



National Wildfire Coordinating Group Training Delivery Committee

Meeting Minutes

DATE: September 23, 2021

ATTENDEES:

Arnberger, Jeff, Liaison, N
Benoit, Annie, NWCG, N
Bender, Jessica, Guest, N
Buhrig, Chris, Primary Member, Y
Burkhammer, Erin, Primary Member, Y
Cota, Heath, Co-Chair, N
Craig, John, Guest, Y
Dalrymple, Daren, Primary Member, N
Dillon, Tom, Primary Member, N
Dinkel, Anna, Primary Member, Y
Dutchick, Peter, Co-Chair, Y
Fisher, Garth, Liaison, N
Flanagan, Sean, Primary Member, Y
Frost-Madrid, Karin, Primary Member, Y
Gividen, Rick, Guest, Y
Guzman, Frank, Liaison, N
Harris, Russell, Primary Member, Y
Jacks, Randy, Primary Member, N
Leshuk, Victoria, Guest, Y
McLaughlin, Jon, Guest, Y
O'Hara, Kathryn, NWCG Coordinator, N
Palmgren, Glenn, Primary Member, Y
Patterson, Stephen, Primary Member, N
Sexton, Richard, Primary Member, N
Skraba, Amy, Primary Member, N
Skudlarek, Mark, NIFC, Y
Snyder, Wade, Guest, N
Wegner, Melissa, Primary Member, Y
Wheeler, James, Guest, Y

I. TDC Update on Current Actions:

- NWCG update NWCG
Small group working on addition of VILT terminology to PMS-901. Focusing on “concept of operations” in describing the characteristics of our system by users of the system, including learning portal roles. Will refer to NWCG glossary, consider glossary criteria, and loop Jessie Bender and Kathryn O'Hara in on PMS-901 revision.

NWCG project priorities list: <https://www.nwcg.gov/priorities>

NWCG prioritizes once/month, TDC has a voice in prioritization, Heath Cota and Pete Dutchick can advocate.



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- OWF/WFLP Governance Board Updates Rick Gividen
Recommendation made to WFLP Gov Board for category manager role, Gov Board approved launch for WFAP and for a small group in development, final decision in October, will have 1 primary/1 alternate category manager per organization or category, with 6-8 hours additional training for role.

II. NWCG Project Prioritization-Executive Board Tasking:

- SW/Karin Frost-Madrid: Support working together on “heavy lift” courses, want to develop courses in a way to have more flexibility for VILT or blended, need to work on agency cadre for leadership courses.
- EA/Russell Harris: Virtual platforms will need to be forefront, noticed a deficiency in upper aircraft positions while out with IMTs this year, focus on S-420.
- NR/Melissa Wegner: Will deliver virtual S-420 and S-490 this year, will open to other GAs.
- Pete Dutchick: Tim Yurkiewicz/NAFRI looking at developing S-390 (and possibly S-490) as part of national delivery pilot program, want to avoid duplicating efforts.
- SW/Karin Frost-Madrid: Is there a national interagency process in place for analysis around other significant support positions. How do make the case for development of our workforce w/o data?
- Jessie Bender: Analysis isn’t happening on national interagency level, there’s a need for mid-level development and needs analysis, consider NWCG workforce development process- Sean Flanagan GATR rep.

III. Executive Board Memo on Training -Mission Critical Recommendation:

Dutchick and Cota POCs, hope to increase capacity and funding, pave way for in-person training (L courses), creative use of VILT.

IV. Educational Technology Subcommittee

<https://www.nwcg.gov/committees/educational-technology-subcommittee>

ETSC became official 2-3 weeks ago, members will join TDC meetings for understanding of priorities, topics to explore.

V. National Delivery Pilot Program:

2022: Looking at S-390, S-490, S-420

RX410, RX301/RX341 should be available soon to backup/restore

VI. 2022 GA Course Prioritization:

- Chris Buhrig: GATR meeting 2 weeks ago, schedules are up. Look at model air attack and UAS programs have used and apply to dispatch, aviation, logistics courses.
- Karin Frost-Madrid: GATRs have a course rotation list, could national delivery program take on some of these courses? Look at scheduling suites of courses in certain functional areas. Focus on VILT or blended formats for these courses, so there are materials already developed and easily shareable.
- Melissa Wegner: All NR courses will be virtual this year, which allows them to carry on regardless of COVID conditions, fewer limits with number of students, needs are in support courses-finance, logs, plans



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- James Wheeler: Consider scope and sequence when making courses blended

VII. PMS-901 Updates:

Group will convene soon to discuss VILT terminology.

VIII. Review of Items for September TDC Meeting:

- National Pilot Program-Tim Yurkiewicz
- Concept of Operations-Colby Jackson
- John Wood (Leadership Sub-Committee) to chat with TDC
- Discussion of adding materials to course collaboration library
- GATR Prioritization
- PMS-901
- Community colleges and WFLP, look at MOUs

IX. Lightning Round/Lessons Learned:

- NW/Chris Buhrig: Schedule is done, everything but L-courses will be virtual, working on getting 2 agency lead instructors signed off, M-410 was a big success last year and will deliver again this fall (pending instructor availability), still working on demonstrating/convincing that VILT will work for us, NW zones need help with 200-level courses, interested in exploring pod learning.
- CA South Ops/Anna Dinkel: Working on convincing instructors to go virtual, schedule is up on portal, S-420s likely in-person, worked with FEMA last year on VILT SITL class, if FEMA approves will share, interested in national delivery model for courses.
- SW/Karin Frost-Madrid: 2 SW classes are virtual, working on contingencies for others, have cancelled 2 RX courses due to lack of instructors, challenged with the shift in thinking for instructors in transition to virtual. Interested in seeing courses added to collaboration library.
- SA/Sean Flanagan: SA schedule is out, all virtual except L-courses, leadership fest in Jan in single location, moving S-420 to May, always open to collaborating with other GAs on courses, record breaking year with PTP
- EA/Russell Harris: Reaching out to TWT/compact chairs in Eastern Area, catching up on cancelled courses, waivers, lots of interest in S-420, RX-341, will deliver S-420 in spring, Eastern Big Rivers Academy in Oct
- NR/Melissa Wegner: L-courses in person w/ATO in Great Falls 2 or 3 L-380s, 1 L-381 in spring, everything else virtual
- GB/Burkhammer: All VILT except 6 L-courses 2 L-380, 2 L-381, 1 L-480, 1 L-481, offering 2 sessions each of ICS-300, ICS-400, can offer spots to other GAs
- RM/John Craig: Schedule posted, heavy on L-courses, most courses in-person.