

NWCG Wildland Fire Investigation Subcommittee (WFISC)

Conference Call

November 9, 2020 • 9:00 am PST

Present: Jerry Hepler (USFS, Chair), John Bird (NASF, Vice Chair), Jeff Moyer (BIA, Primary Member), Shawn Zimmermaker (NASF, Primary Member), Scott Fischer (BLM, Primary Member), Jay Hinshaw (BIA, Primary Member), Carrie Bilbao (CEPC Liaison), Deb Fleming (NWCG Coordinator), Alan Carlson (Associate Member), Curt Cogan (Associate Member), Jim Engel (Associate Member), Steve Grimaldi (Associate Member), Jeff Henricks (Associate Member), Ken Ness (Associate Member), Brenda Rice (Associate Member), Gary White (Associate Member)

Absent: Fred Workman (FWS, Primary Member), Jeff Bonebrake (NASF, Primary Member), Brian Clavier (NASF, Primary Member), John Barnes (Associate Member), Chris Forkner (Associate Member), Mike Heath (Associate Member), Bruce Landrum (Associate Member), Trevor Maynard (Associate Member), Ken Pitt (Associate Member), Richard Woods (Associate Member), Lucas Wolf (Associate Member)

Welcome and Agenda Expectations – Jerry Hepler

- Transition chair from Jeff Bonebrake to Jerry Hepler

NWCG Comments – Deb Fleming

- New NWCG Program Manager – Jeremy Sullens
- Training Delivery Committee has been stood up with a current focus on “Priority” training and virtual delivery
- 17 NWCG committees now

Agenda Items

Topic: WFISC Terms for the NWCG Glossary

Presenter: Deb Fleming

Discussion/Considerations:

- 22 comments on terms
- Need to wrap up soon
- Jerry Hepler took the lead on finalizing

Decision: Jerry is going to send out and set due date for November 23rd 2020.

Topic: FI-110, Wildland Fire Observations and Origin Scene Protection for First Responders, 2005 revision

Presenter: Jeff Henricks

Discussion/Considerations:

- Appreciated everyone’s input
- 75% complete

- January 2021 could be complete
- Still have to clean up cause categories
- Final phases of revision and almost ready to send to Deb for production phase
- Then to committee for final approval
- Possibly could go online (vs classroom)

Decision: To get revised, final draft document out for final review of committee.

Topic: INTM & INVF Incident Position Descriptions

Presenter: Deb Fleming

Discussion/Considerations:

- February due date
- Consider proposing changing INTM to INTL (leader) to better differentiate between that position and the INVF.

Decision: Shawn, Jim and Curt were selected to draft these IPDs.

Topic: WFISC Roster Review

Presenter: Jerry Hepler

Discussion/Considerations:

- Having a more organized method for membership.
- Active or nonactive members and ways to document attendance.
- Decided that BIA would continue to have two primary members (when the other subcommittee agencies/organizations have only one primary member), but that BIA would have only one vote to remedy the discrepancy. The decision was to limit BIA to one vote. BIA with two members with one vote.

Decision: The roster will be a living document and will be updated as needed with NWCG.

Topic: NFPA 921 Update

Presenter: Jim Engel and Alan Carlson

Discussion/Considerations:

Jim:

- December 2016 meeting
- Published document for review
- Recently had first meeting for review
- Looking for NWCG Subcommittee member to be rep.
- 921 committee meets in December
- New rep needs to get application in ASAP
- Jim Shanley is new Chair of 921

- More online meetings for 921

Alan:

- No rejections to revised chapter in 921
- Problems with 921 committee rejecting because they did not want to recognize NWCG because of issues with field guide
- Guide is not a standard for people to explore other avenues
- New publication set for 2022

Decision: To leave NFPA 921 as is. Attempt to find primary member to replace Jim Engel as rep.

Topic: FI-310, Wildland Fire Investigation: Case Development, 2011, revision

Presenter: Jerry Hepler

Discussion/Considerations:

- Jerry asked members to send units that they have been revising to him.
- Also, include a writeup of changes with your units.

Decision: Jerry will review units to gauge revision progress.

Topic: WFISC Vice-Chair Nominations and Selection

Presenter: Jerry Hepler

Discussion/Considerations:

- Nominations for Shawn Zimmermaker.
- Nomination for John Bird.

Decision: Voted on by committee and John Bird is Vice Chair.

Topic: FI-210, Guide to Wildland Fire Origin and Cause Determination, 2016 PMS 412 Revision

Presenter: Jerry Hepler

Discussion/Considerations:

- Update standards
- Any changes need to be in training material
- Cause categories will drive changes in 412
- Shawn, Bird, Alan, Gary and Deb for revision committee

Decision: Meeting December 2, 2020 with revision committee. Get 1st revision out by spring of 2021.

Topic: CEPC (and subcommittee) Budget Requests

Presenter: Carrie Bilbao

Discussion/Considerations:

- I serve as the CEPC liaison. If a WFISC rep can't make the monthly CEPC calls, I can pass information along to the group. Keep me in the loop as the subcommittee moves forward.
- Budget requests go to the CEPC for review – due November 12.
- The CEPC gives the projects a priority based on WFISC prioritization. NWCG uses those criteria when they do the overall prioritization after receiving all the requests.
- NWCG annual funding guidance and associated forms are located at:
<https://www.nwcg.gov/budget-guidance>.

Decision: Jerry will submit budget requests for FY22 as follows:

1. FI-110, Wildland Fire Observations and Origin Scene Protection for First Responders
 2. X-900, Investigating Power Line Caused Wildfires
 3. X-902, Investigating Railroad Caused Wildfires
-

Date, Time and Location of Next Meeting

Date: January 25, 2020
Time: 12:30 PST
Location: Virtually on Microsoft TEAMS and Conference Line