maintenance. It generated considerable discussion. Principle matter of concern revolves around the potential for State funding to reduce the regular operating budget for CDF.

Chief Barlow suggested, and all others concurred, that the intent of all partner agencies is to achieve a workable system of O&M funding, and that any such efforts should not result in detriment to any State agency.

Millar pointed out that the drafted copy suggesting Board approval of State O&M funding (prepared by Irwin) did not include an alternative argument.

Irwin agreed to include points in favor of partner sharing of O&M in the final draft to be forwarded to the Board of Directors.

Representatives of all partners except CDF signed the recommendation.

III. System Development Corporation's recommended Core Area communications plan for 1976 was to be discussed.

However, since the last Operations meeting, the Task Force has done considerable exploration of the plan. A letter from Task Force Chairman Borden was distributed. This exposes problems with the plan's rationale, and partner agency's ability to comply with its recommendations.

In view of the "relaxed" fire season, time available, and the willingness of the Task Force to invest more time in future analysis, the Operations Team agreed to table further discussion and return the SDC document to the Task Force for additional work.

IV. Mr. Earl Anderson of Aerospace Corporation briefed the Team on the status and construction of the "final" implementation plan. This was the initial exposure for most members. Participants critiqued various parts of the plan and suggested changes. Chief concerns, again, were the specific dollar figures allotted to the Program Elements, and the cost-sharing versus State O&M funding problem. It was agreed that the next version of the plan, to be reviewed again December 14, would show only lump-sum O&M figures. If the rationale of State funding cannot be agreed to by then, the funding of individual partner shares will be estimated in the final plan.

Irwin stressed that strong partner support and a workable O&M funding system are necessary. Without these, it is improbable that the Federal Government can pursue implementation funding for the full system.

Irwin and Anderson will personally visit each agency between now and December 5 to review the plan in detail.

V. Ulrey presented the following:

- A. Confirming order forms for document publication. As soon as these are signed and returned to Ulrey, printing can begin.
- B. OCC Service Manager position description. Review of this paper indicated a lack of detail as to specific duties involved. Scherr, Mills, and Metcalfe will assist in rewriting to include sufficient information.

Ulrey committed to mail the revision to the Team by December 1 to be reviewed at the December 14 meeting.

C. Suggested interim OCC budget (copy attached).

The Task Force will clarify and review this product, also. Time period (to June 30, 1977) and individual agency approvals are needed. The agreement still needs a signed cooperative agreement to be valid. Task Force will try to obtain necessary agreements by December 14.

D. Preliminary OES Budget for OCC (enclosed). There was insufficient time left during the session to adequately review this proposal. There appears to be a basic lack of agreement as to precisely which items should be included, or exactly what the objective of the budget is (1977, 1978, or "ultimate" figures?).

No decision on future work on the paper was reached.

VI. The next meeting will be held Tuesday, December 14, at the same place. Meeting will start at 0900.

Agenda items now scheduled are:

- Second briefing on revised "final" implementation plan.
- OCC Service Manager position description.
- OCC interim budget.
- Continuation of Task Force after September 30, 1977.

A closing reminder is in order. At its inception, members of the Team specifically restricted the people who should attend Operations Team meetings. The objective is to keep attendance as small as possible, and limited to those who have a direct voice in the proceedings. We may be slipping in this regard, and I urge you to keep our original agreement in mind.

Sincerely,



ROBERT L. IRWIN
Program Manager

Enclosures

cc: Asselin	Demos	Haney	Russell	Springer
Bent	Fordham	Metcalfe	Scherr	Ulrey
Brubaker	Goddard	Mills	Simmons	Zrelak
Chase	Haleva	Montague	Smith	