



NWCG Meeting Notes

November 14, 2023

NWCG Executive Board: Kim Van Hemelryck (DOI OWF Liaison), Kyle Cowan (BLM), Jeff Arnberger (BLM), Garth Fisher (BIA), Aitor Bidaburu (USFA), Greg Smith (NASF), Dave Haston (USFS), Heath Hockenberry (NWS), Jim Shultz (NPS), Erik Litzenberg (IAFC), Jim Durglo (ITC), Anne Jewell (DoD), Shane McDonald – Chair (FWS)

NWCG Staff: Katie Wood (NWCG Program Manager), Sarah Lee (Deputy Program Manager), Annie Benoit (Training Program Manager), Toni Suminski (IPTM Project Manager), Katy O’Hara (Coordinator), Carmen Thomason (Coordinator), Dave Schultz (Coordinator), Erica Lamb (Publications Manager), Eric Coulter (Communications Lead), Jessie Bender (IWDG Coordinator), Jennifer Brooks (Admin Assistant)

Guests: Dr. Parimal Kopardekar (NASA), Darren Clabo (NASF), Amanda Mahaffey (Forest Stewards Guild), Esme Cadiente (Forest Stewards Guild), Mike Ellsworth (IPSC), Roshelle Peterson (DMC), Kara Stringer (NCSC), Steve Griffin (NIMSIC), Marlene Eno-Hendren (IPSC)

Topic & Notes	Decision
<p>Incident Position and Training Modernization (IPTM) - Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis phase of the first 10 positions will be done by the end of November. • Working on committee and review process for phase one deliverables. • Helicopter Crewmember and Safety Officer phase 1 deliverables currently in committee review. • Briefing IPTM wide – looking for additional recommendations on who/where we could present. • Requested \$12 million for FY2024 from Office of Wildland Fire of approved Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding. • Currently working on the Statement of Work for positions scheduled for 2024. 	N/A
<p>NASA's Membership Request Presentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Presentation. 	<p>NASA representative engaged and answered questions from the NWCG Executive Board (EB). Decision still pending.</p> <p>EB will discuss next steps during Executive Session in December.</p>
<p>Update and Discussion on Proposal for the Removal of Haines Index and Lightning Activity Level (LAL) from the IRPG - Fire Weather Subcommittee (FWSC) Decision at December EB Meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request will be for NWCG EB support for National Weather Service’s decision to cease the use of the Haines Index and LAL as part of their fire weather forecasts. • Looking at NWCG publications and training modules where referenced. 	Decision will be made at December meeting.

Additional information beyond these meeting notes (i.e., handouts, presentations, maps, etc.) will require a FOIA request to ensure proper privacy regulations are followed. Please request via FOIA Online website <https://www.doi.gov/foia/make-a-request>.



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FWSC will provide a transition plan that addresses publications and training materials where Haines and LAL need to be removed, as well as information that will need to be shared with the wildfire community. 	
<p>Annual Meeting- Draft Agenda and Logistics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All chairs Annual Meeting February 20-21, 2024, in Boise. National Incident Management System Integration Committee has volunteered to produce an agenda. NWCG past, present, and future is the proposed theme. Provide a platform for NWCG to be successful. Working on getting a keynote speaker from Fierce INC. 	N/A
<p>Forest Stewards Guild Update for December Session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarify EB & Staff roles, responsibilities, workflow, and accountability mechanisms. Set top three priority areas and align actions for 2024. The presentation will be provided to the group ahead of December meeting. 	Mahaffey and Cadiente will follow up with Wood.
<p>Monthly Incident Management Team Course Steering Committee -Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing new leadership courses based on learning objectives. Will use former course material to help draft. Next meeting in-person January 10-11, 2024, in Boise. Utilizing IPTM contractor given the short project timelines. IWDG requested adding a member to the steering committee. 	<p>IPSC chair sought clarification on leaders’ intent for the Steering Committee.</p> <p>NWCG chair clarified leaders’ intent for the development of basic and advanced Complex Incident Management Team training. The SC is not to approach the task with a predisposition of what the end state will be. The intent was, and is, to take current training material available to wildland fire responders, compare that material to gaps in training for Type 3 and CIMT responders then, as an output, develop trainings with learning objectives meeting the needs of incident management responders into the future.</p>



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<p>Type 1 Pathway and Field Evaluation Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Field evaluations are scheduled to go away December 2024. Given input and qualification times, field evaluation completed by December 2024 will be accepted and updated in Incident Qualifications and Certification System until a future date yet TBD. 	<p>EB will continue to discuss the Type 1 pathway, and the decision will occur no later than June 16, 2024.</p> <p>Smith will follow up with the States that have concerns about the type 1 pathway, including CALFIRE.</p>
<p>Wildland Fire Leadership Council (WFLC) – Update: WFLC meeting was held in mid-October where they discussed the 148 recommendations from the Wildfire Commission Report.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>2024 NWCG April Off-Site Meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spring 2024 for EB and Staff. Proposal for the group to attend the World Fire Congress Meeting first full week of May. Possible cancelation on EB meeting if NWCG attends World Fire Conference in D.C. 	<p>Drinkwater will send save the dates once finalized.</p>
<p>NWCG Committee/Subgroup Chair Rotations Memorandum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approved. 	<p>Memorandum is ready for final signature.</p>
<p>Wildland Fire Community and Governance Overview Documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Still in discussion. Documents did not include edits/recommendations submitted by NWCG Staff in June 2021. 	<p>Further discussion needed.</p>
<p>FY25 Annual Funding Guidance Direction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approved. 	<p>APPROVED</p>
<p>NWCG Work Capacity Test Administrator's Guide, PMS 307:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approved. 	<p>APPROVED</p>