

Communication, Education, and Prevention Committee (CEPC)

CEPC Conference Call Notes

Logistics

Date: December 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 Representative	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)	
Steven Gaskill	NWCG	X
Shelly Goodwin	Administrative support	X
Kent Nelson	National Association of State Foresters (Eastern)	X
Zach Ellinger	Bureau of Land Management	X
Shawn Zimmermaker	Fire Investigation Subcommittee	
Stacey Grimes	Fire Prevention Education Team Subcommittee	X

Agenda Topics

- Roll Call
- Review Meeting Notes from last meeting
- Committee Business Updates
- Organization/Agency Updates

Committee Business:

- Chair's update — Kenny:
 - Will need to start discussion regarding budget proposals for NWCG.
 - Fire Investigation Subcommittee has two proposals for discussion:
 - X-902 – same request as submitted last year.
 - Any technology to give us better tools to do our job? Even though it is unlikely to be granted, I think we should request a revision/tracking software for managing changes to PMS 412 and the development of a database for documentation. WFISC members have plenty of photos of various indicators, patterns, ignition sources, etc. However, when it is time to update PMS 412 or FI-210 materials, it is a scramble for someone to quickly find a fairly simple/common photo. It would be nice if we could have a repository of photos where they can all be tracked to their source and specifics (photographer, agency, what it is showing, different angles, etc.)
 - Other proposals? Can we do an email vote like we did two years ago?
 - Validating fire path indicators — NWCG as an authoritative source of info.

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

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Conclusions are called into question because of our sources of research. What we need is for it to be scientifically validated. There should be some investment in this by NWCG and other sources. Will be worth sharing the need, will take back to the group. - Teresa

- P-301 Course Update — Zach: If it is still a priority for this group, then put it in again. Due to NWCG by 23rd of January. For subcommittee it needs to roll a little bit earlier. Will submit to Kenny and Angie and cc Steve.
- Were folks able to look at the Strategic Plan and Operating Principles? Any issues?
 - Discuss on next call.
- NWCG Coordinator remarks and news and update — Steven:
 - Staffing — Kelly Houghton in place as IPTM Manager. Two new training specialists onboarding next week. Additional hiring and laterals in progress.
 - Web team with NWCG training — preparing to launch Training Index on website.
 - New version of PMS-900 coming soon, in draft now.
 - NWCG staff at NIFC are moving back to their old home.
 - Will resend FY27 Budget Guidance.
 - NWCG Reorganization – Overall roster is in the final stages of completion. Scheduling the first round of meetings to start the behind-the-scenes work. Target implementation July 2026.
- PIO Subcommittee update — Kerry Greene:
 - S-203 Alpha was rescheduled from November to January 2026 due to the shutdown. New S-203 Alpha/Beta Dates are as follows:
 - Alpha – Boulder City, NV January 12-16, 2026
 - Beta – Missoula, MT April 20-25, 2026.
 - For each of these sessions, up to two Subject Matter Experts and up to two PIOSC committee members will be present as observers.
 - Catherine Koele, who has represented the Association of State Foresters and served as Vice-Chair to the PIOSC, has submitted her resignation after eight years of service.
 - November and December meetings were cancelled because they both fell on holidays.
- Fire Prevention Education Team Subcommittee update — Stacey:
 - National FPET scheduling work is going on.
- Wildland Fire Investigation Subcommittee update — Teresa:
 - FI-310 has been updated and will be put on in Reno. Spots are limited.
 - FI-210 revision is going well but some instructor guides need some work.
 - Plan to ensure that the position task book is updated for Fire Investigators.
 - Portugal meeting was really well represented.
- Fire Cause Task Group update – Kenny:
 - Will keep this on the agenda, but likely not report until the group starts up again.

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Action Items from Today's Call:

What	Assigned to	Status

***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	Looking at drafting guidelines for private insurance responses in wildland fire. Wildland Urban Interface conference is coming at the end of March in Reno (Reno for the last time).
Need Representative	USFA	
Rebecca Paterson	NIFC External Affairs	
Tina Boehle	NPS	
Kari Cobb	USFWS	
Corey Pieper	NOAA	Looking for a new representative.
Kenny Jaramillo	BIA	Updating the algorithms and testing the new dashboard in WPSAPS. Will do a webinar demo and would like to push for some in person trainings.
Angie Lane	NASF (Western)	
Kent Nelson	NASF (Eastern)	Correspondence with Erik Clause and they have some interesting stuff going on. Graphic novel of the true story of Smokey Bear. Working on P-310, will be in touch soon.
Melissa Jenkins	USFS	Fire Director has decided to delay her retirement for continuity during transition. Going through a reorganization in the Forest Service with changes coming in January. Nationalizing programs. Onboarding detailer Wildfire Prevention program manager position – Matt Engbring will be joining our next call.
Zach Ellinger	BLM	Focused on unification and what that means for the new wildland fire organization. 22 working groups have been spawned from that effort. Trying to standardize across the DOI agencies.