RMA STORYLINE & PURPOSE

RMA
Risk Management Assistance

LIFE FIRST polled the field and asked: Where is there unnecessary risk to firefighters?

4 activities were identified: driving, aviation, mop-up, & communication

Forest Service Senior Fire Leaders created and tasked the Large Fire Risk Sharing Group to focus on these 4 activities

Original LFRSG Members: Becki Heath (DRF), Jane Darnell (DRF), Mark Lichtenstein (WO AD), Bill VanBruggen (R3 Fire Director), Tim Sexton, (RD&A) Dave Calkin (RMRS), and Rick Stratton (Fire Analyst)

Throughout 2017 and the spring of 2018, this group was expanded to incude or augment expertise in leadership, public affairs, risk management, logistics, analysis, and incident operations/command.

The concept of Risk Management Assistance Teams (RMAT) was developed

CORE PRINCIPLES of an RMAT team are to: improve decision quality, reduce unnecessary exposure, increase the use of fire, and be wiser with our investments.

Team composition, including a delegation of authority from the RF, includes a line officer, operations, risk management, and an analyst that is supported by several virtual analysts throughout the US.

RMAT helps the agency administrator and IMT by using existing and emerging analytics in 4 primary areas.

- Decision quality and communication
- Fire modeling and prioritization
- Trade-offs of alternative courses of action
- Aviation effectiveness and suppression difficulty