

# Communication, Education, and Prevention Committee (CEPC)

## CEPC Conference Call Notes

### Logistics

**Date:** September 11, 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	
Need Rep	US Fire Administration	
Rebecca Paterson	NIFC External Affairs	
Tina Boehle	National Park Service	X
Melissa Jenkins	U.S. Forest Service	X
Kari Cobb	US Fish and Wildlife Service	X
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 and Steven Gaskill	NWCG	X
Caron McKee	Administrative support	X
Kent Nelson	National Association of State Foresters (Eastern)	X
Zach Ellinger	Bureau of Land Management	
Shawn Zimmermaker	Fire Investigation Subcommittee	X
Stacey Grimes	Fire Prevention Education Team Subcommittee	X

### Agenda Topics

- Review Meeting Notes from last meeting: Approved/filed in Teams.
- Committee Business Updates
- Review and update Annual Meeting Agenda (held virtually from October 14 — 16): Angie shared Draft Agenda with CEPC members. Dates are Oct. 14-16, half-day sessions.
- Organization/Agency Updates

### COMMITTEE BUSINESS:

- NWCG Coordinator update — Sarah: Steven Gaskill will be our new NWCG Coordinator; he will shadow Sarah in September and assume role in October. Steven comes from an Operations background and has been at NWCG since 2019. NWCG will have a new IPTM Manager soon. The Supervisory AV and Instructional Design Specialist positions are open; Training Specialist and Publications position hiring is in the works.  
Status of NWCG Committee Reorganization: Executive Board met recently; NWCG is working to incorporate their changes. There will be a Public Information Management Committee with several subcommittees. Next steps: Exec Board will get back to NWCG by October 31 with the names of representatives for management committees and subcommittees. CEPC should keep doing what we're doing until we are told otherwise.
- Public Information Office Subcommittee (PIOSC) update — Kerry Greene: Not on call. PIOSC is trying to determine a new mnemonic for what is currently Public Information Officer, Technician (PIOT) and is

*Promoting a better understanding of wildland fire through communication, education, prevention and outreach.*

# Communication, Education, and Prevention Committee (CEPC)

seeking feedback, as “T” can be confused for “Trainee.” PIOSC is working to finalize S-203 and will do a test course in Nevada; can forward the course announcement to CEPC.

- Fire Prevention Education Team Subcommittee update — Stacey Grimes: Eight teams have been out this year. One is out currently in Colorado.
- Wildland Fire Investigation Subcommittee update — Shawn Zimmermaker: All FI-210 materials submitted to publications. Working with different universities who submitted research funding proposals, especially on fire pattern indicators.
- Fire Cause Task Group update — Kenny Jaramillo: No additional work since spring meeting. Awaiting further direction.

## ACTION ITEMS FROM TODAY’S CALL:

What	Assigned to	Status
Plan on attending October 14-16 meeting!	All	

## ORGANIZATIONAL/AGENCY UPDATES:

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

Name	Representation	Update
Jodie Schiffman	IAFC	Accepting submissions for WUI conference next March
<b>Need Rep</b>	USFA	Since USFA has had so many staffing losses, they’ll hold off for now on new reps to focus on reorganizing existing reps. If CEPC needs quorum for an official vote, proceed as if there is no USFA rep.
Rebecca Paterson	NIFC External Affairs	Not on call
Tina Boehle	NPS	Anticipating more info to come on the consolidated National Wildland Fire Service, but don’t know exactly when info will come out. NPS doesn’t know what any consolidation will mean for fire/other positions. Lots of unknowns right now. Also, Caron McKee (NPS) will be laterally transferring to another position within DOI by 9/22. NASF Western can provide an admin assistant to help with notes going forward.
Kari Cobb	USFWS	No update
Corey Pieper	NOAA	Not on call
Kenny Jaramillo	BIA	Working on planning for FY26; waiting to hear more on the federal re-org. Working on WPSAPS — end of November is goal for rollout of new dashboard. Will do heavy testing before this, as well as in-person and virtual trainings, and will update guidebooks.
Angie Lane	NASF (Western)	Northwest is #1 nationally for fire support right now — many fires in Washington; lots of recent lightning.
Kent Nelson	NASF (Eastern)	NE is experiencing drought, causing high fire danger. Hosting TREX event in Maine next month. Compact is working on a new banner to use at trade shows.
Melissa Jenkins	USFS	Melissa is replacing Mandy. USFS is trying to hire a new prevention officer behind Mandy. Going through budget planning, participating in WPSAPS rollout.
Zach Ellinger	BLM	Not on call.