

Communication, Education, and Prevention Committee (CEPC)

CEPC Conference Call Notes

Logistics

Date: August 14, 2025

Time: 1530 Eastern, 1430 Central, 1330 Mountain, 1230 Pacific

CEPC Members:

Name	Representation	In Attendance (X)
Jodie Schiffman	International Association of Fire Chiefs	X
Kerry Greene	Public Information Officer Subcommittee	X
Need Rep.	US Fire Administration	
Rebecca Paterson	NIFC External Affairs	
Tina Boehle	National Park Service	X
Mandy Scott Melissa Jenkins	U.S. Forest Service	
Kari Cobb	US Fish and Wildlife Service	
Corey Pieper	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	
Kenny Jaramillo	Bureau of Indian Affairs	X
Angie Lane	National Association of State Foresters (Western)	X
Sarah Lee	NWCG	X
Caron McKee	Administrative support	X
Kent Nelson	National Association of State Foresters (Eastern)	X
Zach Ellinger	Bureau of Land Management	X
Shawn Zimmermaker	Fire Investigation Subcommittee	X
Stacey Grimes	Fire Prevention Education Team Subcommittee	X

Also on call: Jeffrey Moyer, BIA

Agenda Topics

- Review Meeting Notes from last meeting (June 2025) – approved.
- Fall Meeting Prep – Virtual meeting was discussed and is still the plan. October 14-17, 2025, half-day sessions. Topic ideas/guest presenters – send to Angie to start framing agenda.
- Committee Business Updates
- Organization/Agency Updates

COMMITTEE BUSINESS:

- Chair's update – Angie: N/A
- NWCG Coordinator remarks and news and update – Sarah:
 - Your new Coordinator has been announced, it is Steven Gaskill (currently our Supervisory Audio/Visual Specialist). He will be fantastic! No start date or transition plans set yet.
 - The vacant IPTM Manager will be announced soon, and several new Training Specialists are being selected.
 - Darci will be going on a detail, so we have a new detail employee behind her as the NWCG Executive Secretary (Michael Rodriguez) starting 9/8. We will also have a Writer/Editor detailer starting that same day for Publications, Lydia Faller.
 - All the feedback from the listening sessions on the committee reorganization were reviewed by a small group from the EB, and soon the full EB will work on vetting any proposed changes with their agency leadership. Once that is voted on for approval, it will be shared.

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- Several of the CEPC and subcommittees notes were missing from the website (2023-2025). I was able to find those notes, and our Web team is working on posting them.
- PIO Subcommittee update – Kerry Greene: Continuing work on S-203 revision; Alpha test course will be conducted in November in NV. Submitted request for changing pathway for PIOT, so one can start either as a T or a PIO3-t. Working to remove “O”/officer from PIOT: ongoing discussion on what to replace it with.
- Fire Prevention Education Team Subcommittee update – Stacey: Working on briefing paper for FireNet support; once finalized will provide to CEPC liaison (which will change to Melissa Jenkins in the interim, as Mandy Scott is in new position). National FPET duties will fall to Stacey for now. Six fire prevention teams out to date. FPET IPTM status: still in the queue, per NWCG will likely see in 2027.
- Wildland Fire Investigation Subcommittee update – Shawn: Working on final FI-210 completion; hoping to finalize soon, along with PMS-412. Multiple universities have reached out for research proposal feedback for Joint Fire Science Program proposals. Several committee members will attend and present at an international wildfire investigation conference in November.
- Fire cause task group update - Kenny: No recent correspondence or meetings due to recent fire activity.

ACTION ITEMS FROM TODAY’S CALL:

What	Assigned to	Status
Send any agenda items for meeting to Angie (Angie will present the draft agenda on the September 11 th meeting.)	All CEPC members	Before next call

*FOR A LIST OF ALL CEPC ACTION ITEMS, BOTH IN-PROGRESS AND COMPLETED, SEE TEAMS DOCUMENT: Action Items.xlsx (Located on Teams inside the Meeting Agendas and Notes folder).

ORGANIZATIONAL/AGENCY UPDATES

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

Name	Representation	Update
Jodie Schiffman	IAFC	Had virtual meetings recently; looking at NWCG re-org, and IAFC wants to still be engaged and at the table. Looking at responding to Executive Orders (EOs), looking at what Congressional actions impact local agencies, and providing advocacy/communication.
Faith Berry	USFA	Retired; looking for replacement.
Rebecca Paterson	NIFC External Affairs	Not on call
Tina Boehle	NPS	Multiple media requests – especially on Dragon Bravo Fire. NIFC got a query about fire causes last week; Tina sent the caller to Karen Short.
Kari Cobb	USFWS	Not on call
Corey Pieper	NOAA	Not on call
Kenny Jaramillo	BIA	Busy with fire activity in the northwest. Two staff out on investigations. Working on EOs and WPSAPS, hoping the USFS contract goes through. Hoping to hire Kenny’s vice position soon.

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Name	Representation	Update
Angie Lane	NASF (Western)	At this morning's NASF Western meeting, most fire activity currently is in Great Basin and CA. For some states like MT, it's been a pretty good year. PNW is in a strange spot right now – activity stalled out right now, and looking at cooler weather moving in. WUI and hazard/risk mapping surrounding WUI have been big issues for western states. Insurance companies are using this info and have money to spend on hazard/risk mapping. Another big issue is federal funding/risk of loss of this funding.
Kent Nelson	NASF (Eastern)	Looking into a topic on home risk assessment mapping for our October meeting. Things have been hot and dry in the NE; busy time with recreation. Kent shared photos of a fire education initiative for kids on how to properly put out a campfire – 12 state campgrounds getting training on this; many of the campfire issues in the area are from backyard fires. Trying to get more inflatable Smokey Bears in the NE. Recently one was used at the northern Maine fair.
Mandy Scott Melissa Jenkins	USFS	Not on call
Zach Ellinger	BLM	Generally quiet in OR and WA. Have been working on responding to Executive Orders: For the EO on Empowering Common Sense Action in WF Response – BLM came up with 3 recommendations: things we can control with current policies, ones which would need updated policies, and ones which would need Congressional Actions. Working on Third Quarter reporting and working on numbers for Fourth Quarter Spending Still no movement on vice-Jon Skinner position.