

**Community Meetings
2004 Fire Season Review**

<u>Location</u>	<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Number of Attendees</u>
Anchorage	22-Nov	7
Central	8-Nov	14
Chatanika	22-Nov	14
Delta	15-Nov	13
Dot Lake	16-Nov	7
Eagle	18-Nov	43
Fairbanks	10-Nov	99
Fort Yukon	27-Jan	11
Northway	17-Nov	3
Tanacross	16-Nov	6
Tok	17-Nov	30
Two Rivers	4-Nov	12
Venetie	11-Nov	26
Total		285

<u>Residences/ Meeting Location</u>	<u>Number of Comments (written and oral)</u>
Anchorage	2
Central	20
Chicken	2
Chatanika	60
Delta	23
Dot Lake	22
Eagle	26
Fairbanks	130
Fort Yukon	19
Northway	15
Tanacross	35
Tok	42
Two Rivers	58
Venetie	31
Total	485

<u>Comment breakdown by keyword</u>	<u>Number of Comments (written and oral)</u>
AIWFMP	107
Fuels	33
Health / Smoke	29
IMTs (Teams)	42
Information	96
Positive Comments	34
Predictive Services	8
Preparedness	28
Rehabilitation	35
Protection	31
Subsistence	23
Suppression	121
Total	587

Adjunct Meetings:

	<u>Number of Comments</u>
Forty Mile Miners Association Oct 27 2004	26
BIA Provider's Conference Dec 1 2004	17
Fairbanks North Star Borough Commission Weekly Jan 7 thru March 4, 2005 published a report addressing 23 topics	

Total Comments recorded (includes oral and written): 528

Written Comments received: 26

Community Meetings 2004-05 List of Comments

The following is a detailed list of the public input comments/concerns/issues recorded during 2004 Fire Season Review Community and adjunct meetings and the written comments received as a result of those meetings.

Each comment was categorized into one of the following Keywords:

- **AIWFMP** (Alaska Interagency Wildland Fire Management Plan) includes issues addressing management options and their implementation, conversion dates, planning and public participation, environmental concerns, legal requirements, land manager and tribal responsibilities, and fire policies.
- **Fuels** include concerns related to prescribed fire, hazardous conditions, risk assessments, and defensible space.
- **Health/Smoke** includes air quality, health hazards, and visibility issues.
- **IMT** (Incident Management Teams) includes comments on team assignments, transitions, public interaction, management style, use of Lower 48 teams, and necessity of local liaisons.
- **Information** includes all concerns related to public relations, information flow or lack of, communication between fire managers and local residents, timelines, accuracy, methods of disseminating, evacuations, and agency jurisdiction.
- **Positive Comments** were in support of current fire management practices, and appreciation and praise of firefighters.
- **Predictive Services** includes topics of weather, climate, and seasonal forecasts.
- **Preparedness** includes comments related to facilities, funding, staffing, and identifying values at risk.
- **Protection** includes protection responsibility issues regarding current State and federal policies on remote parcels, structure protection, mining claims, permits and historic sites, fire service areas, private lands, native allotments, and homeowner responsibilities.
- **Rehabilitation** includes issues of access, restoration and stabilization, timber salvage, and the Burned Area Emergency Rehabilitation (BAER) report.
- **Subsistence** includes concerns related to traditional lifestyles, fish and wildlife habitat, trapping cabins, and trap lines.
- **Suppression** includes tactics, local hire, local involvement, crew issues, training, burning conditions, equipment use, retardant, ignitions, and expectations for Spring 2005 and future fire seasons.

Meeting / Residence	Source	Keywords	Comment / Question
40 Mi. Miners	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Wants to know how to request full protection?
40 Mi. Miners	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Miners agree with the basic philosophy of Limited and site protection.
40 Mi. Miners	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Review AIWFMP and discuss protection with adjacent landowners.
40 Mi. Miners	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Reach out and get inputs to the AIWFMP from the main hubs / non-profits, not the corporations.
Anchorage	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	How are decisions made?
BIA Providers Conference	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Seek input from village councils rather than the corporations on AIWFMPs.
BIA Providers Conference	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	During times of high fire danger should the agencies increase Full/Critical boundaries a certain distance or percentage. It was suggested that increasing the amount of area in Modified might achieve the same objective as long as it stays in Modified throughout a high fire danger situation.
Central	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Central residents do not want another meeting in the spring to update the Fire Management Plan, they want the agencies to post the AIWFMP with the local maps in the Post Office where residents could go in and update it on their own.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	When were these policies made?
Chatanika	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Is the change in policies open to the public or just an agency thing?
Chatanika	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Initial attack fires in Limited (protection area) in June or provide site protection.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	At what point are fires suppressed to protect timber resources?
Chatanika	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Timber stands close to local mills/roadside should be flagged for protection. <i>(No consensus on distance from road. DNR responded: lots of good timber still available and allowable cut; also salvage sales being offered.)</i>
Chatanika	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Limited (protection) boundary is too close to civilization.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Will policies change as a result of these meetings?
Delta Junction	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	As long as our hands aren't tied, we should catch fires small. <i>Prompted discussions on fire dependent ecosystems, results of deferring burning, various wildlife adaptations to fire areas, fuels management preparedness.</i>
Delta Junction	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Local who has worked as a firefighter for the State wants to initial attack all fires.
Delta Junction	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Modified (<i>protection</i>) near residences along the Alaska Highway should be changed. <i>Comment that the State changed lands to MOD at F&G request for habitat improvement.</i>
Delta Junction	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Take a look at the Limited option and lines (<i>boundaries</i>).
Delta Junction	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Why don't you update AIWFMPs every year?
Delta Junction	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Update protection boundary annually.
Delta Junction	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Expand Critical?
Delta Junction	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	It's improving the ecosystems, but repeated burns can be damaging.
Delta Junction	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	What are the advantages of fire to ecosystems? <i>Discussion: Habitat-early successional stage (plant growth) is depended on by moose and caribou. Fires create this stage. Fires reduce risk to communities of catastrophic fire. Fairbanks area was clear cut in 1920's. Fifty years of total fire suppression allowed old growth to die and increase fuel load.</i>
Dot Lake	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Somebody needs to be in charge.
Dot Lake	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Why was nothing done beforehand?
Dot Lake	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Could the plan be changed to protect these areas? Is it too late to change?
Dot Lake	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Limited policy gave discretion to respond, but it became a let it burn policy.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	When does responsibility become irresponsibility?
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Continued limited suppression when fires were out of control.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	The government should be mandated to return to the pre-80's suppression policy.

Meeting / Residence	Source	Keywords	Comment / Question
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Agencies should act, not react. Suppressing immediately is the best policy.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	It is time for agencies to reconsider how to handle wildfires.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Don't believe fire helps ecosystem much because person has witnessed no rejuvenation on the backside of Haystack after fire burned 28 years ago. There are no moose, wolves, foxes, game birds.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Feel like less importance is placed on peoples' cabins, livelihoods and families than on the ecosystem.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Conditions—WE needed it.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	How many other areas are potentially affected by limited suppression?
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Plan can have revisions, decisions made by land managers, not DOF.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Speak to each agency, maps can show structures, etc.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Talk to Land management for changes.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Native allotments are trust lands, federal law requires protection.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Who represents private land owners on planning committee?
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Most of the state is in limited.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Analysis can now be used to with better information to improve AIWFMP. Needs to be more detailed, so not all remote areas are in limited.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	No public input—change the system.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Locals need to be a part of the process.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Don't need to change plan—aid the decision making plan.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Need an educational component in the plan.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Fire is necessary
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Where are the (lightning) strikes in relationship to towns?
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Let's add to plan—not change.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Audience comment: it looks like AFS is in a good position to partner with tribes.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Doyon has sent letters to villages within their jurisdiction requesting that they review the management option designations around their village. They intend to follow up with phone calls. Could BLM do the same to Tribal Councils?
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Work more closely with local residents for planning. (Directed to both BLM and FWS)
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Tribe has some responsibility to allotment owners.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Build communications with local tribal governments in all aspects of fire management from suppression to planning.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Protection level boundaries - How are changes made?
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Extend conversion date (for Modified).
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Meet with land owners to discuss protection level changes. Have a landowner workshop.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	DOF worked with TCC, DOF needs inventory.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Reclassify land management options - coordinate with local fire agency.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	How do land programs change protection?
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	How to change lines for protection levels?
Fort Yukon	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	The availability of lands through the State land lottery did not consider the fire risk. Is there a process to change the fire protection levels of these lands?
Fort Yukon	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Local flexibility in Limited Management options.
Fort Yukon	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Immediate fire suppression should have happened. If we followed the immediate fire suppression we would not be here tonight.
Fort Yukon	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Cache Creek should have been logged.
Fort Yukon	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Only you can prevent forest fire. You are paid to prevent fires not rejuvenate ecosystems.
Northway	Written	AIWFMP	Change is due; Monitoring fires is not a good idea; suppress fires and keep down costs and acres burned.
Tanacross	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	You need to prevent fires or you will lose your jobs because there will be no forest left.
Tanacross	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	How far off the road does the boundary usually go?? There is no specific distance but if it is surrounded by timber the boundary is usually more than 5 miles from the road – otherwise we can't access it. We have fuel type maps that can show you your area in more detail. There have to be natural barriers in place to create boundaries to zones.
Tanacross	Written	AIWFMP	Coordinate training with each village. Eliminate let burn policy and use common sense. Alaska business and landowners suffered due to policy.
Tok	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	How much fire is acceptable?? None? We can't catch every fire, but initial attack could have stopped one fire.
Tok	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	If you look at the historical records you will see you can't catch them all.
Tok	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	If you tried to catch all fire you end up with reduced resources and a lack of manpower.
Tok/Fairbanks	Written	AIWFMP	Comment from someone who has 12 years experience in AK resource management. Wishes to participate in planning efforts. Concerns: air quality, aircraft operations, timber loss, subsistence effects, visitor/travel industry effects, local weather conditions, business and commerce effects, effects on insurance, cost, cabins, missile defense radar site, decision-making committee make-up.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	You need to remember that these trees (Black Spruce) are timber - Use them rather than burning in piles. You should be harvesting instead of milking the government for grants.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Regarding the critical area going to Chena Hot Springs – How do you define its critical boundary - by following the topography? Or by Fuel type??
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	The zoning of areas are usually political boundaries – with the Fairbanks area classed as critical because of population density, i.e. people. Chena Hot Springs Rd is critical because people live on both sides of the road.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	If we'd put out the Two Rivers (West Fork Chena?) fire 2 years ago houses would be at a greater risk this year.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	What we input now helps people in the future.

Meeting / Residence	Source	Keywords	Comment / Question
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	There is a need for the federal government to respond immediately 100% on fires.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	The tribe/community need to be involved (government to government) in planning both in pre-suppression, possibly an office at AFS and in suppression actions - someone assigned to IC (Incident Command) teams.
Venetie	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	Venetie would like to participate in planning efforts, could BLM provide preparedness (funds, etc) to facilitate their participation.
Chicken	Written	AIWFMP	Let burn policy is flawed. Early season fire in Chicken got out of control, burned too hot and will cause untold years of erosion. One policy does not fit all. Suppress early season fires.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	AIWFMP	The fire management agencies need to clearly define the steps needed to make a change to the fire management plan.
Tok	Written	AIWFMP, Fuels, Suppression, IMT	Comment from President of Chamber of Commerce and private businessman. Would like to be consulted when AIWFMP and/or suppression activities take place in Tok area. Grants and programs for thinning are not necessary - Give permission for people to thin areas. Open areas for timber sales. Establish a new method of signing up resources before and during fires. Firefighting has become bureaucratic which is not the most effective way to fight fire. Put one person in charge - do not management as a group. Government is taking more and more of a citizen's responsibilities away - long run is not helping our society. Contract firefighting. Give money to business/home owners to take care of their own fire protection.
Eagle	Written	AIWFMP, Information	Comment from residents of 26 & 30 years. Insert language that allows flexibility in plans due to lack of seasonal precipitation and extreme heat. Keep rural communities residents informed of fire situation and status. Use common sense.
Fairbanks	Written	AIWFMP, Information	Comment from someone whose family was evacuated twice. Fire personnel were seen doing nothing but watching in Haystack area. Burn, clear or cut out dead wood and do it so that it doesn't affect people's health. Don't let fires burn close to subdivisions.
Fairbanks	Written	AIWFMP, Information	Presentation at West Valley meeting was well done. Choice to build in unprotected areas is individual's; rest of us are not obligated to support their investment. Supports no changes in fire policy; present plan works as it should. Information dissemination needs improving.
Chicken	Written	AIWFMP, Information, Subsistence, Smoke/Health, Preparedness	Suppress early season fires to prevent fires that burn all summer. It was too dry and too hot this summer. Back burning made conditions worse. Fires burned too deep—potential erosion problems. Health hazards of smoke. Communication and information transfer was poor between firefighter with each other and the public. Example cited: Maps with cabin locations went missing when team transitioned to the next. Use of radio (UCAM, UFAR) worked well. Questioned how caribou will survive since lichen burned. Create buffer zones around towns and communities- Limited area is too large. Leave fire breaks in for future protection. Be flexible in policy during extreme situations. Have equipment available to protect private property. Too many managers and not enough fire fighters.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	AIWFMP, Preparedness	If you aren't responding to an emergency, you can pick up and choose what needs to be done. It makes sense to pre-plan rather than to run helter-skelter, like identifying need for helicopter support.
Central	Public Meeting	AIWFMP, Protection	There seems to be a higher amount of protected areas in western Alaska, not where there are houses. <i>(This comment was in reference to the full protection areas in this geographic region.)</i>
Chatanika	Public Meeting	AIWFMP, Protection	Need a plan where money is spent more wisely, especially for populated areas such as Goldstream.
Eagle	Public Meeting	AIWFMP, Protection	Why do native cabins have full fire protection? <i>Response: They are in federal areas. Let it burn does not just mean let it burn. Fires are monitored, consideration to weather and threats to nearby structures and ecosystems. It is a judgment call, the fire was just smoldering then the intensity picked up. Conversion date-rains come and usually fires end. Agencies ran predictions on season ending event. It is state policy to decide to evacuate individual or to protect the site which costs a lot of money.</i>
Fairbanks	Written	AIWFMP, Protection	Prioritization of protection of private property: The Alaska Interagency Wildland Fire Management Plan 1998 states that inhabited structures will receive Critical and uninhabited Full management option designations. Agency policy has changed - now "capricious and arbitrary protection afforded to private land owners". Native allotments receive full protection regardless of improvements; private land does not. Suggest: Eliminate any internal memo that circumvent the FMP; amend the FMP to delete reference to private property and substitute the term "improvements"; require owners of improvements to register with a central agency and re-register yearly to be consider Critical, otherwise every 5 years.
BIA Providers Conference	Public Meeting	AIWFMP, Subsistence	How much are subsistence values considered in AIWFMP and management?
Central	Public Meeting	AIWFMP, Suppression	Where does the 97% success rate come from? (DOF - 97% of critical and full fires were contained.)
Delta Junction	Public Meeting	AIWFMP, Suppression	Allow local manager on the ground the ability to take quick, decisive actions to save costs later on.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	AIWFMP, Suppression	Agencies should have upgraded to immediate suppression.

Meeting / Residence	Source	Keywords	Comment / Question
Tok	Written	AIWFMP, Suppression	Practice responsible wildland fire management: establish a "scale of risk" to determine whether or not to allow fires to burn. Continue to use controlled and managed burns to keep costs lower and positively impact environment. Protect citizens & private property. Private landowner should set protection level for their lands; adjacent gov't land manager should provide grants, expertise & assistance to protect. Private landowners should have representation in interagency coordinating groups. Cooperation w/ local fire departments and individuals: local fire departments are left out of decision-making. Re-establish cooperative relationships. Federal and State agencies should maintain an inventory of equipment for use by private individuals under policies of responsible care. Agencies should continue work on hardwood areas, make grants and expertise available to private parties and business that are remote from the communities. Provide protection not evacuation. Use heavy equipment when needed.
Central	Written	AIWFMP, Suppression, IMT, Information, Protection	Personal interaction with Team was unsatisfactory. AIWFMP does not allow for direct public input, therefore change must be through political processes; plan generally well done. 9/27 fire still smoldering 300' from cabin; concerned about flare-ups in Spring. Public input into fire management is lacking at both the planning level & during fires. Add members of communities to Teams in advisory positions to provide local expertise & carry community concerns. Fire information: content (timely and factual), not format, is the important element. Establish a single point of contact for info on ALL fires. Poor utilization of existing data, Team appeared not to be using info available. Post maps at public spot for locals to note locations of residences. MODIS movie showed fire growth from July to early Aug when residents were told fire was not moving. Allow more flexibility at the local level for tactical decision-making. Better utilization of resources for the entire time assigned, i.e. fuels reduction, etc. when not actively fighting fires; too much stand-by time; Questions lack of us
40 Mi. Miners	Public Meeting	Fuels	Risk Assessments and on-site discussion with 40 Mile residents needed
40 Mi. Miners	Public Meeting	Fuels	Hazard Fuel Reduction: Can we do something around here?
40 Mi. Miners	Public Meeting	Fuels	Why was Mansfield Lake prescribe burned? <i>Response: For habitat.</i>
40 Mi. Miners	Public Meeting	Fuels	Native community might want to go to Congressional delegation to seek Preparedness for projects .
Anchorage	Public Meeting	Fuels	Did the Billy Creek Fire meet the objectives of the Wolf Lake Burn project? Too large of an area was burned. Several cultural sites were damaged by the wildfire.
Central	Public Meeting	Fuels	Letter to a US congressional delegation for this request (<i>grant proposal</i>) may be helpful.
Tok	Public Meeting	Fuels	Locally, if thinning plan is done around Tok proper, where does that leave Eagle & 7 Mile subdivision? <i>Response: Plan to include them.</i>
Delta Junction	Public Meeting	Fuels	While Delta was already being affected by smoke from fires on 3 sides - Oklahoma Range prescribed fire put fire on all four sides of Delta.
Delta Junction	Public Meeting	Fuels	Is prescribed fire at Robertson River on hold?
Dot Lake	Public Meeting	Fuels	Not worried about Dot Lake burning (<i>because of its location</i>).
Eagle	Public Meeting	Fuels	Permanent fire breaks should be in place around Chicken and Eagle.
Eagle	Public Meeting	Fuels	If you don't burn you have a continuous fuel bed and this increases risk of bigger fires.
Tanacross	Public Meeting	Fuels	With this plan if we let the fire burn the next fire has no fuel base. The boundary is manageable for all but extreme fire behavior.
Tanacross	Public Meeting	Fuels	We need to break up continuous black spruce – take out chunks and manage breaks around communities.
Tanacross	Public Meeting	Fuels	Boundary fire – hard wood stands (from old fires) slowed/stopped fire.
Tanacross	Public Meeting	Fuels	Mapping not as good for older fires. Older fires don't stop fires now, they only slow them down.
Tok	Public Meeting	Fuels	How could BLM initiate a prescribed burn when the air was filled with smoke? The visibility was 1/8 mile in Delta at the time of the lighting. (Oklahoma Range Burn Aug-04)
Tok	Public Meeting	Fuels	A number of people in Tok burn wood. Locals can thin thru firewood cutting.
Tok	Public Meeting	Fuels	Will burned areas burn again, and hotter?
Tok	Public Meeting	Fuels	Questions as to future HFR projects. Continuation of thinning along Red Fox Road (N of Tok). Plan to initiate proposal along Borealis (S. of Tok). One plan is to use the offset polygon layout. There may be opportunities to partnership with the Ruffed Grouse Society as well as Community plans.
Tok	Public Meeting	Fuels	If conditions are right and the black spruce are interconnected – it will just burn right through.
Tok	Public Meeting	Fuels	Privately owned dozers (mining companies) could have been used to create firebreaks.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Fuels	Prescribed burning in remote areas---We can choose the time to burn.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Fuels	Government should (as a public service) visit and evaluate each site; supply pumps and hoses when fire is nearby.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Fuels	What are agencies intending to do regarding hazards & hazardous fuel conditions?
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Fuels	There were concerns about whether there would be an increase in fire danger when the burnt trees begin to fall and create a buildup of fuels on the ground and what were the agencies going to do about that.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Fuels	DOT should cut brush back farther from the road like in Canada.
Venetie	Public Meeting	Fuels	Need defensible fire breaks "built in" that are environmentally safe.
Venetie	Public Meeting	Fuels	Some people have built within a "fire farm" (<i>area that is very fire prone due to fuel types</i>).
Tok	Public Meeting	Fuels	Northway HFR project status - did not feel that it was complete. Was told there was no money left so it could not be completed. Tree thinning was done on property but left a mess.

Meeting / Residence	Source	Keywords	Comment / Question
40 Mi. Miners	Public Meeting	IMT	Maybe a little more overlap (transition time) between management teams would seem reasonable.
40 Mi. Miners	Public Meeting	IMT	Teams weren't listening to reasonable local people.
Central	Public Meeting	IMT	Use and transfer of local information to Type 1 and 2 teams. Discussions on: 14 vs. 21 day assignments and the AK request going forward to national level for change; constant challenge to update information with minimal winter staff; use of GIS; problems of information transfer is not restricted to teams.
Central	Public Meeting	IMT	Conditions here much different than the Lower 48.
Central	Public Meeting	IMT	Management teams not familiar with fuels, local conditions, lots of old timers could be tapped.
Central	Public Meeting	IMT	14 vs. 21 days (<i>Team assignment lengths.</i>)
Chatanika	Public Meeting	IMT	Teams from Outside - should have Alaskan members on it, or in charge.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	IMT	Armed guards at Poker Flats—made us feel like criminals to go in there. Bad place for incident command post.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	IMT	Revolving door of incident command officials.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	IMT	Management Teams provide information and hand off to another person.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	IMT	Rotation 14 days vs. 21 days.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	IMT	Type II Team - not satisfied with team. They were not aggressive at the right time and during a lull they left. (<i>Reference is to a Lower 48 management team.</i>)
Delta Junction	Public Meeting	IMT	More comfortable with in-state management teams vs. those from Lower 48.
Dot Lake	Public Meeting	IMT	Alaska teams are more cost effective.
Dot Lake	Public Meeting	IMT	Management teams: (a) info handoff not always efficient; (b) 14 vs. 21 day assignments might alleviate transition number on large incident; (c) need more Alaska teams; (d) more Native participation on teams.
Dot Lake	Public Meeting	IMT	Management teams fuels models were not good for Alaska (Canadian vs. National).
Eagle	Public Meeting	IMT	Lower 48 resources (team and crews) generally did not have knowledge of the fuels and use of the fuel modeling system that AK uses (CFFDRS vs. NFDERS). The Delta crew was the only crew comfortable with burning. Action: Attach Alaskan operations person to team.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	IMT	There was not adequate information sharing between teams and more information was lost with each rotation. Residents had to provide information multiple times to teams on the location of property and structures.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	IMT	There was an initial "lack of action" when a new team came in.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	IMT	Teams did not listen to the firefighters on the ground that had experience in the area.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	IMT	Teams did not use local knowledge and there needs to be a local person assigned to the teams as a community liaison.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	IMT	Type I management teams didn't see the natural fire break here at Poker facility, not to be critical, but they didn't see it. It was a huge missed opportunity. <i>Response (DOF): We backed off because of concern that we wouldn't finish the line and get caught out there.</i>
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	IMT	No management team was aware of the 5 subdivisions beyond Haystack. If they (DOF) had known we were there, they still couldn't have given us protection.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	IMT	No management team awareness of the five subdivisions beyond Haystack.
Northway	Public Meeting	IMT	All of the participants at the meeting thought that there were too many Incident command Teams and that the teams were rotated too quickly. This resulted in additional issues/problems.
Tanacross	Public Meeting	IMT	Lower 48 teams do not have local knowledge; need to have a "natural resource specialist" assigned to team as a local advisor.
Tok	Public Meeting	IMT	BLM Tok representative was on leave and unavailable; was also on leave in 1999.
Tok	Public Meeting	IMT	Teams used different Suppression tactics and had different approaches and philosophies on Protection. There was no standard approach.
Tok	Public Meeting	IMT	No information was passed from team to team.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	IMT	Turnover of teams lacked transfer of local knowledge (overall better than in 1999, but not as good as it should be).
Central	Public Meeting	IMT, Information	Only been 1-2 years that we've even had phones. Local phone network used to pass on info. The management teams were nonchalant but we were at risk. Seeing fire nearby with very short notice to get evacuated.
Central	Public Meeting	IMT, Information	Did my own assessment because I couldn't trust the information being sent out from management team.
Central	Public Meeting	IMT, Protection	One gentleman was concerned that he was afraid to leave his home during the whole time that fires were threatening Central - over a month - because he felt that if he left, the firefighters would let it burn. (Lack of trust in the firefighting organization and consistency between teams.)
40 Mi. Miners	Public Meeting	Information	Do we have a communication avenue between DOF and locals?
40 Mi. Miners	Public Meeting	Information	Is there a time frame before DOF is going to compile info (public comments)? Can we get info and see what was said from all the meetings? How long is it going to take?
BIA Providers Conference	Public Meeting	Information	Community notification of fire and evacuations: use internet, TV, & radio.
Central	Public Meeting	Information	How was communication on fires set up: repeaters etc., solar power/batteries, and is there a special fund for comms?
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Information	Smoke - comment focused on communication with more info related to the fire.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Information	We did get a PIO (Public Information Officer) after we (<i>community</i>) asked for information.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Information	Why use outside PIO's?
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Information	Local PIO's would be better.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Information	Take persons from the community to be the liaisons (<i>PIO work</i>), adds money to the local economy.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Information	Use websites for information such as BLM links.

Meeting / Residence	Source	Keywords	Comment / Question
Delta Junction	Public Meeting	Information	Put into place new methods. Locals calling more often with Deer Creek Fire. Fire closer to communities causes anxiety.
Delta Junction	Public Meeting	Information	Deer Creek Fire: even after monitoring started, smoke plume was noticed by everyone, but no information flow to community.
Dot Lake	Public Meeting	Information	Disconnect in getting information out from fire agency to public.
Dot Lake	Public Meeting	Information	Who do we trust for fire information?
Dot Lake	Public Meeting	Information	What do we do about the total lack of communication?
Eagle	Public Meeting	Information	Comments from Evansville resident: Person who lives 15 miles outside of Evansville tried for 4 days to find out fire information. Finally talked to a pilot that reported the fire was 4 miles from his property. He could have put a cat line around his place if he would have known the fire was headed towards his property. He had the equipment, he just needed correct fire information. He was not told that the fire was 1.5 miles from his property. He called 2 or 3 times and found out nothing. The fire went all the way to Bettles. He said they did more damage than the fire did. He wished people like him would have known where the fires were.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	University fire vehicles were not allowed to protect its facility (Poker Flat Rocket Range). We were stopped at the scales.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	The public was told the fire jumped a break causing Haystack to be evacuated, though in fact the fire had not jumped the break.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	Misinformation on public radio, call fire department for delivering information.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	8:00 am meetings are impossible - would like to see everyone coordinating same time.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	Ridiculous to let busses (tour busses) keep running, holding up traffic for fire, bringing more people into harm's way and the buses are a hazard.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	The big problems with fire management: misinformation, lack of information, downright lies
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	Statement from Alaska Public Lands Information Center: Received calls from agencies because they could not find information anywhere else. During fires, couldn't find a person with information for 3 hours. Important for information to be shared because tourists were planning trips and did not know if they should go on particular highways. Mayor did not have updated information for a press conference.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	Haystack Mountain Comments: A new communications system is needed including reverse 911.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	How do we communicate to people with unpublished phone numbers?
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	The first contact number given out was a long distance phone number. This was changed fairly quickly, though.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	There was a lot of miscommunication with the second evacuation of Haystack. Some officials said yes to evacuation and some said no to the evacuation.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	DOF made a decision that it (?) was not a problem, but reports showed different. There are limited resources.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	Remote Parcels—State plan needs to look to provide protection to areas where they are selling property. Majority of parcels are in limited areas.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	Information dispatch was horrible.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	Back and Forth—we were told it was threatened, it was not, it was, etc.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	We turned in pictures and reports, still no threat determined.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	Email was only way to communicate.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	Quoting the State appraiser: " The fact that land was burnt to mineral soil has no affect on its value."
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	Flow of information needs improvement.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	Used to do mailings to notify.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	No one keeps track of land records outside the Borough(s).
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	Public relations failed miserably.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	Bad decisions were made on bad information.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	Need better systems of awareness- evacuation.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	Information needs to be better.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	The people complaining don't really understand fires.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	First few weeks Tanacross got calls from people with cabins, trap lines, allotments about location of fire.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	Was told that Tok fires were considered a lower priority at times, therefore resources may not have been allocated in a timely manner to the area.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	Communication was one of the worst issues for landowners.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	Once communication lines were established they worked well – but these were established late in the process. Early on is the key decision time.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	Beyond Haystack it was difficult to get information on what was happening north of Haystack. I eventually found out that there was a fire 7 miles from my home but I had to hike to find out where it was, many people were doing this.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	Internet information was the most accurate information we could get
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	Information passing between neighboring landowners was lacking.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	You could have posted signs at the entrances to subdivisions – there is only one way in and out - or meeting places/shops to notify us of what was happening. We never saw anyone come to notify us. We only accidentally found out – poor information exchange. We would have appreciated some door hang-ups.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	You could have posted information signs at Fox/Steese Highway, Haystack, and at entrance to subdivisions – updating them frequently.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Information	Early on there was not enough information for landowner preparation for the fire – so they could cut down trees or move animals in time.

Meeting / Residence	Source	Keywords	Comment / Question
Fairbanks	Written	Information	Improve public information and dissemination. DEC has Alaska public information personnel available. Recommends restoring and rehab fully to eliminate any motorized access. Rehearse to improve response time and professionalism. Follow-up on faxed media releases and improve relationship with media. DNR personnel at public meetings lacked skills. Encourage communities to come together and work as partners. DEC should be invited to public meetings to address air quality issues. Recommends Alaska-specific Firewise program. Willing to provide Public Information Officer training.
Fort Yukon	Public Meeting	Information	Set up another meeting in FYU to discuss management option designations, information available from the tribe and other sources including cabin locations and occupancy status (Census Bureau contact).
Fort Yukon	Public Meeting	Information	When local resident reported a fire to FYU station (Solistice ICP), they were told that they had no jurisdiction. Why? Confusion on the difference between an IMT and Alaska Fire Service responsibilities.
Northway	Public Meeting	Information	The internet could have information with links to all the agencies involved.
Tanacross	Public Meeting	Information	Have a follow-up meeting in Spring 2005. Mid-May - scheduled Miner's Association Meeting -- Jeff Owen - point of contact.
Tanacross	Public Meeting	Information	It is unclear who has jurisdiction over fires in any given area.
Tanacross	Public Meeting	Information	Presentation made at start of meeting seems intended to cover tracks.
Tok	Public Meeting	Information	There was a lack of workers for information release – and those that were there were unqualified.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Information	We were told we'd be safe, but we weren't.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Information	Bad information came from the fire service followed by a major evacuation.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Information	In August a siren going down the road would have helped in evacuation.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Information	People letting residents know about conditions were going door to door – but not in the areas past Haystack.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Information	Need more information coming through print media and radio.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Information	KFAR was wonderful for listeners with the most accurate information available – especially for those driving and remote communities.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Information	Remote communities could be updated by a crawler on the TV screen. It's good for townspeople too.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Information	Some affected people were beyond TV and electricity. TV reception is bad way out.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Information	Anything that you could do to get information to the public would be of benefit to people.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Information	It would be good to know who to contact within agencies – like a fire PR person – that we could call, or who had a calling list of people that they could notify.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Information	Poor information exchange between agencies and public.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Information	Two ways to get info out, perhaps at Fox & Steese.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Information	Get word out at entrance of subdivision, only one way in and out and would allow flow of information early on during key decision making time.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Information	Unqualified and lack of workers for information release.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Information	Second evacuation in August could have run siren down the road and notified the entire community of evacuation.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Information	Borough hadn't worked out bugs in communication, 5 sub-divisions missed.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Information	Personnel took some time to get into position – 2000 calls were coming in per day and people just had to step up to the plate early on.
Venetie	Public Meeting	Information	When the fire was Type III, inaccurate information was given about the status of the fire. Information about where the fire was currently located was not timely and people on the fire couldn't get info to Fairbanks.
Venetie	Public Meeting	Information	Was there a FEMA disaster declaration for the Venetie area? Why was there no FEMA declaration for Venetie?
Venetie	Public Meeting	Information	Would like BLM to return to Venetie this winter to meet with tribal council.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Information, IMT	Lower 48 resources did not always have the local perspective and lay of the land. There may be opportunities to utilize local residents to serve as PIO (Public Information Officer) liaisons to villages.
Eagle	Written	Information, IMT	Have another meeting in Eagle. Proposed evacuation of Eagle was mismanaged. Use Alaskan, not outsiders in suppression efforts.
Tanacross	Public Meeting	Information, IMT	Residents felt that some teams did not relate well during transition adding to information being lost or not shared.
Eagle	Written	Information, Positive Comment, Suppression	Comment from someone who is disappointed in Eagle Meeting. Suggest another meeting in May. Use of Volunteers: can volunteers be used to suppress smoldering areas? Thanks to all firefighters.
Tanacross	Public Meeting	Information, Protection	First point raised - 1999 review - what happened to information supplied by miners? NFO Field Office Manager addressed - 3715 Mining Claim Stipulations contain "no protection clause" for claims (also applies to 2920 recreation permits); protection is provided if identified as a primary residence; individual are responsible to take measures (defensible space). State DNR Fire and Aviation - problem is not specific to miners - effects bush residents, trappers and homesteaders.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Information, Health/Smoke	When they called to ask about smoke/ash, the call wasn't returned.
Central	Written	Information, Suppression	Comment from someone who felt information was "kept" from locals. Involve local people and agencies (i.e. post office); locals have "experience". Team discussions and information should be made available to locals. Appreciated what was done to save the community.
40 Mi. Miners	Public Meeting	Positive Comment	Ronnie & Shirley Franklin deserved credit helping everyone, opening heart and home.

Meeting / Residence	Source	Keywords	Comment / Question
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Positive Comment	Kudos to fire personnel for his help last summer.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Positive Comment	Appreciative of help.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Positive Comment	Tourism boat kept running.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Positive Comment	DOF did a darn good job. Fix communication. Write the legislature—for more money.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Positive Comment	Thanks to DOF and Firefighters.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Positive Comment	I know they work hard.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Positive Comment	Thanks to firefighters.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Positive Comment	The guys responded well.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Positive Comment	There were no lives taken.
Eagle	Public Meeting	Positive Comment	Fires went perfectly. Firefighters stopped by to check hose lays daily. Meetings nice, covered everything, maps updated.
Eagle	Written	Positive Comment	Speaking on behalf of the City Council, thank you for the work done last summer.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Positive Comment	Local fire people were under stress, family thankful.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Positive Comment	The Borough animal control people were fantastic, and the only ones we saw.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Positive Comment	The people living close to the fire areas are very appreciative of all the agencies work over this season.
Northway	Public Meeting	Positive Comment	Appreciated door hanger notices.
Northway	Public Meeting	Positive Comment	People who lived close to fire appreciated the efforts of the firefighters.
Tok	Public Meeting	Positive Comment	Recognized that local DOF fire management had significant stress during the fire season. Would like to acknowledge their efforts; appreciation.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Positive Comment	Miners acted on their own and helped each other.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Positive Comment	Thanks for the meeting. It is great you came out.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Positive Comment	You did a hell of a job saving our lives.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Positive Comment	A local, Sam, gave the teams a lot of info, so we were behind you all the way.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Positive Comment	Lots of mistakes made, and when we evacuated and came back, it was exactly as we left it. Next day it was hot and no way they were going to fight it, but they did. It was a miracle, even 15' from propane tank and cabin. I want to especially recognize Nulato crews. Those guys knew what they were doing because it was a miracle what they did, especially Bill Ambrose, Sr. He was like a guiding angel for us and we are very thankful. If it wasn't for these fire crews, we wouldn't be here. We had no injuries.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Positive Comment	An ember landed on cabin, & crews caught it.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Positive Comment	These men saved my bacon, my house. My credit goes to these local people that helped.
Venetie	Public Meeting	Positive Comment	The fire crews are good and no nonsense because there was a little loss other than 2 or 3 buildings.
Venetie	Public Meeting	Positive Comment	We had defensible space, but on north side of house still had black spruce. I don't know how the crews did it.
Tok	Written	Positive Comment, AIWFMP	Supports fire management policies in effect: reasonable level of suppression, balancing cost with resources to be protected. Allowing fires to burn where they don't endanger persons or property results in healthier forest, better habitat for wildlife, and ultimately less risk of large fires overrunning settled communities. Thanks to crews for a job well done in Tok, Chicken, Northway and Eagle.
Tok	Public Meeting	Positive Comment, Fuels	They felt good about fire danger from the north and east. Problem areas still exist in the northwest and immediately north of town, south of river .
Tok	Public Meeting	Positive Comment, Fuels	After this fire season, feel comfortable about the fire risk to Tok. Given the 1990 Tok fire scar to the East and North, the 2003 Tok River fire East and South, and now the 2004 Billy Creek fire to the North. There are areas directly South and adjacent to housing divisions to the North.
Eagle	Public Meeting	Positive Comment, IMT	Alaska Team did a good job.
Eagle	Public Meeting	Positive Comment, Information	Maps at the Visitor's Center/FWS good. Interpretive displays for Visitor's Center's tourists next year.
Northway	Public Meeting	Positive Comment, Subsistence	Gardiner Fire burned off junk grass, good moose habitat now.
Northway	Public Meeting	Prediction Services	What are weather predictions for next year? Next spring?
Tanacross	Public Meeting	Prediction Services	Why was pre-season prediction so wrong? <i>Response - Fire suppression creating larger fires over time.</i>
Tok	Public Meeting	Prediction Services	Are the agencies accessing the weather information daily? Need to know more about weather patterns and their effects on the fire situation.
Tok	Public Meeting	Prediction Services	Perhaps the fire created its own weather, so there was no rain.
Tok	Public Meeting	Prediction Services	Get meteorologists out there and study it. Atmosphere fallout. Greenhouse effect
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Prediction Services	Discussion on global change looking at ocean temperatures, North Pacific Oscillation theory vs. other indicators.

Meeting / Residence	Source	Keywords	Comment / Question
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Prediction Services	All that saved Fairbanks this year was lack of wind.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Prediction Services, Health/Smoke	Smoke prediction information.
Central	Public Meeting	Preparedness	If this was Goldstream Valley, what would have happened? We need a plan for the future.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Preparedness	Where did the \$110 million (est. cost of 2004 fires) come from? The difference between preparedness and suppression funds was explained. Alaska Fire Service preparedness budget is declining and measures are being taken to deal with the reduced Preparedness.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Preparedness	Build up a reserve of crew bosses so that when a crew boss is working at another job the rest of the crew still has the potential to go on an assignment.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Preparedness	Land status and structure information - TCC website-good hub for info; TVC may want to update their land status/intelligence.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Preparedness	Will results of last summer's fires get more resources for next year?
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Preparedness	Takes money—strategic threat analysis needed. We also need to 1) Map the fuel types; 2) Broader scale planning and 3) work with the Borough
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Preparedness	Does DOF have a wish list to bring before the legislature for what we need in the future?
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Preparedness	DOF needs to talk to legislators. Have you invited legislators to meetings like this?
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Preparedness	What can we do to get you the money to do what you need?
Fort Yukon	Public Meeting	Preparedness	Will FYU station be opened in 2005? Possibly, but not to the level it has been in the past. Limited funds are available. Some buildings were condemned in 2004. Air tanker base will not reopen. There is an interest by the AFS Manager to station smokejumpers in FYU during the 2005 season in order to provide a quicker response to suppress fires, particularly in the Venetie area (due to the amount of acres burned there in the last few years).
Fort Yukon	Public Meeting	Preparedness	Is Preparedness available for Firewise programs in and around Fort Yukon, specifically to burn grass NW of town. Tribe does receive Preparedness from BIA and there may be some funds available through that agency.
Fort Yukon	Public Meeting	Preparedness	The Federal government should act on fires faster. To improve the response to fires shouldn't BLM re-open Ft. Yukon guard station or open a new one in Venetie?
Fort Yukon	Public Meeting	Preparedness	Is there a way for Venetie to have its own hot shot crew? How was the Big Lake crew (Type II IA) created/funded?
Tanacross	Public Meeting	Preparedness	The bulk of money for local fire equipment in fire service areas are from fed grants. Can the state get money from the feds?
Tok	Public Meeting	Preparedness	People get upset—but don't pay taxes.
Tok	Public Meeting	Preparedness	Tok area consists of 8.5 million acres with only 8 actual firefighters. Additional preparedness issues.
Tok	Public Meeting	Preparedness	Will the result of this summer's intense fire season result in an increase in budget?
Tok	Public Meeting	Preparedness	Need forethought, not expensive emergency procedures.
Tok	Public Meeting	Preparedness	Can Alaska (State) budget be adjusted for fire?
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Preparedness	Last couple years—fire service areas got zero money from state. Biggest Problems were 1) money—never enough and 2)DOF—not in control of mother nature. People need to go to legislature—budget goes down every year.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Preparedness	What is a FEMA fire? (State's cost of fire about 48 million.)
Delta Junction	Public Meeting	Preparedness, Suppression	Can funds that were authorized for firefighting be used by community? Burnout operations caused more land to be burned.
40 Mi. Miners	Public Meeting	Protection	Historic sites protected while family residences are not (example sited was a historic boiler).
40 Mi. Miners	Public Meeting	Protection	Lower 48 resources disagreed with policy and acted in spite of direction.
BIA Providers Conference	Public Meeting	Protection	Primary residence does not necessarily mean "year-round" residence.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Protection	IC (Incident Commander) should be able to make the decision for site protection.
Eagle	Written	Protection	It is a mistake not to suppress small fires that could easily be put out. Private homes should have a higher priority than Ft. Egbert.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Protection	1000 new building permits issued for Mat-Su area in 2004
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Protection	Why are Native allotments in Full Protection and who pays for suppression ? <i>Agency Response: Federal Gov't, BLM State Director requesting BIA to review policy; however, due to land trust status there are legal responsibilities that must be met.</i>
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Protection	Take into consideration private property structures and communities.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Protection	The Boundary Fire was on the state side of protection, it was in Limited protection area which means a let burn policy.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Protection	The policy is not to provide cabin protection, even if next to historical areas?
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Protection	Policy favors large land owners, not private owners.
Fort Yukon	Public Meeting	Protection	If people want their property to be in critical (protection) they need to make sure the responsible agency has the necessary information.
Fort Yukon	Public Meeting	Protection	Someone has to make decisions between a few houses being burned versus the whole community, but we ARE a community.
Fort Yukon	Public Meeting	Protection	Policy of "let it burn" to within a 300 foot radius of a structure is bad
Northway	Public Meeting	Protection	Allotments with cabins across the river were not being protected. So Locals did.
Northway	Public Meeting	Protection	Tanana River allotments with cabins were not protected properly -- (a.) Clear communication with needed Management team on lands that have full protection. (b.) Contingency plans had been created but not yet activated / implemented. This was not communicated.
Northway	Public Meeting	Protection	Everyone must BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR OWN HOME.

Meeting / Residence	Source	Keywords	Comment / Question
Tanacross	Public Meeting	Protection	Remote parcels are being sold by the State. Suggestion was that an emphasis be placed on informing purchasers that no fire protection would be provided - Have class that explains fire policy and other stipulations and conditions attached to remote parcel ownership.
Tanacross	Public Meeting	Protection	Key Task - Review policy and definition of private property/land.
Tok	Public Meeting	Protection	Losses to 40 Mile miners - no property, but 6 weeks of working claims. Although may or may not be primary residence, mining is main source of income. Private property issue, not a mining claim issue.
Venetie	Public Meeting	Protection	Clarify State statute re: property.
Central	Written	Protection, AIWFMP, IMT	Comment from person whose home was burned. Locals did not "feel" like they were being protected. Every time a new team came in they "didn't seem to have a clue" on what others had done. Confusion over protection status - threatened residents were told they were in Limited and would receive only Protection only; then they are being told Full which means actions could have been taken "before homes burned". Agrees with "let burn policy" but must include a balance and common sense when a fire threatens homes and communities.
Delta Junction	Public Meeting	Protection, AIWFMP, Suppression	Commenter had lost 2 trap line cabins. His suggestions related to the Protection Policy; he recommended: (1) more flexibility in the overall policy; (2) allow more decision authority at the local level; (3) put pump/sprinkler kits on cabins; (4) use suppression resources as available to do work around structures. Response: He was told no protection would be provided. He had spent 30 years accumulating cabins and contents. Neither cabin burned as a result of the fire front moving through, but burned due to fire smoldering in the area after the intense fire had moved through. Firefighting resources were in the area and were not being used at the time. During the intense fire activity, Pogo Mine was being protected and all resources were being used in that area.
Eagle	Written	Protection, Information, AIWFMP	Comment from 30 year firefighter; Crew Boss; Member of the Tanana-Minchumina AIWFMP team. Questions were raised regarding Full protection of native allotments and he felt it was necessary to "constantly complain" to ensure allotments were protected. During slow periods (rainy days) firefighters were not suppressing fires. Too many managers and not enough fire fighters. Firefighters did not have sufficient or updated landownership information and maps. Review AIWFMP - all cabins (vacant or occupied) should have same protection status. Native allotment locations are chosen due to family values. Standards of no-suppression should be reviewed and revised. There is plenty of habitat, but no moose. Intending to make every effort with many different Native Councils to have government-to-government talks with State and National Parks for reviewing and revising suppression standards.
BIA Providers Conference	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation	Water bars on trails could injure someone.
Central	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation	Reconsider rehab/access issues. (Point was being made that access should be maintained if it existed prior to the fire line being constructed. Often the people doing the rehab plan and work didn't see what was in place before the line was constructed, thus don't know what the access situation was or what the trail looked like. Suggestion: pictures be taken of the trail prior to line construction so there is some documentation that the rehab folks can use.)
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation	July 1, 2003 we had issues with water raising being in peoples' yards.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation	Bank sloughing in mixed spruce/deciduous forest; rain just pours through those areas. I know it will recover rapidly, but these will be the effects.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation	I think we are going to see a black river. <i>Response (DOF): Stewardship plan is available for private lands 7 acres and over via DOF.</i>
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation	Build boardwalks and plant new vegetation for rejuvenating ecosystems where burned.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation	Rehabed all lines in Boundary fire, except Chena which is in progress.
Dot Lake	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation	Heavily used trails in 60 Mile Butte area were burned over this summer.
Dot Lake	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation	Why doesn't state do more than fire line rehab - what about other rehab, other state funds?
Dot Lake	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation	Send copies of BAER Report to communities.
Dot Lake	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation	What is salvage timber potential, state & Tanacross joint sale potential? Hope to get 10 million BF (board feet).
Dot Lake	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation	The State should have a mechanism to request money for rehab dollars. This would keep the money at a State level and would ensure local participation.
Eagle	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation	Salvage timber opportunities to capture revenues.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation	Community member expressed concern that there were still hoses left out on the fire line.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation	Community members were concerned with what would be done to rehab winter trails this year.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation	There is a need to rehab trails, trap lines and the land.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation	Fires burned a lot of saw timber, burned the roots - may still be burning.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation	Where did the people come from that do these assessments? They need to do one at my house in April because the Chatanika River will be in some peoples' houses and yards due to erosion.
Fairbanks	Written	Rehabilitation	Concerns over dozer line in tundra in the Chena Recreation Area. Result may be motorized access to what has been non-motorized area and the additional impacts that will cause to tundra; do not use suppression operation to create new roads and trails. Recommends restoring and rehab fully to eliminate any motorized access.
Fort Yukon	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation	BAER Report -- What is the status? What will be the result for FYU?

Meeting / Residence	Source	Keywords	Comment / Question
Northway	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation	Any rehab/restoration planned for burned areas?
Northway	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation	Timbers spread along pipeline over full width of line. <i>(This was a complaint about the rehab standard since the line was used as a trail.)</i>
Northway	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation	What about preventing erosion if there is a rainy season?
Tanacross	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation	Involvement with land managers for rehab.
Tanacross	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation	Want to avoid erosion from access problems.
Tanacross	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation	In some areas, managers want to reduce 4 wheeler access, have areas closed for motorized. In other areas, managers want these trails left open to motorized use.
Tanacross	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation	Rehab still in progress - will continue in spring.
Tanacross	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation	We can still use as effective fire line, so we want to rehab but keep the fire line
Venetie	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation	Rehab - use trails, old pipeline ROW for access.
Venetie	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation	Rehab dug ditches and dragged debris over trails.
Venetie	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation	Trails not put back to original condition, now blocked or unusable.
Venetie	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation	If new line is rehabed where no access existed prior there should be no complaints.
Venetie	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation	Native corporations, BIA grants, for trail rehab in Venetie.
Central	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation, IMT	Transition between first to last teams lost knowledge of original trail conditions for rehab.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Rehabilitation, Subsistence	Concern was expressed that future run-off would effect fish.
40 Mi. Miners	Public Meeting	Health/Smoke	Health effects are short term. FMH (Fairbannks Memorial Hospital) geared up but there was no increase in cases
40 Mi. Miners	Public Meeting	Health/Smoke	Air quality issues will guide us in the future.
40 Mi. Miners	Public Meeting	Health/Smoke	Smoke bothered everyone.
40 Mi. Miners	Public Meeting	Health/Smoke	Smoke was an issue, cannot do much about it. Impacts both firefighters and the public.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Health/Smoke	It felt like we were smoked in all summer.
Delta Junction	Public Meeting	Health/Smoke	Refuge (FWS) did cancel outdoor and public activities.
Delta Junction	Public Meeting	Health/Smoke	Smoke impacts, smoke predictions, shelter. <i>(Suggestion on the development of a mobile trailer with AC for use in a village for smoke relief.)</i>
Delta Junction	Public Meeting	Health/Smoke	Smoke in homes - air cleaners helped a lot.
Dot Lake	Public Meeting	Health/Smoke	Smoke shelter would be useful if the smoke persisted.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Health/Smoke	Air purifying systems were helpful in closed spaces.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Health/Smoke	As long as smoke was around, people complained.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Health/Smoke	Pilot employment, planes couldn't fly. Smoke precluded flying.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Health/Smoke	We have no control over smoke.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Health/Smoke	One member mentioned that they had seen an odd yellow color on the snow and wanted to know what was causing the yellow color.
Fairbanks	Written	Health/Smoke	Comment from someone who went to Anchorage to escape smoke conditions at personal expense. Consider risk o human life, structures and human health when making decisions to determine how vigorously to fight fire. Example sites weather conditions that would bring smoke into Fairbanks. Establish a smoke-free shelter when Fairbanks has significant smoke – facilities established this summer were not smoke free. Hospital smoke free room was not any better than anywhere else.
Northway	Public Meeting	Health/Smoke	What are the health hazards from fire retardant?
Northway	Public Meeting	Health/Smoke	A concern was raised about the health problems from the smoke and what can be done about the smoke.
Tanacross	Public Meeting	Health/Smoke	Lots of people, old people especially, have respiratory problems.
Tanacross	Public Meeting	Health/Smoke	Waiting until fires get to critical created smoke problems - people who stayed in their homes still problems.
Tanacross	Public Meeting	Health/Smoke	Smoke was a problem at Dot Lake.
Tanacross	Public Meeting	Health/Smoke	Canadian smoke also came west into the area.
Tok	Public Meeting	Health/Smoke	Smoke predictions / winds should be communicated.
Tok	Public Meeting	Health/Smoke	Smoke / ash blew back on the community.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Health/Smoke	Rural residents breathing lots of smoke.
Venetie	Public Meeting	Health/Smoke	Alaskans need a break from the fires
40 Mi. Miners	Public Meeting	Health/Smoke, Suppression	Smoke—How does it limit some of the choices?
BIA Providers Conference	Public Meeting	Subsistence	Trapping cabins were lost, is there compensation for them?
BIA Providers Conference	Public Meeting	Subsistence	Loss of personal values - Cabins, Trap lines, etc. State does not have a process to address loss. Feds do have a tort claim process. There has been no known pay out of claims.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Subsistence	Fire retardant is showing up in moss, snow and caribou samples. This is a major concern for our people.
Delta Junction	Public Meeting	Subsistence	Winter caribou range was scarified.
Tanacross	Public Meeting	Subsistence	When fires are allowed to burn in limited areas plants are being burned down into their roots, adversely affecting the caribou grazing and in turn the subsistence lifestyle.
Tanacross	Public Meeting	Subsistence	Study effects of fire on caribou.
Tanacross	Public Meeting	Subsistence	What could be done to rehab/replace/reimburse community members for burnt trap lines / cabins. Asked that the Federal government look into what could be done to reimburse folks for trap line losses.
Tok	Public Meeting	Subsistence	What were the effects of smoke on wildlife? Wildlife has moved away from the village and the "grocery store" is pretty empty.
Tok	Public Meeting	Subsistence	Elders need traditional foods.
Venetie	Public Meeting	Subsistence	Is there any Preparedness available for communities whose subsistence lifestyle has been negatively impacted by the large burned areas around their village?
Venetie	Public Meeting	Subsistence	Can Venetie be reimbursed for loss of natural resources (fish, moose, saw timber)? What are the options for this winter? Are there organizations, besides BLM that can help with this winter's loss of resources? Can BLM find agencies that can provide assistance to help Venetie survive the winter - no moose, no fish rivers are frozen. How long will it take to get back to Venetie with suggestions on possible help?
Venetie	Public Meeting	Subsistence	Wolf population near the village has increased.
Venetie	Public Meeting	Subsistence	Even though ADF&G may have a report indicating good moose populations, ADF&G does not survey Venetie land.

Meeting / Residence	Source	Keywords	Comment / Question
Venetie	Public Meeting	Subsistence	The fire burned lichen and this will affect the caribou winter range.
Venetie	Public Meeting	Subsistence	Fishing was interrupted with firefighting/spike camp activity on the river.
Venetie	Public Meeting	Subsistence	Venetie is not ready for winter. Folks were not able to prepare for winter because of the fires. Community members who were fighting fire when they would normally be fishing and preparing for winter.
40 Mi. Miners	Public Meeting	Subsistence, AIWFMP	Modified conversion date should be later (August) due to concerns regarding winter range & caribou habitat, other resource values, & more flexibility in local area.
BIA Providers Conference	Public Meeting	Subsistence, Preparedness	Inventory - document trapping cabin locations.
40 Mi. Miners	Public Meeting	Suppression	Use of Heavy Equipment: Fire started in Wild and Scenic River corridor where there are restrictions on equipment use; Evaluate heavy equipment use policy; We need to know how to have our equipment hired; Rehab of dozer lines did not consider local needs for new roads and improved trails.
40 Mi. Miners	Public Meeting	Suppression	Use of Local Assets: Locals were used when suitable; safety issues - untrained in firefighting techniques; strict qualification requirements for firefighters, i.e. physical fitness; not feasible to let untrained locals respond even when fires are small. Why wasn't the National Guard used?
40 Mi. Miners	Public Meeting	Suppression	Crews in staging areas and along roadside not doing any work - engines driving up and down the road or sitting and watching fire. If they are here, \$\$ are being expended, put them to work or send them home!
40 Mi. Miners	Public Meeting	Suppression	Team public meeting notifications were not timely.
40 Mi. Miners	Public Meeting	Suppression	Use local people and knowledge - AFS liaison was assigned to Eagle.
BIA Providers Conference	Public Meeting	Suppression	Are we using ping-pong machines (Plastic Sphere Dispenser) and does that have any impact on the environment?
BIA Providers Conference	Public Meeting	Suppression	Is there any data showing the effects of fire retardant?
BIA Providers Conference	Public Meeting	Suppression	What is being done to develop new fire retardants?
BIA Providers Conference	Public Meeting	Suppression	Why not use suppression preparedness towards evaluating the effects of the retardant?
Central	Public Meeting	Suppression	Central residents would like to have the suppression agencies to be out early next spring (March - May), when the ground is still frozen to identify and suppress hot spots using infra-red technology.
Central	Public Meeting	Suppression	An individual had a concern with the fact that fallen trees had been left across her driveway after the fire had gone through. She also had questions about why the suppression forces had not put out hot spots that were easily accessible from the driveway to her home while they were using the driveway to provide protection for her home. She did mention that the firefighters did an excellent job of protecting the home.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Suppression	Why did the fire catch people off guard as much as it did? The IC (Incident Commander) on the Boundary fire couldn't even talk to or reach Fairbanks and it takes longer to get through other government networks.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Suppression	When policies were set, why did those on the front line not get what they needed?
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Suppression	It doesn't set well that there weren't resources available to prevent property loss.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Suppression	The "yellow shirts" were hindered by people behind a desk that had forgotten what it is like on the line.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Suppression	Are you saying we are trying to get more air support in Alaska?
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Suppression	Why not fight fires at midnight when the fire is down?
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Suppression	I'm not buying that you have to have air support for night firefighting because the smoke meant we had two weeks with no air support.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Suppression	You didn't know where the fire was without the local people getting information and doing assessment.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Suppression	Even at 5 am there is sufficient light to safely fight fire.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Suppression	The fire was on the boundary and going back to the mountains, but the fire turned NE quickly, with hardly any personnel at all. Need to reevaluate what happened. There are known benefits and downfalls of fire, if it's miles from population. Changes have to be made to the policies.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Suppression	We have no problem if it is a safety issue, but initially the fire was nowhere near as bad as it later became.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Suppression	The reason I bring up the issue of the Bailey Bridge because it was a safety issue.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Suppression	What's the chance of fire happening here again next summer? Response (DOF): There may be carryovers. Spring assessments will be done. A Burn Area Emergency Rehabilitation (BAER) team did assessments in the area. They looked at the potential for erosion and other related issues. (Statewide assessments, debris floats/bridges, CD's available of this plan, didn't think these issues in Chatanika.)
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Suppression	A D-9 was at 49-mile pit for 12 hours when the fire first started. Might have saved much that was lost to the fire had the Cat been used. While 11 engines were each protecting a house, water was being sprayed where the fire wasn't.
Delta Junction	Public Meeting	Suppression	Was the Lower 48 response to requests timely? Discussion - Lower 48 lack of fire season and availability of resources to AK; first time engines from Lower 48 and SE Alaska were used in the Interior; more resources don't always contribute to ability to suppress fires and presented logical support problems. AK needs to use available resources effectively.
Delta Junction	Public Meeting	Suppression	What are you prepared to do differently if this happens again? Discussion: Agencies are conducting a resource inventory; reviewing protection boundaries; internal in-agency review; identifying values at risk, mobilize earlier, identify ownership (ex., Delta is a growing community and the difficulty of tracking new ownership and buildings.)

Meeting / Residence	Source	Keywords	Comment / Question
Dot Lake	Public Meeting	Suppression	In July when there was a lull in fire activity, crews were let go when they could have been kept.
Dot Lake	Public Meeting	Suppression	Do something when we have a chance.
Dot Lake	Public Meeting	Suppression	Only two ?? were hired locally.
Dot Lake	Public Meeting	Suppression	Administration/timekeeper possibilities? (<i>Possible jobs that local people could fill.</i>)
Dot Lake	Public Meeting	Suppression	Equipment hire inspections - new inspections at Tok? (<i>Why were all the equipment inspections done in Tok?</i>)
Eagle	Public Meeting	Suppression	King Creek started in black spruce - took off and hard to keep road open.
Eagle	Public Meeting	Suppression	It's easy to put out fire when first notified, should've been attacked from the beginning.
Eagle	Public Meeting	Suppression	Keep the roads open, by keeping fires away from road, the community heavily relies on the road.
Eagle	Public Meeting	Suppression	Have an inventory of pumps/hoses nearby in caches.
Eagle	Public Meeting	Suppression	Will the fires be monitored in the springtime for smoldering?
Eagle	Public Meeting	Suppression	Are we coordinating information with Canada, with Dawson 31?
Eagle	Public Meeting	Suppression	Has fire jumped the Yukon River in the past? If so, how many times?
Eagle	Public Meeting	Suppression	Who is watching? FMO? AFMO? Main contact info?
Eagle	Public Meeting	Suppression	Fires don't burn at night, attack them then.
Eagle	Written	Suppression	Eagle fire equipment Availability of structure to store equipment.
Eagle	Written	Suppression	Concerns that fires are still burning. Hold another meeting only if ALL agencies attend.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Suppression	On the ground analysis could have helped prevent fire with a quicker response.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Suppression	Did the conditions support a no response?
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Suppression	It seems like the state has been asleep at the wheel.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Suppression	I could have urinated on the fire to put it out at first.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Suppression	There was a lot of effort thrown at the fire when it was out of control, when it was too late
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Suppression	The trucks from the fire departments were out of town on fires
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Suppression	Firefighter for 20 years: Fairbanks Area got caught with its pants down.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Suppression	We could have hit the Boundary fire sooner. State needs to stop fires like the Boundary fire in limited protection areas.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Suppression	Was there no instructions for dozer use back there?
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Suppression	They extended the line in August. Originally thought they would not.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Suppression	We were scuffing the surface in the alpine area.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Suppression	Need water, but extreme behavior, smoke crossed 4 wheeler trails.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Suppression	Needed a solid defense trail, so we did drop the blade.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Suppression	Need better use of personnel and equipment.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Suppression	More flexibility on the fire line.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Suppression	Should have been more responsive.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Suppression	Night operations could have been done, its never dark in Alaska.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Suppression	Road closures and pilot car use were not based on common sense.
Fairbanks	Public Meeting	Suppression	Why not more use of fire retardant?
Fort Yukon	Public Meeting	Suppression	How can tribes give input to Fall Fire Reviews? Specific issue: No one came for several days to a fire outside FYU. A faster response is needed.
Fort Yukon	Public Meeting	Suppression	When is Crew Boss training?
Fort Yukon	Public Meeting	Suppression	Use Stevens Village, Beaver and FYU to form crews.
Fort Yukon	Public Meeting	Suppression	Rely on the locals. They are in FYU and available for work including maintenance.
Tanacross	Public Meeting	Suppression	EFF crew size - 16 vs. 20 crew members? EFF crew study this winter.
Tanacross	Public Meeting	Suppression	Train up crews for Type II teams.
Tanacross	Public Meeting	Suppression	AK Type 2 crews - Bring level up to 20 (<i>Crew study may address this.</i>)
Tok	Public Meeting	Suppression	Meal (coupons) cut down on tips.
Tok	Public Meeting	Suppression	Fire is still burning behind Mt. Fairplay. Will it burn all winter?
Tok	Public Meeting	Suppression	In limited (protection areas) will DOF let fires go? When smokes pop up?
Tok	Public Meeting	Suppression	What is regional/local resource hire policy? Local standby 24 hours?
Tok	Public Meeting	Suppression	What would have happened if the Lower 48 had had a fire season?
Tok	Public Meeting	Suppression	The meal chit (coupon) process does not allow for consistent tips for the wait staff. Although the difference between coupon value and actual expense of the food is supposed to be given to the wait staff, this is not consistently done in the local restaurants.
Tok	Public Meeting	Suppression	Look for holdover/carryover fires due to low precipitation winter.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Suppression	Upper management made mistakes. You people screwed up big time. Those in charge failed miserably.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Suppression	You are paid to sit and watch the fire burn.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Suppression	Did any of you get fired? Or did you cover it up?
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Suppression	You wouldn't need to be here if you had to put the fires out.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Suppression	Why didn't you mobilize the National Guard to fight the fire? They could at least have transported the fire crews to the fires.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Suppression	Although the Lower 48 mobilizes the National Guard we don't – it takes time to get them mobilized, and they are not trained firefighters.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Suppression	You say that black spruce has no economic value here – that's wrong. Black spruce is not a parasite – it's a tree. Done properly no one would have seen a bulldozer trail.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Suppression	In 1957 we had 5 million acres burnt, this is almost the same pattern as now, with the rain in mid-September.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Suppression	Fires here start with lightning strikes and can only be stopped by a lack of fuel or with rain.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Suppression	Really old burns help – like the really old burn for the Boundary fire – it slowed it down – is now mostly deciduous trees. These old burns lose effectiveness after 40-50 years. The under storey becomes 30-40% black spruce and the fire rolls over it.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Suppression	Yellowstone example – lots of smoke – fire ladders – dead trees leaning against each other – fire climbs up them.

Meeting / Residence	Source	Keywords	Comment / Question
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Suppression	The best and only tool during fire is to set firebreaks in front of moving fire along a natural boundary.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Suppression	Days (windows) to do burns are small and fleeting. Firefighters start to question themselves and are not as aggressive in doing burns. Timing – get experienced people in the right place. Good teams up here.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Suppression	Lines being put in as best as could – watching for spot fires during burns. Inexperienced staff starting burns could have caused more problems.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Suppression	Holding off on burns (at the back of the Haystack subdivision) was a scary time for landowners.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Suppression	Dozers operators are inexperienced with fire and are experienced with road building. The main issue is who will supervise them. It's a problem for private individuals and miners. It is black as night from smoke and the dozers can't see where they're going. We are safety conscious on this issue. Private dozers are a resource for the future, and we advertise for them to help us every year.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Suppression	Can MODIS penetrate the smoke? it's a heat sensor, but it misses most low intensity fires. This was first year MODIS was used to find fires. Problems: heat occasionally rises in the wrong spot; - pixel is 2/3 of a mile - generates the most current information but also generated 100's of phone calls - good information, but added to agency workload.
Two Rivers	Public Meeting	Suppression	The Wolf Creek Fire was stopped by the fire from 2 yrs ago. This demonstrates the value of these burns for breaking up continuous fuel beds and future fires. If we had put out the Two Rivers (West Fork Chena) fire 2 years ago, that gentleman's house would have burned this year.
Venetie	Public Meeting	Suppression	How much acreage burned is too much?
Venetie	Public Meeting	Suppression	Boundary Fire - Access to the fire was a problem. It seemed like no one paid attention at first. Historical areas were protected, but not us.
Venetie	Public Meeting	Suppression	The Boundary Fire was started by lightning strikes.
Venetie	Public Meeting	Suppression	Get on fires sooner.
Venetie	Public Meeting	Suppression	One member expressed concern that the Pingo fire was not fought aggressively and that it was abandoned when firefighters should have continued to fight it.
Venetie	Public Meeting	Suppression	Federal funds should be used to employ locals (allocated to tribes) for firefighting and rehab. Need to use local knowledge.
Venetie	Public Meeting	Suppression	Why was the fire not fought at night? Crews were pulled off the line during the day because fire was too hot, but they might have been more effective if they had fought the fire at night.
Venetie	Public Meeting	Suppression	Why was the camp moved across the river?
Venetie	Public Meeting	Suppression	Does it take a lawsuit to get reimbursed for losses (lack of a timely response in initial attack)? What would happen if issues on how the fire was fought was taken to court?
Venetie	Public Meeting	Suppression	Fire was "let go" without consulting or involving the community of Venetie.
Chatanika	Public Meeting	Suppression, IMT	Don't sit with equipment on standby; go break the line. Things just got started and then the management team changed the next day.
Fairbanks	Written	Suppression, Positive Comment	Comment from individual who has 19.5 years experience as a firefighter. Individuals should take positive steps to prevent damage from fire to their cabins outside service areas and accept the responsibility with no expectation of assistance from State. Noted that in 2004 there was no loss of life, limited personal property damage and very little inconveniences other than smoke---Overall – DOF and firefighting - job well done.
BIA Providers Conference	Public Meeting	Suppression, Preparedness	How does a village get involved with fire fighting?
BIA Providers Conference	Public Meeting	Suppression, Preparedness	Do the Division of Forestry and BLM (AFS) provide training?
BIA Providers Conference	Public Meeting	Suppression, Preparedness	Is there any other training available besides basic firefighter?
BIA Providers Conference	Public Meeting	Suppression, Subsistence	How safe are the chemicals used (retardant) to put out fires? What are the effects on fish, wildlife?