

Community Education and Prevention Committee (CEPC) Virtual Annual Meeting Agenda October 14 — 16, 2025

Tuesday, October 14 (all times listed below are Pacific Time)

08:00 — Greetings

08:15 — Review agenda and prior meeting notes.

08:30 — Standard Operating Principles and Plan Review

- No quorum for Vice-Chair vote due to primary members on furlough. Table topic until next meeting. Terms are two years. Currently we need Vice-Chair and Support Staff.
- “If from NWCG member agencies, facilitating purchasing and contracting needed to accomplish approved committee projects...” needs reworded.
- All of us are responsible for being the group’s historians.
- Connections Call — Either quarterly or twice a year. Committee Chairs and Vice-Chairs get together to share highlights.
- NWCG funding will be available for committee projects. FY27 Budget Guidance and submission process forthcoming.

Action Items:

- Identify next Vice-Chair - Vice-chair should come from BLM; we don’t have a permanent BLM representative. Or we need a USFS replacement.
- Support Staff — Vote on the support staff. Shelly is willing to cover until full committee reorganization implementation.

09:45 — Presentation — Detection in WA — Jacob Gear, USFS — Region 6, and Angie:

- Washington is trying to mirror what Oregon is doing with camera detection of wildfires. The presentation is loaded in the Annual Meeting folder on the Teams site.
- Cameras provide earlier detection. Detection platforms do provide human intervention. We are partnering on co-locating devices.
- Oregon is chartered, Idaho is working on it, and Washington has an informal committee.
- Having different vendors who use different platforms makes it challenging.
- There is an annual cost for all the different systems.
- Canada started putting some cameras in this year.
- Washington pilot project with Pano — appropriated funding for the next eight years. It is at risk because the state legislature indicated they are only funding half of the cost

next fiscal year. Started with 21 cameras and added four more. There are ten more to plan and install. Pano is a subscription service, so DNR does not own the equipment.

- Arizona is getting in on Pano.
- CalFire has Alert California; it has been useful. In one case, a suspect's vehicle was visible during a fire investigation. It is standard operation for investigations.

11:00 — NWCG Committee Reorganization Update & NWCG Committee Coordinator Q & A — Steven Gaskill

- NWCG Committee Reorganization plan has been in the works for some time.
 - NWCG Committee Reorg document – the last two pages show the new committee structure.
 - The new Public Information Management Committee (PIC) combines the current Community Education and Prevention Committee (CEPC) and Public Information Officer Subcommittee (PIOSC). New subcommittees under PIC will be Education and Prevention Subcommittee (EPSC), Fire Investigation Subcommittee (FISC) and Incident Information Subcommittee (IISC).
 - NWCG Committee Reorganization Plan and FAQs are on the Teams site.
 - Plan formally approved in mid-September. Not just a structural change, but a strategic shift to streamline operations, manage workload, and refocus on core mission.
 - What is changing: Committee structure – reduction from 17 parent committees to ten management committees with four subcommittees each, totaling about 50 groups. ICS-like in that committees doing similar work will be grouped together. Membership and roles – 1 representative for each primary and associate member agency. Workload management — all work must align with NWCG mission, task-specific subgroups, stewardship at management committee level, mandatory validity review of publications over 10 years old, training prioritized by need and agency consensus (80% threshold for recommended).
 - Timeline — Original implementation target of 2/2026 no longer realistic. Executive Board will identify primary agency members by October 31. All in pre-implementation planning phase right now. After implementation there will be a six-month evaluation period. Realistically we are looking at a June timeline, but no firm date. Think about how your organization needs or will change and communicate.
- Questions for Steve:
 - Operational positions seem to take priority in training and document revisions; Do you foresee any shift in that?
 - Reorganization and refocusing should improve efficiency and prioritization.
 - Will there be a normalized process for moving things up the chain?
 - IPTM will continue moving forward using various methods for prioritizing positions. Maintenance cycle will change.
 - With COVID, IMRRs were started for fire position groups, by naming these groups after positions. How are we going to avoid duplication? What would be the role of each?

- Insufficient familiarity with IMRR to answer.
- What constitutes significant and insignificant change?
 - Legacy PMS 900 document update in progress that will clearly define change terms and other associated processes.

12:00 — Adjourn

Wednesday, Oct 15 (all times listed below are Pacific Time)

08:00 — Greetings

08:05 — Strategic Plan — review and update accomplishments, 2025

- Mission Goal 1
 - Strategy A – Prevention Team Subcommittee: Revised training didn't get across the finish line but made recommendations. Briefing paper in progress regarding FireNet for Prevention teams, including a dedicated inbox for the team.
 - Strategy B — (Angie) Work with NWCG on web page updates and social media posts.
 - Strategy C — (Angie) As a chair, trying to get in front of people like NASF but not very successful in getting on agendas. May have more opportunities post-reorganization. It will take all of us networking.
 - (Kenny) Some of the committees were promoting prevention with videos.
 - (Shawn) Subcommittee tried hard to get in front of people; emails were never responded to.
- Mission Goal 2
 - Strategy A — (Kenny) Fire Danger working group videos.
 - (Shawn) Working hard trying to get more studies out. Everything works – we just don't have anything scientific to back our work. Currently there are eight proposals that will have to wait until Fall 2026. In about a month we will be in Portugal for an investigative conference. Contacted by a new journal that is proposing to publish several of the materials from the workshop.
 - Strategy B — PIO Subcommittee updated S-203 and participating in Beta test course delivery. Struggling to get a lot of the courses we are supposed to be updating.
 - (Shawn) - FI-210 submitted to Publications. Working on instructor guides. FI-310 is basically done and will be presented at our annual meeting.
 - Strategy C — Excited to hear about investigation and getting some studies published to get them on our website.
- Mission Goal 3,
 - Strategy A — (Angie) For website content, rather than assign someone specific to keep tabs, we will bring it up as a group in a meeting to push on to get posted. FireNet to get some sort of way to keep track as staff are out on a team.
 - **Action Item: InFORM changes – Angie will reach out to NASF Keith Smith on this.**
 - InciWeb – haven't heard any changes coming up on that.

09:00 — Presentation — Chris Barth, *Wildfire Risk information sources and the acceptability of fuels treatments near select WUI communities in the Western United States*

- Hyperlink in PowerPoint is for a paper by Kelly Wallace that he is focusing on.
- Been involved in WiRe since its inception.
- Overview of WiRe – Worked in a number of places across the west. Foundational piece of our work is what is going on in that community; we work with everyone in the community and send out a survey for all parcels to collect data. We have a lot of information about communities so we can see trends.
- A lot of our work comes from partners asking us to work with them to get specific information. Rapid wildfire risk assessment is mostly from the road and a quick assessment, paired with a house assessment and survey. With the paired data, we look at results and adapt an approach.
- We can look at overall or individual attributes. Each household gets mailed a survey; we get a lot of responses.
 - (Kent) Is homeowner age there anywhere?
 - We will go over that in this specific study, age, income, demographics.
 - (Zach) Trust that communities have is important.
 - Local context really does matter!

10:00 — Agency Updates — new programs, projects, cool ideas — time to share

- BIA — Transition, waiting to hear about the new organization. Testing the WPSAP, waiting for the go-ahead. Did hire the vice position. Continuing to move forward and a lot is to be seen. Fire summit this week should answer some questions.
- BLM — Echo a lot of what Kenny said. Compiling annual accomplishments, got a lot done. National Office work on responses to Executive and Secretarial orders.
- NASF Eastern States — New training program that the Maine forest service is just starting to set up – National Fire Volunteer Council. Replacing NFPA home mission zone training. Wildland Fire Assessment Program – only 4 hours and it's free, trains volunteer structural fire fighters on how to do home risk assessments. In process of setting up our first one in February. It's more of a broad overview of how to do home assessments. Required to be at a fire facility.
- NASF Western States — Been inundated with wildfires. Been busy. Western states fire managers have been meeting but no real business has been conducted, just focusing on fires. Rehousing of USDA centers, what is that going to look like, a lot of change is a concern.

11:00 — Go-backs on last two days, Bin items

Action Item: Share edits for Operating Plan. The term "resource and assistance" needs to be clarified a little more; add financial. Add per any guidance provided.

12:00 — Adjourn

Thursday, Oct 16 (all times listed below are Pacific Time)

08:00 — Greetings

08:05 — Presentation — Guy Gifford, Wildfire Ready Neighbors — A Community Collaboration on Prevention

- Wildfire Ready Neighbors (WRN) is point protection.
- What we learned through social marketing is you can't reach everyone, unless you have the money. We must mine the data. It takes time and effort to get the data.
- The whole focus of the website is for people to get a plan and talk to an expert.
- Measuring success in outdoor burning is problematic — does conducting WRN improve this? Will have to monitor statistics over time and continually engage the public on fire safety. Tie it into mitigation. Reduction in escape debris fires.
- Wildfireready.dnr.wa.gov - DNR-funded website.
 - (Kent) How do these groups get started?
 - A lot comes when we do the marketing. There is some leverage from word of mouth.
 - (Zach) Capacity, getting people in more remote locations. Have you had issues getting people out there to them?
 - No, we found local partners to help us. We maintain engagement and get there when we can.
 - (Kenny) Do the local fire department promote this?
 - Yes, what we run into is skill sets on social marketing/media.
 - (Angie) The purpose for WRN is not to replace other resources but to get people in touch with DNR to get the information/help they need to prepare.

09:00 — Presentation – Roscommon Equipment Center Fire Prevention Products — Dave Stockoski, introduced by Kent Nelson

- Dave works for Michigan Department of Natural Resources as an Engineer Manager, designing and producing fire equipment. The center is in Roscommon, MI. The location is important because of the fuel types around here and positioned in the center of the state.
- The center is known for the fire plow invention.
- Facility is unique – there is only one other like us.
- There are 6,000 acres of land where testing equipment takes place. Blueprints are available to everyone.
- Also design prevention tools like “Campfire Embers,” which is an interactive tool. Kids like it. And campfire rings for Wisconsin – they wanted more, but with a small staff, the prints were sent instead so they could get some manufactured themselves.
- They host an annual workshop with a lot of sharing ideas and building networks.
- The center's website is available on the State of Michigan website.

09:45 — Committee Report Outs:

- Fire Prevention Team Subcommittee — Jeff
 - Biggest thing on the burner is support of incident site (FireNet). Challenge coins for prevention teams, having something available to show support. Issues with conflicts with meetings.
- PIO Subcommittee — Angie indicated that there is a big push to finalize S-203 and name change for the PIO tech position.
- Fire Investigation Subcommittee — Shawn Zimmermaker
 - Our subcommittee is still waiting for classes to be approved through Publications. We got eight proposals from universities. We have a meeting next week; priority is to get the SOP completed. Big push is to keep the updating as an ongoing effort. Questions around the restructuring – not sure how many will stick around with us. In about a month we will be in Portugal for an investigative conference. Big push is to establish an international community.
- Fire Cause Task Group — Kenny
 - Taking a big pause. Data Management Committee has no forward movement.
 - (Zach) Certified fire report without human error or natural cause? Unknown or undetermined or not investigated at all? We were moving forward but again it took a pause when Gabriella left. Revisiting how to report and develop a user guide on how to look at these causes. Are they going to continue to move forward with the work on this?
 - Action Item: Coordinator will investigate this.

11:30 — Bin Items/Action Items Review

- Kenny – NWCG committee members – BIA completed list of initial committee and subcommittee representatives. Went with the current rosters. DOI representatives, not interagency representatives.
- Angie — Reached out to NASF Executive Board Representative — What are they doing with NASF representatives? NASF sent requests to each region to come up with names. Then they will move it over to NWCG.
- Zach — Put me down for CEPC, but to hold off on vice-chair.

12:00 — Adjourn