

NWCG LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

Virtual Meeting Minutes

April 27, 2021 • 0830 PST

Agency Representatives Present: John Wood Co-Chair (USFS); Mike Ellsworth Co-Chair (FWS); Melissa (Missy) Forder (USPS); Richard Putman (BLM); Mark Stanford (NASF); Carlos Noise (BIA); Shane Olpin (USFS); Maeve Juarez (IAFC); Melissa Forder (NPS)

Ad Hoc: Pamela McDonald (BLM); Emily Webb (NAFRI); Brian Fennessy (IAFC); Brandon Selk (USFS); Lester Brown (LJ) (BLM); Ashleigh D’Antonio (USFS); Deborah Fleming (BLM); George Risko (NASF); Monica Morrison (USFS); Justin Vernon (USFS); Joe Williams (USFS); Matthew Lynde (USFS); Travis Touchette (BLM); Andrew Addey (USFS)

Advisors/Liaisons/Guests: Travis Dotson (NPS) LLC liaison; Alexis Waldron (USFS) advisor; Ted Adams (USFS); Annie Benoit (BLM); Frank Guzman (USFS); Colby Jackson (BLM); Randy Jacks (BLM); Erik Litz; Chris Kayes; John Hill (USFS)

AGENDA/EXPECTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

(WOOD)

- NWCG Leadership Committee’s third virtual meeting.
- Planned for 4-hour meeting, but meeting may be shorter.
- Message and update from George Risko.

30-MILE PROJECT/UPDATE

(MORRISON)

- Submitted 30 Mile Entrapment draft for “Week of Remembrance.”
- Redmond is in the process of establishing the 30-Mile as the an annual staff ride.
- Travel restrictions are challenging the 30-Mile anniversary documentary.
- Values and principles could stay as they are, and the traits could be changed.
- Forest Service updated agency-specific values and principles.
- Idea proposed about creating “personal” values as based on the military example in existence.
- The “personal values” may be a good way to add to the existing values and principles.
- Leaving the corporate values and principles alone may enable the group to develop the “personal values” within an individual development plan.
- Decision to move forward with exploring and developing “personal values.”
- L-180 and L-280 may be a good venue to make the connection between the curriculum and “personal values” as the courses are being updated.
- Plan to merge “Leaders I’d Like To Meet” into a podcast format.
- Challenge navigating existing Forest Service and NWCG podcast processes and policies.

IAFC UPDATE

(FENNESSY)

- IAFC approved Maeve Juarez to be IAFC representative for the Leadership Committee.

NWCG UPDATE

(FLEMMING/BENOIT)

- Katie Wood started in the Program Manager position at NWCG.
- Lots of transition happening at NWCG.
- Standards Management Cycle is addressing position focus, and IPD are being addressed.
- Standards of Incident Management Positions are being evaluated.
- Currently examining how Leadership Levels will fit into this process.
- Integration of standards will allow for changes to be made quickly.
- Wildland Fire Learning Portal (WFLP) has been a focus of work, especially with the increase in the WFLP use due to Covid-19.
- Challenges presented with being transparent while updating and changing the WFLP.

NATIONAL STAFF RIDE WORKSHOP GUIDE

(OPLIN/RISKO)

- The *National Staff Ride Workshop Guide* that helps develop staff rides was updated and improved.
- Proposed to the Agency Representatives to examine the updated *National Staff Ride Workshop Guide* and approve it at a later date.
- The phrase “Tactical Decision Game” could be changed “Tactical Decision Exercise” to be more sensitive regarding fatality fires.
- Proposed that diversifying the photos in the Guide would be beneficial as they tend to be Forest Service centric.

INTRODUCTION FROM NEW BLM REPRESENTATIVE

(PUTMAN)

- Extensive fire and fuels background.
- Approved by the BLM to be the Agency Representative for the NWCG Leadership Committee.

CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT UPDATE

(ELLSWORTH)

- At the CMUL meeting, barriers were discussed in pushing forward curriculum.
- L-180 needs a small group of SMEs to keep curriculum updates moving forward.
- L-280 is in a holding pattern while waiting on the “Values and Principles” to be addressed. Work on alignment in the curriculum has been successful.
- Leadership Committee approved to revamp problematic imaging on a L-280 PowerPoint slide.
- L-380 has a great plan of action moving forward. The LC has approved the changes to the design criteria and target audience for L-380. A briefing paper will be drafted regarding the curriculum changes and submitted to IPFC. Coordination with NWCG is planned.
- L-381 has six elements that will be proposed as changes to the LC. The reference guide will also be changed, and alignment with NWCG is planned.
- L-480 changes are being drafted.
- L-481 is static, and there is discussion about teaching to 215A standards Vs. the Forest Service Operational Risk Management process. Audits of upcoming L-481 courses is possible.

- The L-580 MCS “Leading in Crisis” was approved last LC meeting. Coordination of the course was moved to NAFRI.
- Exploring a Fall L-580 delivery of Gettysburg and or Chattanooga, and other more culturally diverse options for delivery.
- L-580 was intended to more of a continuing education tool at the senior level, and less of a “one and done” course.
- The “Reference for Become an L-Course Provider” will be provided under the course information on the NWCG Website. Changes in the design criteria and the alignment of the document has taken a lot of effort.
- Streamlining the NWCG aspect of course development will simplify all curriculum changes.
- Ellsworth will be the point of contact with the NWCG with regards to curriculum changes.

LEADERSHIP LEVELS

(ELLSWORTH)

- The Leadership Levels are now on the NWCG website.
- Coordination with NWCG and Subcommittees is in the future of work with Leadership Levels and IPDs.

UPDATING COURSE INFORMATION VIA NWCG

(JACKSON)

- The key challenge is the spectrum of Leadership Courses, and their integration with NWCG standards.
- Having one point of contact will streamline the process of curriculum changes and updates. Mike Ellsworth will be the point of contact.
- CMUL can focus on their content and curriculum instead of NWCG coordination and other committees.
- The system as a whole is improving as committees and NWCG increase coordination.

L-380 COVID EXPOSURE

(JACKSON)

- A L-380 Course was cancelled mid-course due to a Covid-19 exposure.
- All current social distancing and mitigation measures were in place during the course.
- The individual was tested in Mesa County.
- A meeting with the Health Department and other Agencies decided to cancel the course.

BOOSTER SHOT UPDATE

(ADAMS/DOTSON/WALDRON)

- Booster Shots are being developed outside of current course curriculum.
- A draft lesson has been developed that has had a positive reception.
- Three more draft lessons are prepared and will be distributed after the conclusion of the LC meeting.
- Draft lessons will be posted to the Teams site so Committee individuals can help contribute to lesson content.
- The Lessons Learned Center is involved with hosting and developing the Booster Shot lessons.
- Timing the Booster Shots will need to be timed correctly to provide the greatest impact.

INTERVIEW WITH CURTIS HEATON

(WALDRON)

- Interview provides great inside into how different people deal with challenges.

DIGITAL CAMPAGIN

(MCDONALD)

- Social Media Campaign is going well and moving forward.

CLOSING TOPICS

(MORRISON, OPLIN)

- LC needs to coordinate with the Forest Service specifically on the things they want to do with Workforce Development. More formal coordination is necessary.

Meeting concludes at 1205 MDT