RMC Members: Tim Blake (BLM), Corey Butler (IOS), Darryl Jones (NASF), Kat DuBose (IOS), Eric Fransted (USFWS), Tyler McCowan (BLM), Mack McFarland (NPS-Chair), Troy Phelps (BIA), Mike Proud (NWS), Ric Smith (FEMA), Molly West (USFS), Persephone Whalen (USFS)

NWCG Staff: Eric Coulter (NWCG)

Guests: David MaClay-Schulte (NTDP), Orlando Genao (LLC), Michael Guarino (HTTFSC), Ethan Mooar (USFWS), Ben Evans (6MFS), Erin Belval (USFS), Alex Victora (USFS), Nathan Hesse (ETC)

Topic & Notes	Decision
• **Opening Question:** What is your program's main risk management challenge? Each participant described at least one challenge. Results on attached spreadsheet include results from our 2024 meeting. • **Announcement:** NWCG Executive Board presented 3 awards yesterday at their committee chairs meeting. 6MFS received the *Creativity and Innovation* award, and RMC received the *Achieving Results* award. Great work everyone and thank you for your hard work and dedication.	
Safety Gram Criteria: McFarland • Group discussed the current criteria for reporting into the Safety Gram hosted by the NWCG RMC and maintained by the Lessons Learned Center. • Group discussed the impacts of modifying the criteria to include presumptive illness related LODDs in the data set. • Group recommended to keep the reporting criteria as-is and to not include chronic LODDs that are a result of long-term health and presumptive illnesses. • Additional discussion about where these chronic LODDs should be tallied to show the full extent of hazards faced by wildland firefighters. These are captured in the OWCP process but we have not seen a report. The USFA tracks and collects information on causes of on-duty firefighter fatalities that may also serve as a tally.	• Maintain the Safety Gram reporting criteria to capture acute injuries, illnesses, shelter deployments, entrapments, and burnovers. • Identify a task group in March to review and update the current (2018) criteria by the end of April
Environmental Hazard Mitigation: Dubose • Kat Dubose presented her methodology for gathering real-time environmental data with low cost sensors from the fire environment to help us better understand our exposure hazards, routes, and durations. Expect more monitoring work to continue this fire season. • PFAS related to our wildland fire gear. This is mainly attributed to durable water repellent finishes but also included in things like Kevlar. There is a NIST report from 2024 on the topic. It is difficult to determine how to compare PFAS exposure risk to other more commonly known hazards, especially considering existing PFAS in our non-fire environment. • Cleaning flame resistant (FR) clothing (PPE) to reduce dermal transmission and cross contamination with other clothing and equipment. Dirty PPE presents both a science (still some	• Information about the importance of cleaning our PPE needs to be relayed to our firefighters. Work with ETC to develop a safety bulletin.

Topic & Notes	Decision
unknowns) and a logistical problem. RMC will continue to work with ETC on how to best message the importance of regular cleaning and decontamination of our PPE clothing.	
Risk Management Training – What does it look like? Part 1: Whalen • Risk Assessments and JHAs: There is interest in establishing a JHA database that can be accessed by all. Risk assessment is part of the ISAP and work is being done by NWCG to develop this concept into an NWCG standard. o There is a need to develop Risk Management terms and definitions for the NWCG glossary. • Intent to give employees tools for identifying risk and having discussions about risk earlier in their career so they can leverage their experience as they change positions throughout their career. • Consider including a risk assessment tool into the training or into other courses as they are being updated. Something like the General Assessment of Risk model or others. The fire community is ready for a more deliberate way to assess risk in real time.	• Identify a task group to develop a list of risk management terms and definitions to be submitted to the NWCG glossary.
Safety Officer Toolkit/RMC Website: McFarland • Use of the toolbox does seem to be popular. Especially for our AD employees who do not have ready access to agency specific sites. • Some of the checklists include items that are not included in contracts. Use caution when evaluating contracted services and equipment so you do not highlight something that is not part of the contract. Bring in Logistics/Finance folks who know the contracts if you have questions. • IWI plan creates some confusion as it deviates from existing NWCG documents (Medical Incident Report and ICS 206 WF). NWCG Executive Board wants to assure we are not expanding outside of NWCGs role and responsibility. • Discussion on including a link to the RMA dashboard.	• Continue work with the EMC to evaluate and recommend improvements to the 2024 IWI Plan template to include regular discussions with NWCG Coordinators.

Subcommittees:
• **Mental Health Subcommittee (MHSC):**
    o Working on developing a program of work to spend the $60K from NWCG for a WFSTAR product or similar awareness effort.
    o In need of a new chair as Patty is in a new position and needs to pass the torch
    o Consider a pause in this committee to assure calibration with the Interagency Wildland Fire Health and Wellness Program.
• **6 Minutes for Safety (6MFS):**
    o Creating a handful of working groups to look at potential content.
    o Establishing a formal relationship with Lessons Learned Center (LLC).
	N/A

Additional information beyond these meeting notes (i.e. handouts, presentations, maps, etc.) will require a FOIA request to ensure proper privacy regulations are followed. Please request via FOIA Online website at https://www.doi.gov/foia/make-a-request

Topic & Notes	Decision

o Updating the website.
• **Hazard Tree and Tree Felling Subcommittee (HTTFSC):**
  o Nearly complete on FAL3. In a cycle of reviews and approvals to try to get this across the finish line.
  o Significant work on the online S-212 story board working with the contractor.	

Wildland Firefighter Injury/Illness Rates – Corey Butler • The DOI bureaus can now query specifically for wildland fire incidents and injuries in SMIS. This will help better understand the how and when wildland firefighters are getting injured. • The information is currently just a count and is difficult to draw conclusions from because there is no rate of injury per xx employees. • Discussion on the value of a dashboard or a score card. Some concern about the need for interpretation of the information since it is only a tally at this point. • USFS presented their weekly summary and how it has been used.	N/A

Risk Management Training – What does it look like? Part 2 – Fransted
• Integrating the RMA Dashboard into incident response
• Status of ISAP and IMT training curriculum development
• Safety Officer Positions: There are three positions officially now in IQCS.
  o SOFF – safety officer field that carries an arduous fitness requirement
  o SOF3 – the type 3 safety officer that is the same nuemonic as all hazard quals. This position could be a safety officer on a T3 team or help supervise SOFFs on more complex incidents to help with span of control. SOFRs will automatically convert to SOF3 with no additional action needed by qualified employees.
  o SOFC – complex safety officer for CIMTs
  o The S-404 course needs updating but it is currently not required for any of the SO positions. Consider developing a request for change to transition the course into a required element of the position starting at SOF3
	• Write and publish an informational bulletin about the transition of the 3 Safety Officer positions.
	• Submit an RFC to require the S-404 course for SOF3.

NERIS Platform Review – Craig Rawlins (FEMA) • Presentation and discussion on an injury and incident reporting system used nationally to document all functions within a fire department from calls to accident and injuries to employees.	Informational
Emergency Medical Committee Briefing – Tyler McCowan • Review and develop updates to the Medical Incident Report as prompted by 2024 EB taskings • Evaluate the ICS 206 WF for updates and calibration with MIR and Aviation ICS-220 • Lots of work on EMS qualifications, protocols, and medical direction. • REMS and RAT typing and capabilities	Informational

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Fatigue and Risk Management – The Role of NWCG – Fransted • Fatigue management is complex because it requires adaptation and modification by several functions within the fire response network from the business community, and logistics, to finance and operations. • Fatigue research a topic at the Fire Management Board with MPHAT tasked to coordinate. ○ There are efforts to leverage expertise within NWCG committees. RMC would like to provide insight on the issue. • There are opportunities to define terms	