2015 NMED/Air Quality Bureau Smoke Management Annual Meeting

Southern Area - Socorro, Wednesday 2/11/2015, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Northern Area - Santa Fe, Thursday 2/12/2015, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

NMED-AQB is asking that each federal Field and/or District BLM Office, each National Forest, National Park unit and Fish & Wildlife Refuge brief on no more than three high profile burns that are planned for accomplishment this calendar year, 2015, that may have the potential to be a high priority regarding smoke. If you think you have none, then no briefing is required. There should only be one spokesperson per unit as described above, but it's a good idea if folks most familiar and in charge of the burns are also there. Folks should chime in if they feel inclined. Each unit will have no more than 10 minutes to brief AQB (and the public, as it's an open meeting).

Please be prepared to discuss the following:

- Identify and discuss federal burns that you have identified as important within the context of smoke management. If you have a 2015 burn project that is not yet registered in the SMP Database because the burn plan is not yet complete, is waiting NEPA approval, is awaiting project funding or you deem important within the smoke management context, please make sure that your bring the information such as lat/long; total acres; max. per day; communities; sensitive receptors; etc. A check list of what to be prepared for is on page two of this document.

- We will use Google Earth to display all SMPII prescribed fires currently registered in the Smoke Management Database. This will serve as a "big picture" tool to move the discussion along about specific projects and how they relate to other projects and communities within an area.

- Questions asked of you may include:

    - Is there a need for additional public information?
    - Smoke monitoring equipment, as needed?
    - Is there a need for contingency smoke planning for projects of concern? (When a good Rx fire goes bad, then what will you do?)

(For example, if smoke becomes a problem, whether exceeding the NAAQS or nuisance smoke, what is your contingency plan, how will you discontinue ignition and what will you do then?)

Checklist of points you should be prepared to address

Brief overview of the burn, including:

- ✓ **Location with respect to potential smoke impacts**
- ✓ **Size**
- ✓ **Timing (season)**
- ✓ **Fuel type and loading**
- ✓ **Other burns planned in vicinity (that you are aware of)**
- ✓ **Public notification plans**
- ✓ **Need for instrument monitoring**
- ✓ **Contingency plan to mitigate smoke (Using tools to identify smoke trajectories, ventilation and other weather related criteria, how you will communicate with AQB & the public, consideration of winds, forecasting multiple days of ventilation, can the burn be tied up early if there are smoke issues or ventilation changes, etc.)**
- ✓ **Maps you could leave with us - Project Area and Vicinity maps**

Please have your spokesperson prepared prior to the meeting.

If you have any questions, please call any of us:
Rita Bates, NMED/AQB 505-476-4304
Claudia Standish, BLM/Smoke Desk 505-476-4330/4332
Josh Hall, USFS Liaison to NMED 505-438-5319

###