



National Wildfire Coordinating Group Training Delivery Committee

Meeting Minutes

DATE: January 27, 2022

ATTENDEES:

Arnberger, Jeff, Liaison, N
Bender, Jessie, Guest, Y
Benoit, Annie, Primary Member, Y
Buhrig, Chris, Primary Member, Y
Burkhammer, Erin, Primary Member, Y
Cota, Heath, Co-Chair, N
Dillon, Tom, Primary Member, Y
Dinkel, Anna, Primary Member, Y
Ditmanson, Kevin, Guest, Y
Dukart, David, Primary Member, Y
Dutchick, Peter, Co-Chair, Y
Fisher, Garth, Liaison, N
Flanagan, Sean, Primary Member, Y
Frost-Madrid, Karin, Primary Member, N
Gividen, Rick, Guest, Y
Guzman, Frank, Liaison, N
Jones, Amanda, Primary Member, Y
Kathryn O'Hara, NWCG Coordinator, N
Leshuk, Victoria, Guest, Y
McLaughlin, Jon, Guest, Y
Minton, Lucas, Guest, Y
Palmgren, Glenn, Primary Member, Y
Patterson, Stephen, Primary Member, N
Phillips, Bill, Guest, Y
Sexton, Richard, Primary Member, Y
Skraba, Amy, Primary Member, Y
Skudlarek, Mark, Guest, Y
Synder, Wade, Guest, Y
Trauernicht, Nathan, Guest, Y
Wegner, Melissa, Primary Member, Y
Yurkiewicz, Tim, Guest, Y

I. TDC Updates on Current Actions:

- NWCG Update: Project Prioritization Annie Benoit

NWCG hired 2 FS training specialists, no start date yet.
Also planning to hire 1 BIA training specialist and 2 virtual instructional designers. Wendell Welch is retiring in Feb.

Working through CRWB and FAL3 with a contractor, possibly MEDL, hoping to contract all 125 positions, will need significant SME support.



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Hoping to start on FWPT training development soon in-house, was the 1st position tested in position-focused analysis

Certified S-130 instructor-led version, online version will be contracted
S-190 on-line version will be available in March
S-110 on-line is in field review currently

Working on videos addressing evaluation and mentorship in the field, constructive feedback, soft skills.

Working with FEMA on endorsements for all-hazard responders working on wildland fire incidents, started with PIO and SOFR, hoping to have all endorsements completed by June

Memo shared with IPSC: Proposed changes to NWCG training system, to require training before a PTB is initiated, training we invest in developing should be required, should have a decision in February

Fall 2021 Governance Board decided that only NWCG entities should have portal access, ongoing discussion

WFSTAR modules for this spring will be completed from Feb-May w/aim to complete everything by May: 2021 Year in Review, Fire Science Modules, Authentic Leadership, 360 degree point fire project module, case studies, emergency medical care guidelines

- OWF/WFLP Governance Board Updates Rick Gividen

Governance board will continue discussion on WFLP access, meeting in Feb

Adding further training opportunities for instructors/ETs

WFLP is undergoing an IT security review currently

Karen Miller is available for WFLP help, looking to add a DOI detailer for additional support

Filling seats in ET workshops, 1-2/month, will add more as needed

WFLP Shop Talks next week: Sign up in ET Community of Practice

- Interagency Aviation Training Committee Victoria Leschuk

IAT webinars are posted and scheduled until 12/22, with sign-up on IAT, many geographic areas have instructors in-house, utilize them as possible. OAS is understaffed right now and is maxed out on course offerings



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- Pilot Program Nomination Process/Update Tim Yurkiewicz

Ember Alliance serving as “GATR” for NGOs; NGOs, some states, and other entities will go through Ember Alliance for nominations. Existing GATR processes will not change, will coordinate nomination process with GATRs.

Delivery team is currently in training, will be available to support and augment geographic area courses, as needed, and will offer RX courses in addition to those courses offered by geographic areas.

Looking to detail 1-2 folks from each geographic area into delivery teams, to better support geographic areas in the future

- NWCG Certificates in WFLP

Some self-service NWCG courses in the WFLP are set up with inadequate certs, Rick Gividen/NWCG staff will follow-up

Editing trainers are having difficulties with creating the NWCG certs in portal, Karen Miller will provide support-WFLP Shop Talk sessions

- Training Bridge for Australia, working with National Wildfire Suppression Association in providing virtual training to Australian responders supporting US incidents. More to come.
- Training and Qualification Requirements Pete Dutchick
for non-NWCG entities/MOU providers’ access to the WFLP

What’s accepted? Courses and schedule items in WFLP for MOU entities?
Shelved until February TDC meeting.

- IWDG Complex Incident Management Jessie Bender

Incident workforce development group, transition to complex IMTs, incident typing stays the same, but team typing is removed, should allow more flexibility, better work-life balance, fewer individuals tied to specific rosters

Moving to implementation, tasking memo to IPSC in development, addressing quals and training, TDC will now be direct recipient of tasking memo, IWDG is committed to assisting in the implementation

- M-410 moving to TDC stewardship Pete Dutchick

Finalizing with IPSC, should be completed shortly



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II. ETSC Updates:

Mark Skudlarek

Meeting monthly, 1 week before TDC
Looking for simple job aids and tutorials for certificates, Zoom/delivery platforms, self-enrollment/questionnaires

Community of Practice, help button on homepage, other resources, are these housed in the best location? Looking for easy access.

Looking at process for handling requests from units who are interested in using the portal for delivery, scheduling, and general information sharing. Who can/should use the portal?

III. Lightning Round:

AK/Amy Skraba: Primarily in prep mode for training delivery season, which starts in March, still planning on mostly in-person deliveries.

NW/Chris Buhrig: Starting to dive into training, virtual and in-person, navigating the dialogue of what is mission critical, local units are looking for risk assessments, looking at building schedules for zones in WFLP.

NR/Melissa Wegner: 3 courses going on this week using all platforms, NR training specialist worked to develop El Dorado CRP, using Hubs. S490 coming up.

GB/Erin Burkhammer: Have completed 10 courses since the end of Oct., 8 virtual, 2 in-person, headed into L courses, 10-12 courses left to deliver, in addition to “aviation week”/aviation refreshers, having candid and up-front conversations with home units on risk management and what participants in courses might expect related to COVID-19.

R5/Pete Dutchick: Creating forms for proof-of-vaccination/testing requirement, delivering courses, both distance and in-person, risk management/candid conversations with training participants and home units, COVID-19 positives from L380 course, used contact tracing.

SW/Kevin Ditmanson: On downhill side of training season, heavy lift is S420 in 2 weeks, 5-6 more classes left, Karin is the R3 volunteer POC for WFF series

SA/Sean Flanagan: Just finished up TN/KY academy, approximately 20 courses, all virtual except L381 and L481, early testing was key for navigating these in-person courses, over-all very successful. Coming up: In-person SEAT manager course in TX, L380/L480 in-person in FL, mostly in-person academy in AR including S420, adding an extra L380 for KY, Engine Academy in KY in May, Heavy Equipment Academy.



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EA/David Dukart: M-581 will be virtual, 20 spots available, sending announcement tomorrow to GATRs. Planning for FY23, including S420, D310/D311, UAS courses...

Action/follow-up Items: WFLP Certificates, WFLP access for MOU providers