National Advanced Fire & Resource Institute
Managed By The U.S. Forest Service

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Subject: M-580 Fire in Ecosystem Management
January 23 – 27, 2012

Date: December 1, 2011

To: M-580 Course Participant

Congratulations on your selection to attend the M-580 Fire in Ecosystem Management course to be held at the National Advanced Fire and Resource Institute (NAFRI). The course dates are January 23 – 27, 2012.

Course Information

M-580 begins Monday, January 23 at 0800 in the Sonoran Auditorium. The course ends at 1245 on Friday, January 27. Do not make flight reservations that will interfere with the course times. Allow at least 30 minutes for travel from the training center to the airport.

M-580 is a national level training course. As such, you can expect long days. You will be expected to attend the entire course.

This course generates various handouts but not a notebook. At the end of the course each participant will receive a CD with all lesson plans, most PowerPoint's, and various handouts. There are many instructors for this course and the steering committee feels you can give each instructor your attention without the distraction of looking at documents during the presentations.

Classroom Attire Professional business casual

Logistics and Transportation

The NAFRI website provides comprehensive logistical information about the training center and surrounding area including hotels, restaurants and maps.

The hotels located in the area of NAFRI and the airport; provide a wide variety of amenities suitable for all visitors. The hotels and NAFRI are within one mile of the Tucson airport. Most hotels provide free continental breakfast and transportation from the airport. Other amenities may be provided based on the individual hotel properties. Be sure to confirm breakfast and transportation options with the hotel when setting up your reservation.

NAFRI will provide a van shuttle service to and from the hotels as needed for the course, once in the morning and again after class in the evening. Please call the NAFRI main number (520-799-8787) to make arrangements or go to the website to sign up for a ride.

The course Steering Committee has planned three special events to enhance your learning experience during the January course.

Professional Networking Lunch

A networking lunch is scheduled for Monday, January 23, at NAFRI in the Rincon and Catalina classrooms. Student attendance is encouraged. **If you would like to participate please notify the course coordinator by email before January 12, 2012.** The meal, including a vegetarian option, will be fajitas with options of chicken, beef, beans, rice, guacamole, chips and pico de gallo. The cost will be $8.00 per person. Collection of the cost of the lunch will take place at

course sign in and during the 0915 and 1015 scheduled breaks on January 23. Students will need to bring their own drink. Vending machines, that accept dollar bills and credit cards, with soda and water, are available in the training center lobby.

Brown Bag Lunches

Two Brown Bag lunches are scheduled during the week of the course. They are scheduled for Tuesday January 24 and Thursday January 26. These are designed to offer networking opportunities between participants, faculty and steering committee. Participants may bring their own lunch or get a take-out meal at a nearby restaurant and dine together in the training center classrooms. An option to request a sandwich meal from a restaurant and have it delivered to NAFRI will be organized Tuesday and Thursday morning before lunch.

Course Field Trip Information

A field trip is scheduled for January 25 Wednesday afternoon. The field trip is being hosted by Saguaro National Park and the Coronado National Forest. Transportation will be furnished. Students need to bring their lunch including water. An option to request a sandwich meal from a restaurant and have it delivered to NAFRI the morning of the field trip will be organized the morning prior to the field trip.

The average daytime high in Tucson in January is 65 degrees. Participants should pack field attire to wear including; hat, sun block, walking shoes, and a jacket. Participants do not need to bring a hardhat. Although we will not be walking any great distances, there is a chance that insects such as bees or wasps may be present. If you have an allergy to these insects please bring medication.

Ideas on Going Green

- If you would like to decrease our carbon footprint we suggest staying at one of the nearby hotels to facilitate efficient car pooling to NAFRI and for evening meals. Go to the NAFRI website and cross reference hotel location with the number listed on map.
- To minimize waste, we suggest you bring reusable coffee cups and water bottles.
- If you currently carry your name tag on a lanyard; bring the lanyard with you since we are unable to reuse lanyards due to health codes.
- If you are driving to NAFRI, review the student roster to see if there is an opportunity to car pool.

Cancellation Policy

If for any reason you are unable to attend the course, please let the course coordinator know. Do not replace yourself.

We are looking forward to presenting M-580 at NAFRI. Please contact Gary Luce, M-580 Course Coordinator, at (520) 799-8753 or by email galuce@fs.fed.us with any questions about the M-580 Course.

Merrie M. Johnson

MERRIE M. JOHNSON
Director