

# Communication, Education, and Prevention Committee (CEPC)

## CEPC Conference Call Notes

### Logistics

**Date:** August 10, 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
Caron McKee for Tina Boehle	National Park Service	X
Maureen Brooks	U.S. Forest Service	
Kari Cobb	US Fish and Wildlife Service	
Mark Thibideau	Fire Prevention Education Team Subcommittee	
Doug Hildebrand	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	
Kenny Jaramillo	Bureau of Indian Affairs	
Angie Lane	National Association of State Foresters (Western)	X
Sarah Lee	NWCG	
Caron McKee	Administrative support	X
Kent Nelson	National Association of State Foresters (Eastern)	X
Jon Skinner	Bureau of Land Management	X
Shawn Zimmermaker	Fire Investigation Subcommittee	X

Guests: Zachary Ellinger

### Agenda Topics:

#### COMMITTEE BUSINESS:

- Chair's update – Carrie: Carrie is now chair of CEPC. Tina is on a 120-day detail but will return to CEPC (as a member) after her detail. Several CEPC members are out on fires, etc. Planning for our in-person meeting: It will be held the week of October 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> (meet Tues-Thursday of that week and travel Monday/Friday). Tina was working with Brant Porter, NPS on some logistics. Carrie talked to Brant today and there is a possible meeting place in Ft. Collins. Could visit sites of Cameron Peak fire, Marshall Fire, and could meet with Mike Smith, IC for Marshall Fire to give us a tour of the Marshall Fire area. Mike Chard from Boulder County office of Disaster Management also might be able to meet with us (he was on the Marshall Fire). If anyone has specific thoughts, feel free to send them to Carrie; we can start working on an agenda for that meeting. The NPS office in Ft. Collins has hotels nearby.
  - Kent was also on the Cameron Peak fire. Tours of these fire sites could help show us about unusual fire situations, and what CEPC can do related to this in regard to messaging, etc.; also info on the fire investigations could be useful.
  - FEMA recently released a report on the Marshall Fire (Faith emailed to Carrie to send to CEPC for background).
  - Chris Barth knows some people in the area and can help if needed as far as lining people up to meet with.

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- NWCG Coordinator remarks and news and update – Sarah: Not on call but sent notes to Carrie:
  - Hiring has been a big emphasis due to the number of vacancies over the last 2 years. This month hired 4 new Training Specialists, 1 USFS A/V Specialist, Deputy Program Manager cert issued and with SME panel, Coordinator interviews occurring, 2 BLM and 2 USFS Writer/Editor Detailers selected, Instructional Systems Specialist announcement is out, and selection being made on the Communications Manager.
  - In July the EB confirmed that the use of the Field Evaluation is only for CIM positions and not T1 C&G, they worked on criteria for agencies requesting NWCG membership, and how to engage under-utilized partners. Next week for their monthly meeting they are deciding on the Prescribed Fire Practitioner Alternative Pathways proposal, discussing RMC's progress on a potential WFF fatigue study, determining the EB intent for the 2024 NWCG Annual Meeting, and approving the criteria for agency/organization membership in NWCG.
  - For the Incident Performance & Training Modernization (IPTM) effort, for the new 'big' contract this year HECM, SOFF, PTRC, EQTR, and SCKN are all under way. This fall working on FELB, FIRB, ENGB, ICT5, and FFT1; and we are in the process of determining and scheduling out 2024 incident positions.
- PIO Subcommittee update – Chris: the PIOSC put a memo together talking about Inciweb/Drupal challenges; a group met with USFS managers for Inciweb/Drupal and are working on making some adjustments. There was a suggestion to develop a long-term Inciweb steering committee – not yet sure of the exact scope of what it will look like, but it is in the works. There are opportunities to think ahead about what kind of systems could exist; more automation, etc. PIOSC responded to IWDG tasking regarding standardization for individual surge team capacity at the complex level or Type 3 setting; response was submitted and now waiting on comments. PIO Toolbox in Teams now has a separate channel for Inciweb discussions.
- Fire Prevention Education Team Subcommittee update – Mark/Maureen: Update provided by Zach Ellinger. New FPET chairperson: Mark Thibideau; co-chair is Stacy Grimes; Nick (NICC dispatcher) is helping with notes. Next upcoming training P-310 (Fire Prev/Education team member training) will be in January on Angeles National Forest 1/22-1/26. NWCG recently published two guides: PMS464 and PMS474-O (Host Unit and Team Leader guides). 4 FPET teams have gone out so far this year: First was to SW area, then teams to NM, ID, and TX. Nothing additional on the radar as of now. Good reviews of the teams who have gone out so far.
- Wildland Fire Investigation Subcommittee update – Shawn: Working to get PMS-412 out for technical review (possibly will go out sometime next week, with review due October 15th). The collaborative FI-210 (Wildland Fire Investigation) course has been finalized. Students will be flown to Redding, CA to the USFS/Cal Fire joint compound (September). There has been some international interest in the class.

## DISCUSSION TOPICS

- Agency report outs. Did not discuss action items.

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## 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	
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).		

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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 <a href="mailto:sdantewood@blm.gov">sdantewood@blm.gov</a> 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		
Send any agenda items you have for the Oct. 2023 face-to-face meeting to Carrie.	All	
Email chair of WUI committee to get input on whether Wildland Urban Interface should be capitalized in the glossary. After working with WUI, can go back to FMB (through NWCG/Sarah).	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	All	
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	
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

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## ORGANIZATIONAL UPDATES

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

Name	Representation	Update
Jodie Barram	International Association of Fire Chiefs	IAFC's wildland fire policy committee is meeting on Mon/Tuesday in Kansas City (Jodie will likely be on a fire assignment). The IAFC committee will be updating on WF commission updates; Cohesive Strategy work, and also discussing non-traditional partnerships in IMTs; how we can connect with local folks, and talking more about fire evacuations and codes, prescribed fire use, etc.
Faith Berry	USFA	MAT report – Faith will send to Carrie with accompanying materials to distribute. Several new classes at NFA coming up; Faith will send out the info. The Wildfire Commission report is coming out in September – will have over 250 findings and recommendations (Faith has been working to support the commission with USFA).
Carrie Bilbao	NIFC External Affairs	Carrie is new chair of CEPC.
Caron McKee	NPS	Filling in behind Tina through end of November (as CEPC member) and will also continue as notetaker. NPS has a VIS detailer who created several prevention handouts. Lots of fire activity in AK.
Maureen Brooks	USFS	Not on call
Kari Cobb	USFWS	Not on call
Doug Hildebrand	NOAA	Not on call
Kenny Jaramillo	BIA	Not on call
Angie Lane	NASF (Western)	Relatively quiet in western states except in SW; but now moving into a hotter period.
Kent Nelson	NASF (Eastern)	Working with NE Fire Compact on stuff for Smokey's 80 <sup>th</sup> next year – trying to get hot air balloon.
Jon Skinner	BLM	No movement yet on looking at fire causes – that might happen this winter; will likely start meeting on this soon.

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