



National Wildfire Coordinating Group

Executive Board Meeting Notes

July 21, 2026

Attendees

Executive Board Primary Members (EB):

Erik Litzenberg (IAFC, Chair), Ryan Sundberg (DoW — Acting), Heath Cota (USFS), Jim Durglo (ITC), Aitor Bidaburu (USFA), Greg Smith (NASF), Eric Fransted (USWFS)

NWCG Staff:

Sarah Lee (NWCG Program Manager — Acting), Toni Suminski (Incident Performance Branch Chief — Acting), Michael Rodriguez (Executive Secretary), Chelsea McKinney (EB Facilitator and Publications Manager)

Guests:

Larae Guillory (IMTCSC), Brian Achziger (IMTCSC), Don Hannemann (USWFS)

Fatigue Research Update (Informational)

- ☐ Decision: N/A
- ☐ Action Item: N/A

Notes:

- The Montrose Translational Health Lab is conducting a two-year wildland firefighter health and well-being needs assessment. The project aims to:
 - Clarify the current state of science on firefighter health and well-being.
 - Identify well-studied topics and emerging areas for future research.
 - Avoid duplication of research by making science priorities clear to both scientists and wildfire management practitioners.
 - Understand and document the health and well-being topics and types of research that are valued by wildland firefighters.
 - Inform stakeholders, including the Joint Fire Science Program and Wildland Fire Medical and Public Health Advisory Team, on priority research needs.

IMT Course Steering Committee (IMTCSC) Update (Informational)

- ☐ Decision: N/A
- ☐ Action Item: N/A

Notes:

- Future IMTCSC meetings will transition to an ad-hoc schedule.
- S-420, Intermediate Incident Management (ILT):
 - Currently in fatal flaw review until July 29, 2026.
 - Certification is tentatively expected mid-October 2026.
 - The transition plan is being vetted and will be approved at the August Qualifications Management Committee (QMC) meeting.
- S-320, Introduction to Incident Management Teams (Blended):
 - QMC has updated and posted the transition plan; it will be included on the S-320, Introduction to Incident Management Teams (Blended) webpage.

NWCG Reorganization Update (Informational)

- ☐ Decision: N/A
- ☐ Action Item: N/A

Notes:

- The following tasks have been completed as a part of the NWCG reorganization:



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- Roster development
- Leadership identification and rotation
- Committee mission statements and objectives
- Committee standard operating procedures (SOPs)
- Stewardship assignments for Management Committees
- Scheduling of recurring meetings
- *NWCG Standard Operating Procedures*, PMS 900 has been finalized and posted to the NWCG website
- Historic committees and subcommittees' pages are archived, but still accessible on the NWCG webpage
- The following are in-progress:
 - Identify and update all webpage content changes to align with the *NWCG Standard Operating Procedures*, PMS 900.
 - Evaluate archived committee pages to determine which content to move to the new pages and relocate any necessary links.
 - Update publication "back pages" to the new Management Committee name for stewardship.
 - Request new Teams collaborative spaces for the groups and migrate appropriate files from old sites (e.g., Teams, SharePoint).
- The following are on the horizon:
 - Search the NWCG website and Wildland Fire Learning Portal (WFLP) for references to current committee names and update them as needed
 - Update stewardship for glossary terms, data standards, and geospatial data in EDG
 - Develop initial Annual Work Plan (AWP) template and post on web

Incident Strategic Alignment Process (ISAP) Foundational Document (Informational)

☐ Decision: N/A

☐ Action Item: **EB members will check with agency leadership on support for developing a simplified ISAP foundational document.**

Notes:

- ISAP continues to serve as the industry standard for risk assessment and strategic alignment on complex incidents, but members noted ongoing questions about how much of ISAP should be a formal process.
- The current ISAP can be used to capture metrics and analysis, but some find it overly complex for lower-complexity incidents or for individuals new to the process.
- Members emphasized that ISAP is intentionally scalable, making it suitable for high-level strategic conversations or deeper, data-driven analysis using tools such as the Strategic Risk Assessment (SRA) Worksheet.
- A user guide has been proposed previously but faced resistance due to its complexity, requirements, and frequency of required updates. A simpler, foundational document may be a more practical alternative.
- A foundational ISAP document could define core pillars and concepts while remaining non-prescriptive, giving agencies flexibility in how they apply or teach ISAP.
- This approach aligns with current IMT course deliveries, where ISAP is already taught in a non-prescriptive way.



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- Members may support a basic ISAP concept that does not mandate use of specific worksheets or methods, allowing Incident Management Teams (IMTs) and Agency Administrators to adapt ISAP to their context.

Training Program and Incident Performance & Training Modernization (IPTM) Update (Informational)

- ☐ Decision: N/A
- ☐ Action Item: N/A

Notes:

- IPTM
 - Approximately 40% complete: the foundational components are in place with 42 positions completed with updated Incident Position Standards and Next Gen Position Task Books (PTBs).
- G courses:
 - Discussed the use of G courses and maintenance responsibilities related to G courses. The Structural Firefighter Crosswalk has been updated by USFA, and courses need to be evaluated against updated curriculum that has been certified through IPTM. Eriks Gabliks and Toni are in communication and will continue to collaborate. Will follow up at future EB meeting.
- In-Progress Incident Position Standards and Next Gen PTB Development: Estimated Completion
 - Public Information Officer Type 3 (PIO3): Fall 2026
 - Aircraft Timekeeper (ATIM): Fall 2026
 - Deck Coordinator (DECK): Fall 2026
 - Compensation/Claims Unit Leader (COMP): Fall 2026
 - Cost Unit Leader (COST): Fall 2026
 - Ordering Manager (ORDM): Fall 2026
 - Receiving/Distribution Manager (RCDM): Fall 2026
 - Crew Representative (CREP): Fall 2026
 - Staging Area Manager (STAM): Fall 2026
 - Field Observer (FOBS): Fall 2026
 - Fire Effects Monitor (FEMO): Fall 2026
 - Geographic Information Systems Specialist (GISS): Fall 2026
 - Incident Commander Type 4 (ICT4): Spring 2027
 - Heavy Equipment Boss, Single Resource (HEQB): Spring 2027
 - Single Engine Airtanker Manager (SEMG): Spring 2027
 - Helicopter Manager, Single Resource (HMGB): Spring 2027
- Tentative Upcoming Positions — SME Recruitment Needed*
 - October 19-23, 2026
 - Strike Team Leader Crew (STCR)*
 - Strike Team Leader Engine (STEN)
 - Strike Team Leader Heavy Equipment (STEQ)*
 - November 2-6, 2026
 - Advanced Faller (FAL1)
 - Equipment Manager (EQPM)*
 - Mixmaster (MXMS)*
 - Retardant Crewmember (RTCM)*
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- November 16-20, 2026
 - Task Force Leader (TFLD)
 - Fixed Wing Parking Tender (FWPT)*
 - Public Information Officer, Complex (PIOC)*
 - Wildland Fire Investigator (INVF)
- New and Updated Training Courses
 - D-110, Expanded Dispatch Recorder (Instructor-led), 2026
 - D-310, Expanded Dispatch Support Dispatcher (Instructor-led), 2025
 - FI-110, Wildland Fire Observations and Origin Scene Protection for First Responders (Online), 2024
 - L-280, Followership to Leadership (Instructor-led), 2025
 - M-280, Resource Advisor, Fireline (Instructor-led), 2025
 - S-112, Introduction to Chainsaw Operations (Blended), 2025
 - S-130, Firefighter Training (Blended), 2025
 - S-131, Firefighter Type 1 (Instructor-led), 2026
 - S-204, Interpersonal and Critical Thinking Skills for Safety Officers (Online), 2024
 - S-212, Intermediate Faller (Online), 2026
 - S-219, Firing Operations (Blended), 2025
 - S-229, Single Resource Boss: 2026
 - S-230, Crew Boss (Single Resource) (Blended), 2023
 - S-231, Engine Boss (Single Resource) (Instructor-led), 2026
 - S-271, Helicopter Crewmember (Blended), 2025
 - S-290, Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior (Blended), 2025
 - S-320, Introduction to Incident Management Teams (Blended), 2025
 - S-359, Medical Unit Leader (Blended), 2025
 - S-390, Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior Calculations (Blended), 2025
 - S-490, Advanced Fire Behavior Calculations, (Blended), 2026
 - X-900, Investigating Powerline Caused Wildland Fires (Online), 2025
- In-Progress Training Course Development/Revisions: Estimated Completion
 - RT-130, Wildland Fire Safety Training Annual Refresher (WFSTAR) (Instructor-led): Fall 2026
 - S-200, Initial Attack Incident Commander: May 2027
 - S-203, Introduction to Incident Information: Summer 2026
 - S-236, Heavy Equipment Boss (Single Resource): May 2027
 - S-273, Single Engine Airtanker Manager: June 2027
 - S-372, Helicopter Manager: June 2027
 - S-420, Intermediate Incident Management: Fall 2026
- Upcoming Training Course Development/Revisions: Estimated Kick-Off
 - FI-210, Wildland Fire Origin and Cause Determination (Instructor-led), 2016: Fall 2026
 - S-312, Advanced Faller (NEW!!): Fall 2026
 - S-330, Task Force/Strike Team Leader (Instructor-led), 2014: Fall 2026
- New Job Aids
 - Packing List for Wildland Fire Fireline Personnel, J-101
 - Packing List for Wildland Fire Support Staff, J-102
 - Checking In Resources Customer Service Job Aid, J-111
 - Incident Status Summary (ICS 209) Resource Count Job Aid, J-112
 - Felling Operations and Tree Analysis Job Aid, J-212
 - Thinking Skills for Risk Management, J-301



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- Expanded Dispatch Job Aid, J-601
 - Initial Attack and Aircraft Dispatcher Job Aid, J-602
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Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting

Date: August 18, 2026

Time: 0900-1600 MDT

Location: NIFC, Old Admin Building #110, NWCG Conference Room (second floor)