

Communication, Education, and Prevention Committee (CEPC)

CEPC Conference Call Notes

Logistics

Date: April 13, 2023

Time: 1500 Eastern, 1400 Central, 1300 Mountain, 1200 Pacific

CEPC Members*:

Name	Representation	In Attendance (X)
Jodie Barram	International Association of Fire Chiefs	X
Chris Barth	Public Information Officer Subcommittee	X
Faith Berry	US Fire Administration	X
Carrie Bilbao	NIFC External Affairs	X
Tina Boehle	National Park Service	X
Maureen Brooks	U.S. Forest Service	
Kari Cobb	US Fish and Wildlife Service	X
Zach Ellinger	Fire Prevention Education Team Subcommittee	
Doug Hildebrand	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	
Kenny Jaramillo	Bureau of Indian Affairs	X
Angie Lane	National Association of State Foresters (Western)	
Sarah Lee	NWCG	X
Caron McKee	Administrative support	X
Kent Nelson	National Association of State Foresters (Eastern)	
Jon Skinner	Bureau of Land Management	X
Shawn Zimmermaker	Fire Investigation Subcommittee	

Guests: Fred Turck

Agenda Topics:

COMMITTEE BUSINESS:

- Chair's update – Tina: We'll table discussion about tasking for the P Courses – a smaller group will have a call on this tomorrow. Tina was invited to speak at the Southern Wildfire Prevention Learning Exchange Webinar (see email from Tina to CEPC on 4/13/23) – others can participate too, if they would like.
- NWCG Coordinator remarks and news and update – Sarah: Provided an update on the progress of Incident Performance & Training Modernization (IPTM) effort, and status of FY2024 project funding requests for CEPC. Tim Blake (one of three NWCG Coordinators) took a new position with BLM as a Safety Manager. NWCG is working on announcing a detailer soon, but until they start Sarah is trying to cover Emergency Medical Committee, Equipment & Technology Committee, Incident Business Committee and their subgroups. (Katy O'Hara is covering National Interagency Aviation Committee, Risk Management Committee, and their subgroups).
- PIO Subcommittee update – Chris: The subcommittee's next call will be in a couple weeks. They have been working on an updated graphic on positions and pathways which they're hoping to finalize and post to the website soon. They'll be making decisions on where to head forward with training now that budget info has been received. They're working on some documents that show the differences between different taskbooks – this will be a big undertaking but should clear up nebulous information.

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- Fire Prevention Education Team Subcommittee update – Maureen: (Sarah provided update): FPETSC is meeting next week. The Chair is transitioning to Mark Thibadeau (from Zach Ellinger), and their publications (Standards and Host Unit Guide) are going to the Executive Board for the 1 month review next week and then will be on the agenda for approval at the May meeting. We do not foresee any issues with their approval.
- Wildland Fire Investigation Subcommittee update – Shawn: (Carrie provided update): The subcommittee has been working on FI-210. They haven't had a meeting recently but will meet in May. Sarah met with Shawn and others at EMI – EMI is interested in putting on FI-210 and will shadow a course in California.
- Fire Restrictions Task Team – Kenny: The task team is in a holding pattern; Kenny will do a final writeup to closeout. Katy O'Hara will be working on proposals for WFIT funding and will reach out directly to the task team.
- Training Task Team – Angie: See document Angie emailed to CEPC, 4/13/23. **CEPC will discuss this on the next call and decide whether the document Angie emailed 4/13/23 can be posted. Action Item: all CEPC members review this document and be ready to vote next month.**
- WPSAPS: Tina reached out to find out where we are with WPSAPS – still has not heard anything. CEPC is listed as NWCG steward for WPSAPS. Sarah will check with Katy O'Hara on this.

DISCUSSION TOPICS

Topic

- Update about prevention coursework in the Wildland Fire Learning Portal – Fred Turck:
P-101: Fred made a proposal/talked to NWCG training staff, about developing an optimized P-101 for the portal (32 hours), with a very basic P-101 (2-4 hours) then a P-101 with more specifics (might be 16-24 hours, which would be the meat of the course) and a P-301 for next level. Fred has been working on revising P-101 since before he retired, along with several other people and financial support from the Portal, to help create a new course. The new course was delivered for the first time last week (in MT). Over 90 students signed up. It was a blended course, in the Portal (4 instructors + facilitator). Each unit has been recorded and is self-paced. Second course delivered this week to almost 70 people. The plan now is to take evaluations/comments and clean up the course, package it up and put it in the Portal Sharing Library, with an instructional document, hopefully within the next couple weeks. It will be a revised P-101; more of a blended, mostly self-paced option that meets NWCG requirements.
WPSAPS: Fred came on board through USFS ACES program – is a contractor, working for Maureen. USFS is planning on 4 course deliveries for WPSAFPS this year across the country. BIA has been the leader in WPSAPS. A course is scheduled for April 25-27, all virtual, for 50 people. Several other courses are scheduled for this year too. Schedule is posted online There's a revised agenda, and a solid program in the Portal to deliver WPSAPS moving forward. The challenge is finding enough instructors. Currently, there are only a few with enough comfort to deliver the material – hopefully we'll be able to build more capacity in the near future. The student and instructor guides have been updated to match the changes in the software.
- Discussion about committee technical support – All: See Sarah's email from 4/12/23. Some other

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options for support: NWCG has been talking about career development options for some entry-level employees for NIC staff. Sarah has four people who are looking to provide some support to the committees (all NWCG committees are options). One in particular is interested in CEPC. Can help with notes, organizing agendas, whatever CEPC needs support with. Tina and Caron will discuss this further then Tina will circle back with Sarah.

- Revisit options for face-to-face meeting – All: During Feb. 15th call with GAACs, Alaska was interested in hosting (in Fairbanks). North Carolina and Colorado (Boulder/Broomfield) were also suggested. Solidifying a location would be good so Tina can start looking at logistics. From cost standpoint, CO makes sense (more central). Might look at AK for 2025 (their interpretive sight for Haystack Fire would be ready by then). **CEPC voted and agreed to Colorado (Boulder area) for October 2023. Action Item:** Tina will connect with the GAAC member who put forward the suggestion and begin working with them on meeting logistics.
- Fire Causes – have not yet heard anything.

ACTION ITEMS:

What	Assigned to	Status
ACTION ITEMS RELATED TO STRATEGIC PLAN		
Action Item: Reach out to the Fire Environment committee through the main committee to the Continuing Education and Fire Danger subcommittees. May need some training topics to integrate. (Strategy A of Strategic Plan).	Committee chair (Tina)	
Do scoping/look at titles of trainings to see which ones have a prevention component, then contact committee chairs. (Strategic Plan, A.1.2.). Sarah found the following: For FY23 FBSC has an approved project for "Fire Behavior Learning Module Development & Maintenance" that may have CEPC ties.	Sarah	Part 1 is Completed
Work with Fire Reporting Subcommittee and Data Management Committee on need to revisit fire cause categories. Involve WFISC if so.	Tina/Jon	Fire Reporting Subcommittee planned to discuss at 4/2023 meeting and invite Jon
Reach out to the Fire Reporting and Data Management subcommittees regarding possible Interagency User Guide for causes. (Statistics and current status of cross-walked statistics). (1.B.1 of Strategic Plan).	Jon Skinner	
Track meetings where CEPC members have presented, other similar opportunities, for success stories. Send to Caron to document. (1.C.2 of strategic plan)	All	Tina to present at Southern Wildfire Prevention Learning Exchange Webinar on 5/3/2023
Reach out to the Incident Commanders Advisory Council under NMAC; see about getting on agenda for one of their meetings to share specific topics, such as use of prevention teams during an incident. (1.C.2. of Strategic Plan)	Carrie Bilbao	
Promote CEPCs availability to assist with course development via the CEPC website. Could talk about this in the video. (2.A.1 of Strategic Plan)	Tina	

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Ask Sarah if NWCG could look into doing a link to capture comments after each training course (as an evaluation), plus periodic post-assessments? (2.B.1 of Strategic Plan)	Tina	
Look further into possible use of a social sciences model: The Cohesive Strategy looked at how to break sequence of events (human actions) that starts wildfire; used a social sciences model. (Strategy C of Strategic Plan).	Jon	
Continue reviewing literature for additional documents/studies that could be posted on our website under CEPC Research – if you find anything, send to all CEPC members to suggest posting. (2.D.1 of Strategic Plan).	All	
Joint Fire Sciences – find out their next submission cycle so if we think of good research we can submit it to them. *Note – Tina found that 2022 submissions closed on October 14, 2021. There is no info yet for 2023 on their website. (2.D.1 of Strategic Plan). NOTE 2/9/23: Apparently the 2023 cycle closed on December 20, 2022, so there must be a brief window between October and December. Recommend reaching out to sdantewood@blm.gov requesting to be looped in when funding opportunities open.		
Tina will look to see if she has any historic CEPC documents from 2019/2020. (4.A.3 of Strategic Plan), and Maureen will look for documents from even earlier.	Tina/Maureen	Completed
OTHER ACTION ITEMS		
Plan October 2023 face-to-face meeting. During 4/13/23 call, CEPC members voted to hold the meeting in CO (Boulder area). Tina will connect with the GAAC member who put forward the suggestion and begin working with them on meeting logistics.	Tina	
Promote Prevention Team storymaps on our website, after they are created.	Zach/Maureen	
(Maybe): U.S. Fire Administration is working on fire service personnel lesson plans to engage better with children in their community. CEPC could work with the committee on this/make sure it's a collaborative effort; offer cross-links for the curriculum piece.	Faith	
Angie will send draft Training Work Plan to Tina to send out to CEPC to review. Deadline is December 1st.	Angie/Tina	Completed
CEPC members review Training Work Plan; decide whether it is ready to be posted online.	All	All CEPC members review and be prepared to vote on this during May 2023 conference call.
Send an email that CEPC members can distribute to their agencies to recruit members for the Smokey Bear 80th committee.	Maureen	Completed – 11/14/2022
Pursue finding a new NASF rep for WPSAPS Business Committee	Kent	
Make edits to NWCG/NIFC websites as discussed in notes (pages 11 – 14).	Tina/Carrie	

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Hold meeting with other geographic area Communication/Education/Prevention groups and CEPC.	Maureen/Tina	Completed 2/15/2023; will hold meetings twice/year
Look at the list of CEPC Research documents on the NWCG CEPC website and get back to the group with any suggested changes.	All	
Help the FPET subcommittee recruit new members (especially need someone from USFWS). Ask Kari Cobb and Chris Wilcox.	Tina	
Make edits to CEPC Operating Principles and Procedures as shown in notes below (pages 16 – 18)	Tina	
Ask Sarah whether we can share the link to the Fire Restrictions survey (when ready) on CEPC website, or will this violate OMB standards?	Kenny	Survey completed
Get list to Emily for mailing of Fire Restrictions survey, and also list of CEPC members to get access to view survey results.	Kenny/Tina	Completed
Complete video	Candy/all	
Add info on WPSAPS training to website when known	Kenny	Added 2023 WPSAPS training dates
CMS meeting in New Mexico in January (this occurs every other year), with state fire chiefs, fire managers, fire supervisors/NASF Fire Committee meets at the same time. This would be a good group to connect with/present to. Faith will ask about this, see if they'd consider a presentation from CEPC. (1.C.2 of Strategic Plan).	Faith	Completed 01/2023

ORGANIZATIONAL UPDATES

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

Name	Representation	Update
Faith Berry	USFA	
Carrie Bilbao	NIFC External Affairs	
Tina Boehle	NPS	NPS just had annual Fire PIO Webinar this week – it was well attended with over 100 participants; shared info on the new PIO quals and other information
Maureen Brooks	USFS	
Kari Cobb	USFWS	
Doug Hildebrand	NOAA	
Kenny Jaramillo	BIA	
Angie Lane	NASF (Western)	
Kent Nelson	NASF (Eastern)	
Jon Skinner	BLM	

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