



January 17, 2026 | [Fire Weather Subcommittee](#) Meeting

Members/Invited Attendees:

Darren Clabo (NASF/SD State, Chair), Jim Wallmann (USFS, Vice Chair), Dennis Burns (NASF), Larry Van Bussum (NWS), Drew Daily (NASF/OK Forestry Services), Kari Fleegel (NWS), Colby Neuman (NWS), Brian Potter (USFS), Paul Sopko (USFS), David Schultz (NWCG Coordinator/BLM), Nick Nauslar (NWS), Tom St. Clair (BIA), Eamon Engber (NPS), Robert Field (NASA/Columbia)

Actual Attendees: Eamon Engber, Robert Field, Kari Fleegel, Brian Potter, Dennis Burns, Darren Clabo, Nick Nauslar, David Schultz

****These and past notes are also available internally in our [Google Drive folder](#).**

Agenda

1. **Budget Requests** (Nick Nauslar)
2. **NWCG Reorganization Update** (Dave Schultz)
3. **Lightning Unit with respect to Reorganization of NWCG** (Darren Clabo)
4. **Round Robin** (all)

1. **Budget Requests** (Nick Nauslar)
Budget requests are due to the NWCG Executive Board by January 23rd. We don't have anything to bring up budget wise at this time.

2. **NWCG Reorganization Update** (Dave Schultz)
The NWCG Executive Board members have given names of who they would like on each committee. The goal is to have the chair and vice-chairs of the committees selected prior to the annual meeting, which is scheduled for February 18-19th. Subcommittee personnel selections will then be the next priority.

3. **Lightning Unit with respect to Reorganization of NWCG** (Darren Clabo)
Paul Sopko contacted Darren Clabo and was curious about where the Lightning Unit would be under the reorganization. It may or may not be a part of the Incident Weather and Fire Environment subcommittees. We will make sure that the lightning contract gets looked at and updated, but it may not be specifically

under our subcommittee in the future. Dave Schultz added that groups or subgroups are possible within the reorganization, but these will not be tracked through NWCG.

4. **Round Robin** (all)

- a. Eamon Engber - There are positions at the GACC level being advertised on USAJobs.
- b. Kari Fleegel - While we don't know who will be selected for committees and subcommittees, the same NWS personnel currently in them have been proposed to the Executive Board.
- c. Brian Potter - There was a meeting this week in Portland regarding the USFS organization and the 5 pillars of research focus, including the Fire, Fuels, and Smoke pillar. The reorganization deadline has been pushed back to allow for further comments.

Brian shared <https://rx-outlook.airfire.org/> seasonal outlook map page, which shows monthly maps with above normal to below normal average potential for prescribed burning for Predictive Service Areas (PSAs) across the country.

- d. Darren Clabo - A professor position may be opening at the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology. Also, we will not be having the typical February meeting, as it is at the same time as the annual NWCG meeting.
- e. Dave Schultz - Sarah Lee, NWCG Deputy Program Manager, will be our coordinator starting in March, as Dave Schultz will be retiring. Her email is sjlee@blm.gov.

Next meeting March 19, 2025 at 11 am MT **typically the 3rd Thursday of each month**