



# NWCG Meeting Notes

October 19, 2022

**Executive Board:** Aitor Bidaburu (USFA), Jay Winfield (USFS – Acting), Kim Van Hemelryck (DOI OWF Liaison), Jeff Arnberger (BLM), Garth Fisher (BIA), Jim Karels (NASF), Jim Durglo (ITC), Erik Litzenberg (IAFC), Heath Hockenberry (NWS), Tim Sexton (USFS), Mark Koontz (NPS), Shane McDonald – Chair (FWS)

**NWCG Staff:** Katie Wood (NWCG Program Manager), Tim Blake (Coordinator), Katy O’Hara (Coordinator), Sarah Lee (Coordinator), Robin Brooks (Acting Publications Manager), Omaira Falcon (Webmaster), Darci Drinkwater (Executive Secretary)

**Guests:** Steve Griffin (NIMSIC), Patty O’Brien (MHSC), Robin Cole (IMRR)

Topic & Notes	Decision
<p><b>Tasking Memorandum 20-004: NWCG Implementation of Endorsements for NIMS National Qualification System (NQS) Positions, Communication Plan:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communication plan is the last element we need to complete for the tasking.</li> <li>• Asking for a one-month extension and will be presenting the finalized communication plan at the Executive Board (EB) meeting in November.</li> </ul>	APPROVAL of one-month extension.
<p><b>Tasking Memorandum 22-003: Devils Creek Serious Accident – Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Educational Content:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tasked to create an “introduction to the CISM process” product to provide a basic overview of the CISM process, procedures, constraints, and capabilities for use by firefighters, fire managers, and agency administrators that are unfamiliar with CISM.</li> <li>• Developed a one-page CISM Desk Reference Guide. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Highlights what CISM is and is not.</li> <li>○ How to order.</li> <li>○ Document is an interim bridge until other CISM efforts can be completed.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• CISM Desk Reference Guide will be an NWCG product. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Communicated through email, Mailchimp, social media, and posted on Risk Management Committee (RMC) and Mental Health Subcommittee (MHSC) website.</li> <li>○ Suggested to create a RT-130, Wildland Firefighter Refresher for CISM or add as a supporting document to a current module.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Multiple efforts are currently in progress for CISM resource improvement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Long-term plan to develop an interagency website for CISM. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Current website is not well maintained.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Forest Service (FS) developing videos.</li> <li>○ Creating more avenues to share CISM information.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>APPROVAL to closeout tasking.</p> <p>Proposal to be sent out via memorandum and then sent out through normal agency/rep channels.</p> <p>Desk Reference will be included in 2023 refresher training.</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CISM:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Brief short-term intervention.</li> <li>○ Mobilized with peers and a clinician.</li> <li>○ Triggered by any event out of the norm. Generally, a serious injury, or death.</li> <li>○ Highlights examples for good coping and information about referral process to obtain a higher level of assistance.</li> <li>○ Reaching out after initial CISM contact is encouraged.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Wildland Fire Medical and Public Health Advisory Team (MPHAT) is working on large contract through Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding for mental health support for firefighters.</li> <li>• Many agencies received money through BIL funding for additional CISM positions.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Incident Management Response Roundtable (IMRR) Update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As fire activity increased this season, we had a decrease in participants on IMRR calls but expecting participation to start increasing again.</li> <li>• Functional areas discussing Complex Incident Management (CIM).</li> <li>• Incident Commander’s Advisory Council (ICAC) using IMRR as a platform to discuss team configuration.</li> <li>• Safety and Operations looking at Strategic Risk Assessment (SRA).               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Have had Alpha and Beta tests.</li> <li>○ After Action Review (AAR) scheduled for November.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• IMRR members are engaging with NWCG Committees.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ IMRR representatives on Incident Planning Subcommittee (IPSC), Incident Logistics Subcommittee (ILSC), Incident Command Subcommittee (ICSC), and Incident Operations Subcommittee (IOSC).</li> <li>○ Public Information Subcommittee (PIOSC) attending IMRR calls.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Increased communication has made IMRR participants aware of NWCG efforts and increased collaboration between IMRR and NWCG Committees.</li> </ul>	<p>Agreed to provide quarterly informal updates to the Executive Board.</p>
<p><b>U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) as National Interagency Aviation Committee (NIAC) Chair:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Executive Board approves new chairs per guidance on the website.</li> <li>• Proposed chair is Anthony Lascano from the FWS.</li> <li>• NIAC Chair rotation:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ States receptive to being incorporated in a chair rotation.</li> <li>○ NIAC still finalizing rotation.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>APPROVAL of Anthony Lascano as NIAC chair.</p>



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<p><b>FY2024 Budget Guidance, Presentation of FY2022 Accomplishments and Approved FY 2023 Budget:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NWCG Committee FY2022 Project Accomplishments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ \$893,671 in funding only \$1,356 remaining.</li> <li>○ Some projects were directly funded outside of NWCG by FS.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Changes to Annual Funding Guidance FY2024 additional language: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ NWCG Funding: Exceptions will be approved by NWCG EB and should be interagency and national in scope.</li> <li>○ NWCG Budget Cycle Responsibilities: work with assigned NWCG Committee Coordinator.</li> <li>○ Prioritization criteria: Is the proposal in a state where it is ready to receive and expend the requested funding.</li> <li>○ Reporting Requirements: Other NWCG Staff and Committee chairs.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Established quarterly budget meeting with NWCG staff to stay on track of budget.</li> <li>• Status of million-dollar placeholder for Systems Improvement (SI): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Can be used for long term funding for SI positions.</li> <li>○ Will have a better idea of the cost associated with SI once the Statement of Work is completed in November.</li> <li>○ Expect to have the contract in place by April/May.</li> <li>○ Discussed potentially using some of this funding to support the WFLP.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>APPROVAL of FY2024 Budget Guidance.</p>
<p><b>Wildfire Commission Update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monthly mission meeting October 19th. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Finalizing working groups. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Working group kick off is staggered.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Aviation Working Group: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Has been frequently meeting due to compressed timelines.</li> <li>○ Currently developing a response to tasking to evaluate aviation inventory. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Will distribute response to EB.</li> <li>▪ Final report due in January 2023.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Looking at the future of aviation strategy. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Jim Karels assisting to gather States information.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Engaged with National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Gathering data from Resource Ordering Status System (ROSS) and Incident Resource Ordering Capability (IROC) regarding Unable to Fill (UTF) incident orders.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Work Groups:</li> </ul>	<p>N/A</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Appropriations</li> <li>○ Aviation</li> <li>○ Cohesive Strategy</li> <li>○ Communities</li> <li>○ Landscapes</li> <li>○ Post-fire</li> <li>○ Public Health and Infrastructure</li> <li>○ Response Coordination</li> <li>○ Science, Data, and Technology</li> <li>○ Workforce</li> <li>● One-year from initial meeting should be completed with Wildfire Commission asks. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Although topics will evolve, and work will continue.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Participants are vastly non-federal.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Post AAR Discussion – Incident and Position Standards Committee (IPSC) Tasking:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Good dialog at the CIM AAR.</li> <li>● EB reevaluated IPSC tasking for <i>NWCG Wildland Fire Risk and Complexity Assessment (RCA)</i>, PMS 236 for IPSC meeting next week. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Stated in tasking: IPSC, in coordination with stakeholders, will evaluate the current PMS 236, and provide recommendations for a revised CIM RCA. This recommendation will not differentiate between Type 1 and Type 2 incidents but will identify current Type 1 and Type 2 incidents as complex incidents.</li> <li>○ Suggestion for IPSC to look deeper into typing of functional areas and take a tactical pause to evaluate incident typing.</li> <li>○ IPSC is ready to develop options next week.</li> <li>○ Verbal amendment to the tasking asking IPSC to pause on first bullet under RCA as a result of CIM AAR and continue with the rest of the tasking.</li> <li>○ Will need product to justify use of CIM such as language Rocky Mountain added during the pilot last season.</li> <li>○ Agency Administrator (AAs) need to know what type of team to send and the justification behind it.</li> <li>○ Administratively, current incident typing make sense.</li> <li>○ Very small sample of data from 2022 season.</li> <li>○ Impacts to state and local grants need addressed.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>IPSC to move forward with the bullets on the RCA tasking and will ignore the first bullet which states “IPSC, in coordination with stakeholders, will evaluate the current NWCG Wildland Fire Risk and Complexity Assessment (RCA), PMS 236, and provide recommendations for a revised CIM RCA. This recommendation will not differentiate between Type 1 and Type 2 incidents but will identify current Type 1 and Type 2 incidents as complex incidents.” A revision is captured in a bullet below. Please refer to amended TM-22-001 dated July 7, 2022</p> <p>. Lee will brief out to IPSC the intent to update the current RCA and develop a draft RCA for complex incidents</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Bender is coordinating with National Incident Management System Integration Committee (NIMSIC) in Washington D.C. in November.</li><li>○ Calls with Firescope to better understand NIMS typing.</li><li>• Combining Type 1 and Type 2 incidents into CIM will create a gap between Type 3 and CIM.</li><li>• NWCG has stewardship of the standard, wording will be critical.</li><li>• All agencies will likely implement differently.</li><li>• Transition will take flexibility.</li><li>• Collectively need to support CIM and quell rumors.</li><li>• Wildland Fire Decision Support System (WFDSS):<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ WFDSS Next Gen is years away from being integrated possibly 2026.</li><li>○ Would take significant workload to update current WFDSS.</li><li>○ IPSC has WFDSS team involved.</li><li>○ Waiting on applications that feed WFDSS to integrate.</li><li>○ Request to update WFDSS with CIM should be made now.</li></ul></li></ul>	<p>Plan for AAR following 2023 fire season. Jesse Bender will have the lead.</p>