



## RMC Meeting Minutes

April 10, 2025

**RMC Members:** Darryl Jones (NASF), Molly West (USFS), Corey Butler (IOS), Richard Evoy (NIOSH), Tyler McCowan (BLM), Mike Proud (NWS), Eric Fransted (FWS), Kat DuBose, Mack McFarland (NPS-Chair), Troy Phelps (BIA), Ric Smith, Persephone Whelan (USFS), Shaun M Doran (PA State Gov)

**NWCG Staff:** Sarah Lee (Coordinator), Darci Drinkwater (Executive Secretary)

**Guests:** Travis Dotson (LLC), Patty O'Brien (MHSC), Ben Evans (6MFS)

Topic & Notes	Decision
<b>NWCG Updates:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Publications staffing is changing with a new manager starting soon.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Extremely limited staffing in publications.</li></ul></li><li>NWCG is continuing to request permission to fill vacancies on a case-by-case basis. Each vacancy is being considered for approval.</li><li>Four Training Specialist detailers will start soon.</li><li>The NWCG budget for FY25 and FY26 have been revised multiple times.</li></ul>	N/A
<b>SAFENET:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The SafeNet work group is progressing well.</li><li>Modernization efforts are underway to improve multi-agency access, user-friendliness, and timely communication of safety reports.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Improving accessibility for mobile devices and multimedia uploads.</li></ul></li><li>Integration with Lessons Learned systems is also planned.</li><li>Aiming to implement changes during fire season.</li><li>Meeting next week to formalize changes and modernization efforts with IT.</li></ul>	N/A
<b>Ongoing Taskings and Projects:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Safety Officer Positions:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Request for Change (RFC) for S-404 course requirement for Safety Officers in Type 3 and Complex positions.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Incident Position and Standards Committee (IPSC) and Training Delivery Committee (TDC) will need to be notified.</li></ul></li></ul></li><li><b>Federal Wildland Firefighter Health and Wellbeing:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A safety bulletin was circulated regarding laundering PPE to minimize chemical contaminants.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Feedback raised concerns about terminology (decontamination vs. laundering) and the need for clarification.</li></ul></li></ul></li><li><b>Agency Administrators Guide to Critical Incidents, PMS 926:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Draft PMS 926 is available for review.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Please provide feedback using the excel spreadsheet provided.</li></ul></li></ul></li></ul>	<p><b>Safety Officer:</b> Fransted will submit the RFC.</p> <p>Safety Officer RFC will remain on the agenda for next month to allow for review and approval.</p> <p><b>Federal Wildland Firefighter Health and Wellbeing:</b> McFarland will collaborate with the Equipment Technology Committee (ETC) to draft a short safety bulletin with a QR code to a separate, updatable FAQ webpage.</p>

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>



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Incident within and Incident (IWI) Task Group:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ The group has not formally met.</li><li>○ Need to revitalize the group and move forward.</li></ul></li><li>• <b>Fatigue Management Next Steps:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Working with the National Multi-Agency Coordination Group (NMAC) and a draft NMAC memorandum has been prepared.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ The focus of the memorandum is on improving sleep quality in incident sleeping areas, summarizing best practices from the 2025 after action review (AAR), identifying policy/funding barriers, and developing trigger points for utilizing hotels/alternative sleeping areas.</li></ul></li></ul></li><li>• <b>Risk Management Training — Definition Task Group:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Aims to define risk management terms for the NWCG glossary to potentially pave the way for future risk management training curriculum.</li><li>○ The goal is to create a common understanding of risk management practices and potentially introduce a risk scoring model.</li></ul></li></ul>	<p><b>PMS 926:</b> O’Brien will share link to PMS 926 and feedback form.</p> <p><b>Fatigue Management:</b> Fransted will be presenting the memorandum to NMAC.</p>
<p><b>Safety Gram:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Concerns were raised about the inconsistency of posting and the need for a clear timeline for updates.</li><li>• The existing criteria were reviewed at the last meeting, and it was agreed upon to maintain the focus on acute incidents for now.</li></ul> <p>○</p>	<p>Safety Grams will be released quarterly.</p> <p>The current criteria will remain unchanged for 2025.</p>
<p><b>Lessons Learned Center (LLC):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provided a strategic overview, highlighting successes in shifting to enterprise-level influence and leveraging the existing reporting culture to improve lessons learned.</li></ul>	<p>N/A</p>
<p><b>Subcommittees:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Mental Health Subcommittee (MHSC):</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Subcommittee is at a transition point.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Considering future projects, given staffing challenges.</li><li>▪ Options include focusing on smaller projects, pausing until after fire season, or working on projects in the background until more capacity is available.</li><li>▪ A new chair is needed due to O’Brien’s change in role.</li></ul></li></ul></li><li>• <b>6 Minutes for Safety (6MFS):</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Will be sending out topics for RMC review.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Daily topics, working group content, and templates for firefighters to create their own 6MFS safety talks.</li></ul></li></ul></li><li>• <b>Hazard Tree and Tree Felling Subcommittee (HTTFSC):</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ S-112, Basic Chainsaw Operations is posted to the Wildland Fire Learning Portal (WFLP).</li></ul></li></ul>	<p><b>6MFS:</b> RMC has two weeks to review topics for fatal flaws.</p>



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<b>Tech and Science — Updates:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hazard assessment on smoke study, awaiting final sponsor review.</li><li>• Collecting data this spring for the fatigue study.</li><li>• Proposal submitted to NWCG to revise fitness and work capacity standards.</li><li>• Proposing a request for information to helmet manufacturers to explore the development of laterally protected helmets meeting the NFPA 1977 standard.</li></ul>	N/A