

Dragon, Karen E. (CDC/NIOSH/EID)

From: mryerson@blm.gov
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2011 5:36 PM
To: NIOSH Docket Office (CDC)
Cc: tblake@blm.gov
Subject: Response to NIOSH - FFFIPP
Attachments: NWCG_RMC Response_FFFIPP.docx

Please find the attached response letter for the NIOSH Fire Fighter Fatality Investigation and Prevention Program (FFFIPP) from the National Wildfire Coordinating Group-Risk Management Committee (RMC)

Thank you,
Michelle
RMC Chair

(See attached file: NWCG_RMC Response_FFFIPP.docx)

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Risk Management Committee

July 28, 2011

To: NIOSH, Timothy Pizatel , Acting Director Division of Safety Research

From: Michelle Ryerson, Chair, National Wildfire Coordinating Group-Risk Management Committee

Subject: NIOSH Fire Fighter Fatality Investigation and Prevention Program (FFFIPP)

This letter of recommendations is in response to your letter dated May 20, 2011 requesting input into NIOSH's FFFIPP. The National Wildfire Coordinating Group's (NWCG) Risk Management Committee (RMC) supports NIOSH's efforts in this area and appreciates the opportunity to respond.

Below is a small list of items for you to consider as you move forward in your program's update:

- Program Prioritization Guideline Flow Chart – this chart does not include the question whether or not responsible agency(s) are investigating – we would think it would be a higher priority for NIOSH to investigate if an agency is not formally investigating...especially given the fact that many rural departments, etc. do not have the capability or resources to conduct formal investigations for high priority areas for NIOSH (e.g., heart attacks, heat illness).
- Strategic Plan -- identifies departments to "mandate use" of seatbelts. We recommend this be extended to include also "enforcement" of seat belt use.
- Add to the process that NIOSH may request copies of non-NIOSH accident investigations related to NIOSH priority areas. This may help with your trend tracking and identify emphasis areas.
- Lastly, NIOSH should seek outside subject matter expertise (SME) on an as needed basis. We in NWCG can provide assistance or can connect you with SMEs in all areas of wildland fire.

Again, we appreciate the opportunity to respond and please contact me directly if you have any questions at email: mryerson@blm.gov or telephone (208)387-5175.

Michelle S. Ryerson

cc: Tim Blake, NWCG Preparedness Branch Chief