

Communication, Education, and Prevention Committee (CEPC)

CEPC Conference Call Notes

Logistics

Date: June 10, 2021

Time: 15:00 Eastern, 1400 Central, 1300 Mountain, 1200 Pacific

CEPC Members: Gwen Beavans (USFS), Faith Berry (USFA – Alternate), Carrie Bilbao (NIFC EA), Tina Boehle (NPS), Jerry Hepler (Wildland Fire Investigation Subcommittee Chair), Doug Hildebrand (NOAA), Kenny Jaramillo (BIA), Terri Jenkins (FWS), Angie Lane (NASF), Teresa Neal (USFA), Jon Skinner (BLM), Candy Stevenson (PIO Subcommittee Chair), Erika Stone (Administrative Support), Fred Turck (NASF), Bruce Woods (IAFC)

CEPC Members in Attendance this Call: Gwen Beavans (USFS), Faith Berry (USFA – Alternate), Carrie Bilbao (NIFC EA), Angie Lane (NASF), Candy Stevenson (PIO Subcommittee Chair), Kenny Jaramillo (BIA), Jon Skinner (BLM), and Bruce Woods (IAFC)

Agenda Topics:

COMMITTEE BUSINESS:

- Acting Chair's update – Gwen:
 - Budget

Funding requests that were approved for FY'22 – note that some are being accommodated in a different way:

Line #	Committee	Project Name	FY 2021 Approved	FY 2022 Requested	FY2022 Recommended & Approved	Comments
11	CEPC WFISC	FI-110 Online Course Migration	\$0	\$15,000	\$15,000	
12	CEPC WFISC	X-900 Online Course Update & Migration	\$0	\$20,000	\$20,000	
13	CEPC FPETSC	Fire Prev Education Team Leader Training & Standards Updates	\$0	\$120,000	\$0	Will support this type of work through the System Improvement Efforts with NWCG Training and contractors

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Line #	Committee	Project Name	FY 2021 Approved	FY 2022 Requested	FY2022 Recommended & Approved	Comments
14	CEPC PIOSC	Public Information Officer Training & Standards Updates	\$0	\$90,000	\$0	Will support this type of work through the System Improvement Efforts with NWCG Training and contractors
15	CEPC WFISC	X-902 Revision & Maintenance	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000	

- Planning/Strategy Meeting: Doodle Poll – Please respond so we can set up a date in October.
- NWCG Coordinator remarks and news and update – Deb: Katie Wood is new program manager and is getting up to speed quickly. Almost 50% of staff is vacant.
- Fire Prevention Education Team Subcommittee update – Gwen:

So Far there have been four teams that have been deployed, one upcoming placement and only one still out:

Southwestern US, Tonto NF: Team Thibideau

Southern Colorado – Pike San Isabel NF: Team Funk

Northern Colorado – Arapaho and Roosevelt NF: Team Beavans

Southern Colorado – Pike San Isabel NF: Team Grimes (still active)

California – Team Hecker (about to be deployed)

The FPET SC Chairs, liaison and others met with NICC and NFS Operations Assistant Director and discussed various options for how to manage FPETs in the future. Tina, Gwen, Fred and Zach need to meet to determine a path forward.

FPET webinar was held May 13 2021 and was hosted by the FL Division of Forest Service FPET. There will be an AAR of the P-310 Beta test this Thursday. The hope is that this will then go to final certification and be officially available on the Learning Portal.

IPD for PETM and PETL did not have any comments and we've decided to close them, however they are always open for comment.

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- Wildland Fire Investigation Subcommittee update – Shaun:

Jerry was teaching, so Shaun Zimmermaker presented. I-210 being taught this week over the learning portal and they will see how that will go. Updating FI 410, and FI310 will be beta-tested in Reno, in November.

- PIO Subcommittee update – Candy:

PIO technician position approved!! Contact Candy if you have any comments or concerns you have not shared yet.

All hazard was not approved at the PIO(1) level. A lot of people were not familiar with it and it was taught more as a CA-based course. Mike Ellsworth, on the IPSC, will be looking at complex incident management teams and associated requirements, and looking at training PIO2s vs PIO1s. Next steps = looking at reviewing PIOF task book and bring it up to PIO3. Also, there are 46 positions that are shared with All Hazard. The intent is to go through these positions to provide endorsement for the All Hazard positions to work in Wildfire. Need to see what is different, and what is the same.

PIO(F) taskbook to be brought up to speed for the IPD. Many of the revisions are done, but it is not final. Hope to get it to CEPC to review prior to IPSC deadline. PIO can be AH (all-hazard) or WF (Wildfire).

DISCUSSION TOPICS

Topic

Data standards and Fire Restriction Maps: Tina will get a meeting set up. There are issues with the amount of data that can get hosted on NIFC site. They don't have the bandwidth to update all of that. It would be best to just link to the GACCs. Some places are going to have a hard time meeting a data standard for creating a fire restriction layer. Data management will be an issue as well, and website management; trying to keep everything up to date would be cumbersome.

Leader Handbook: We need to get this on the top of our list to accomplish our task. Gwen is going to see if she can hire a temporary to do some of this work for the committee. Are we doing an evaluation of these teams that have gone out? There is varied success, and it is obvious that some members of the team have not taken the courses.

Other news and/or updates: Updated Action Items on next page.

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ACTION ITEMS:

Category	Action Item	By Whom	Current Update
Website	Review fire Prevention NIFC page and provide suggested edits to Carrie. OK to have explanations about difference of NWCG and NIFC and same resources on each page since some people don't got to each site.	ALL	Due by July 30.
Strategic Planning	Answer Doodle Poll about dedicated session for strategic planning somewhere between September and October.	All	Due by June 18.
Fire Restrictions	Reach out to Data Management Committee (Rochelle Pederson) - Katy O'Hara is coordinator regarding data standards and schemas for fire restriction maps and GIS layers.	Tina	Sent message to Rochelle Pederson 6/4/21. Kenny and Tina will meet with Emily Harbo in late June.
Fire Restrictions	Send links to fire restriction pages / maps that we want linked via NIFC website to Tina. Fred will compile and send to Tina for state pages.	All	Kenny sent Tina and Sheri Ascherfeld list on 5/27/21. Sheri successfully integrated the Southwest fire prevention map into the NIFC website test environment. Sheri would like to have GACCs post fire restriction map products for the GACC on their own websites and then NIFC would link to the GACC page. Needs further follow-up to connect to GACCs about this request
Website	Socialize with other committees whether there are any projects underway that would be conflict with fire restrictions clearinghouse – Geospatial Subcommittee, Fire Reporting Group under Data Management Committee, Fire Danger Subcommittee	Fred – for Geospatial Annie – for Fire Danger Subcommittee and Fire Reporting Group	
NFPET	Completion of NFPET Leader Handbook	FPET Subcommittee	Priority #1
NFPET	Training hosts and coordinators; work needing to be done	FPET Subcommittee	Priority #4
NFPET	Lay groundwork for changing qualifications and training for PETL and PETM (P-410 and P-310 as required courses).	FPET Subcommittee	Not tasked yet. FPET subcommittee needs to contact IPSC for change request to 310-1
NFPET	NICC coordinator for FPETs – position funding, how to establish	FPET subcommittee vice chair and Gwen Beavans	Tina, Gwen, Fred and Zach to meet to discuss options that were discussed in call with NICC. Meeting set for 6-17-21.
Oversight	Update/Create Bylaws and SOP for committee.	Angie/Teresa/Tina	Didn't discuss at last month's meeting; will add on next agenda. Tina will send out a poll for a dedicated session. Bylaws part of plan or kept separate? Look at the rules and regs on NWCG site. Separate

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			document if there is any difference at all, very loose on roles and rotation also.
Website	Keep tabs on website (committee and subcommittee) and bring up website needs during meetings	Angie Lane	Specific parts of FPET SC that are on the front page need to be moved to the sub group (FPET). Bruce Woods will provide a write up about the success of WPSAPS. Post under WPSAPS section.
Website	Check the committee roster for accuracy	All	Ongoing F&W Representative?
WPSAPS	Put WPSAPS as prevention course in Learning Portal; reach out to Sam Scranton with process needed	Kenny	Needs to be created in Wildland Fire Learning Portal. Fred had been putting course content into the portal.

COMPLETED ACTION ITEMS:

Category	Action Item	By Whom	Current Update
NFPET	IPD clean-up and readying for final review	Fred Turck and Zach Ellinger	Completed
Wildfire Restrictions Website	Kenny to follow up with committee after his call regarding how others are approaching not having this website available anymore.	Kenny	DONE
NIFC Website	Invite Sheri Ascherfeld to May meeting re: ability to integrate fire restrictions into NIFC website	Tina	Done Note – yes it is possible and Sheri is willing to do this.
Digital Library / Website	Add restricted page on digital library page to include all of these SOPs and rewrites for our review.	Nancie Turner	Done
Budget	Budget process email to committee and subcommittees	Tina Boehle	Done
Budget	Put together budget proposal for 120-day detailer to revise P-410 and help subcommittee develop standards and job aids for PETM and PETL	Bruce Woods to work with Deb Fleming	Done
Digital Library	One Less Spark logo	Fred	Done
Digital Library	Get more reviewers for documents, left open for now.	Bruce Woods, Angie Lane, Zack Ellinger, and Carrie Bilbao	Done Review documents from 10/2020 – 09/2021. New reviewers will be selected on same schedule as leadership.
Digital Library / Website	Draft a rewriting on the website page for introduction and 508 compliant.	Fred Turck	Done – Annie to send forward to Nancie Rewrite website page for Digital Library introduction and Section 508 compliance in 2020 Virtual Face-to-Face Action Items
Digital Library	Internal SOP draft writing	Gwen Beavans and Carrie Bilbao	Done Draft internal SOP for Digital Library in 2020 Virtual Face-to-Face Action Items
NFPET / PETL / PETM	Complete review of all documents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recomendations WO NFPETs V8 CEPC reviewed 9-30-20.xlsx 	All	Done

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PETL IDP CEPC reviewed 10-1-20 pre-final.docx PETM IPD 09-30-20 CEPC reviewed.docx 		
Website / Budget	Take USFS brochure with a USFS document number on it and have it converted to an NWCG publication. The decision was to either put the video and brochure on the USFS page and NWCG CEPC links to it, or it gets the NWCG logo and posted on NWCG CEPC site.	Gwen Beavans	Done – USFS will publish
Website	Add “upcoming training” link and post trainings on that page. Keep off of main page.	Fred	Done - 2/23/21 2/17/21 update: WPSAPS video is posted; Fred will work directly with Nancie Turner on sending upcoming WPSAPS trainings to Nancie; Kenny to assist.
WPSAPS	Send out review of prevention software completion and promo YouTube video	Tina on behalf of Sam Scranton	Done

ORGANIZATIONAL UPDATES

To be submitted in writing – can be covered if there is enough time

BIA (Kenny): PL 4, very active fire season, many fire prevention, and investigators out.

BLM (Jon): Increased funding for more mitigation. Guide produced on how to prevent, mitigate and prepare for wildfires. Down to “only” 4 state leads. Trying to rewrite CFR on how to deal with fire trespass laws. Working with FWS on an electronic file-sharing trespass case system.

FWS (Terri): Not in attendance.

IAFC (Bruce): Tom Boggus, State Forester retired end of May. IAFC WUI conference is November 14-16 in Reno.

NASF (Fred and Angie): Western states fire managers annual meeting (virtual) was held. Earlier and longer fire season noted in the western states. Wildfire Division Manager is retiring from Washington and recruitment is out, closes on July 6. Personnel changes going on in Alaska as well. Fred was not in attendance.

NIFC External Affairs (Carrie): Want to share information on what causes fires rather than just how to prevent them. Edits for the prevention page are welcome and can be submitted. Some of the content for PIOs is moving from the NIFC site to the Teams group for PIOs.

NOAA (Doug): Not in attendance.

NPS (Tina): On leave. Gwen served as Chair for meeting.

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USDA FS (Gwen): Our Chief at the Forest Service, Vicki Christiansen, has announced her retirement as of August 2021. We will miss her. She has always been very supportive of wildfire prevention.

Acting Fire Director, Patti Grantham, has retired and the new acting is Bill Avey, Forest Supervisor on the Helena National Forest in MT.

We've had a difficult start to the fire season, with a helicopter crash and the death of 4 contract partners, an off-duty death on a prescribed fire assignment, the death of a jumper, and a hot shot crew quarantined while traveling to an assignment due to a COVID-19 exposure.

Outdoor Fire Safety Brochure is VERY close. Gwen thinks they will be going to printing soon and they will be available at the Symbols Cache. She will definitely keep the committee posted.

USFA (Teresa): Not in attendance.