

**Interagency Wildfire Management Team
Meeting Notes
September 22, 2004**

Note: The next IWMT meeting on October 6 will be held in the RRES-ECO upstairs library.

Doug Tucker (Los Alamos County Fire Department) announced that the County continues to remove hazardous trees. A new fire station in White Rock has been proposed, and the request for construction bids will be released in the near future. Doug also announced that the Forest Service is planning to conduct prescribed burns in forest areas to the west of LANL and the Los Alamos townsite. Slash piles along Ski Hill Road will also be burned this winter.

Sam Loftin (Ecology Group, LANL) has been receiving comments to the draft Wildfire Management Plan. The deadline for completion of this plan has been extended to next March. This new deadline will coincide with an opportune time period to schedule annual updates.

Frank Gonzales (Bandelier National Monument) announced that thinning and pile burning is planned for this winter along Highway 289.

Jerrie Wilson (Bandelier National Monument) noted that the phone service to the fire service center is out of order. Communications are available through mobile phones only.

Randy Balice (Ecology Group, LANL) has been conducting fire hazard assessments in piñon-juniper woodlands. A total of 25 plots have been sampled this year. Randy also attended the East Jemez Resource Council meeting and presented a talk entitled „Regional Fire Hazard Monitoring Efforts in the Jemez Mountains.“ Stephen Yool co-authored this presentation, which outlined some of the collaborative efforts among agencies to characterize fuels and fire hazards throughout the Jemez Mountains.

The next IWMT meeting will be at 9:30 AM on Wednesday, October 6, at TA-21, Building 210 in the RRES-ECO upstairs library. The IWMT meets every other week and these meetings are open to the public. Contact Randy Balice (balice@lanl.gov, 665-1270) for further information, or to get on the distribution list for these meeting notes.