



NWCG Meeting Notes

January 16, 2024

Executive Board: Dave Haston (USFS), Greg Smith (NASF), Kevin Conn (FWS-acting), Jim Shultz (NPS), Sarah Brown (RD&A), Jim Durglo (ITC), Erik Litzenberg (IAFC), Kim Van Hemelryck (OWF), Jeff Arnberger (BLM), Garth Fisher (BIA), Heath Hockenberry (NWS), Anne Jewell (DoD), Parimal Kopardekar (NASA), Aitor Bidaburu - Chair (USFA)

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), Darci Drinkwater (Executive Secretary)

Guests: Rick Gividen (WFLP), Todd Miranda (REMS), Robert Sepulveda (REMS), Marlene Eno-Hendren (IPSC)

Topic & Notes	Decision
<p>Wildland Fire Learning Portal (WFLP) – Quarterly Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key FY2024 Highlights: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 34,984 new user accounts. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Significant increase in new state and municipal accounts. ○ 62,952 course completions. ○ Implemented online WFLP Help Center. ○ Funding and staffing plan for FY2025 and beyond. • Moving instructor lead training (ILT) materials to the WFLP: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Existing Executive Board (EB) Tasking to move training content to the WFLP. ○ Aligns ILT materials access with online/other wildland fire content. ○ Provides the field with improved access. ○ Led by the WFLP Governance Board, coordination, and consensus with WFLP Program Office and NWCG Training Staff. ○ First phase completed November 2023 – ILT course materials moved to WFLP. ○ Next phase will include WFSTAR materials – target date end of second quarter. • WFLP application FY2024 upgrades: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Review of all courses in WFLP. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Archive outdated courses. ▪ Reinforce standardization of current courses. ▪ Increasing search capabilities. ○ Upgrade from Totara Learn Version 12 to Version 17. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Enhanced functionality and feature set. ○ Implementing multi-factor authentication (MFA) to comply with Executive Order 14028. 	<p>N/A</p>

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 at mailto:blm_fa_foia@blm.gov <https://www.doi.gov/foia/make-a-request>



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Users will use login.gov account to access WFLP. ▪ Target date end of March. 	
<p>Rapid Extraction Modules (REMS) Standard Development - Introduction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing a REMS standard to provide a clear description of the roles, duties, qualifications, and equipment pertinent to the position of REMS. • The REMS team is a pre-staged rescue team assigned to a wildland fire to provide firefighters a safe, effective, and efficient method of egress off the fireline in the event of an injury or illness. • REMS typing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Type 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Four personnel ▪ One or two 4X4 vehicle ▪ REMS cache ▪ Advanced Life Support (ALS) cache ▪ Paramedic and one emergency medical technician (EMT) ▪ Utility task vehicle (UTV), operators must have recreational off-highway vehicle association (ROHVA) certification. ▪ ROHVA is the baseline standard for UTV certification and is nationally accepted. ○ Type 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Four personnel ▪ One or two 4X4 vehicle ▪ REMS cache ▪ ALS or basic life support (BLS) ▪ Two EMTs ▪ UTV ○ Type 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Two personnel ▪ One 4X4 vehicle ▪ REMS cache ▪ ALS or BLS ▪ One paramedic or 1 EMT ▪ UTV ○ Type 1 and 2 require qualified Single Resource Boss. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Experience leading under pressure in a wildland fire scenario is critical. • Typing model considerations: 	<p>REMS PMS will be presented at March EB meeting. EB members are requested to speak with their EMC committee reps.</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Typing creates flexibility in ordering.<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Many variations in current ordering practices. California orders REMS personnel as Technical Specialists and Arizona orders them under their emergency medical system certifications.○ Typing follows established FIREScope and regional precedents.○ Creates flexibility for cooperators and contractors.● REMS training and qualifications:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Type 1:<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Rope Rescue Technicians (recommended) or two Rope Rescue Technicians and two Rope Rescue Operations equivalent (all team members shall meet or exceed NFPA 1006).▪ REMS Leader – Single Resource Boss Qualified (required)▪ Vehicle extraction or equivalent (required)▪ Firefighter 1 and 2 qualified (all team members)▪ Physical fitness level – arduous○ Type 2 (same as Type 1 unless noted below):<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Two Rope Rescue Technicians and two Rope Rescue Operations equivalent○ Type 3 (same as Type 1 unless noted below):<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Two Rope Recuse Technician and one Rope Rescue Operations equivalent.▪ No REMS Leader – Single Resource Boss requirement▪ No vehicle extrication● REMS rope rescue and medical equipment minimums:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Vetted through FIREScope, cooperators, and interagency Task Group.○ Flexible in nature to allow teams to utilize equipment they are trained on.○ All equipment must meet NFPA, UL or ANSI certifications.○ UTV/vehicle vs. hike-in based load outs create flexibility and guidance.○ Establishes REMS as both medical and extraction resource.○ Provides equipment required for initial patient stabilization.○ Vetted through REMS medical equipment subgroup.○ Type 3 REMS is a medic team with limited rope capabilities.● REMS UTV General Assessment of Risk (GAR) matrix:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Modified GAR model to incorporate UTV based extractions.○ Developed in conjunction with National Incident Management Organization safety.	



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Aids REMS and Medical Incident Commanders on risk to patient and provider in the rear of UTV. ○ Must be considered on all UTV based extractions where patient cannot ride in seated position. ○ GAR inputs: supervision, planning, transport time, team fitness, environment/terrain, and patient condition. ○ Emergency Medical Committee is currently reviewing. 	
<p>Incident Strategic Alignment Process – Quarterly Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Subgroups for each tasking bullet met last week. ● No issues. 	N/A
<p>2024 EB Off-Site Meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● World Fire Conference is being hosted by USFA in D.C. the first full week in May. ● 40 countries have expressed interest. ● Bidaburu requested 20 seats for NWCG. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Should have response back by end of the month. 	Will discuss at February EB Meeting.
<p>NWCG Standards for Wildland Fire Position Qualifications, PMS 310-1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All changes have been reviewed by the position stewards and approved by the Incident and Position Standards Committee (IPSC). ● Logistics Support Branch Director (SUBD) and Logistics Service Branch Director (SVBD) positions are being archived based on the June 20, 2023, EB decision. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Removing positions from currency lists. ● Unmanned Aircraft System Pilot – new Position Task Book (PTB) ● Safety Officer Field (SOFF) – new position <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Adding position to currency lists. ● Logistic Section Chief Complex, Incident Commander Complex, Finance/Administration Section Chief Complex, Operations Section Chief Complex, Planning Section Chief Complex, Public Information Officer Complex, and Safety Officer Complex – banner: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ S-420, Command and General Staff OR L-481, Advanced Leadership for Command and General Staff OR O-305, Type 3 All-Hazards Incident Management Team, AND ICS-400, Advanced ICS for Command and General Staff, must be completed before initiating the NWCG Position Task Books ● The position qualification requirements on the individual position pages of the NWCG Position Catalog will be updated and effective in the qualifications system on January 20, 2024. 	APPROVAL of PMS 310-1 summary of changes.



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<p>Recommendation for Transition of Operations Branch Director (OPBD) to Complex:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• IPSC recommends two pathways for the transition of Operations Branch Director to Complex:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Division/Group Supervisor (DIVS) or Operations Section Chief Type 3 (OPS3) to Operations Section Chief Complex (OSCC) and then granted OPBD.○ DIVS or OPS3 to OPBD to OSCC.○ There will be additional required training for both pathways based on Incident Operations Subcommittee recommendations and Incident Management Team (IMT) Course Steering Committee determination for required IMT training which is currently pending.○ Required experience will include completion and certification of an OPBD PTB, this is a new requirement.• PTB Task Group is meeting today and will be meeting again in Boise February 13-15.	<p>EB supportive of IPSC recommendations as outlined. EB requests that the Task Group will add Branch tasks (if applicable) to the Operations Section Chief Complex PTB.</p>