

Wildland Fire Investigation Subcommittee (WFISC)

Meeting Notes

DATE: May 1, 2023

TIME: 12:00 pm PST

ATTENDANCE:

WFISC Member's	In Attendance 2023/05/01	WFISC Member's	In Attendance 2023/05/01
Shawn Zimmermaker (NASF, Chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Curt Cogan (Associate Member)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Scott Fischer (BLM, Vice Chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jim Engel (Associate Member)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Lisa Hudema (Associate Member, Admin Assistant)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steve Grimaldi (Associate Member)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rex Thompson (USFS, Primary Member)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jeff Henricks (Associate Member)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shawn Brandow (USFS, Primary Member)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ken Ness (Associate Member)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jeff Moyer (BIA, Primary Member)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Brenda Rice (Associate Member)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teresa Rigby (BLM, Primary Member)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Gary White (Associate Member)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kip Kemak (BIA, Primary Member)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chris Forkner (Associate Member)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Steven Holmes (FWS, Primary Member)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mike Heath (Associate Member)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brian Clavier (NASF, Primary Member)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bruce Landrum (Associate Member)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jan Lemons (NPS, Primary Member)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trevor Maynard (Associate Member)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Neil Miller (NASF, Primary Member)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ken Pitt (Associate Member)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jon Handrick (NASF, Primary Member)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Richard Woods (Associate Member)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ryan Finn (NASF, Primary Member)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lucas Wolf (Associate Member)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ryan Andrade (NASF, Primary Member)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jeff Bonebrake (Associate Member)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carrie Bilbao (CEPC Liaison)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jeremy Verdiel (Associate Member)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sarah Lee (NWCG Program Coordinator)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Joe Hitselberger (Associate Member)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jim Shanley (Associate Member)	<input type="checkbox"/>	John Bird (Associate Member)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alan Carlson (Associate Member)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Theo Bailey (Associate Member)	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Jose Munguia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Welcome and Agenda Expectations – Shawn Zimmermaker

NWCG Comments – Sarah Lee

- NWCG vacancies are starting to get filled, such as the Supervisory e-Learning Specialist, and are in the process of now hiring four new Training Specialists.
- The IPTM first five positions in process of getting initial briefings (HECM, SOFF, PTRC, EQTR and SCKN). Beyond the first ten positions slated for 2023, we have not yet identified the list of positions for out years, but will let WFISC know when the Fire Investigator positions come up.
- One of the three NWCG Coordinator positions is now vacant. Appreciate everyone's patience while I temporarily have 9 committees and 32 subcommittees to coordinate.

MEETING TOPICS:

- Retirements and New Member Introductions**—Shawn Zimmermaker
 - Jerry accepted promotion to different agency not with FS, and will not longer be the agency representative for FS on the subcommittee.
 - Retirement, Neil Fisher at the end of the year.
- National Fire Academy** - Shawn Zimmermaker and Sarah Lee

- National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, MD is interested in hosting FI-210 and FI-310 at their facility utilizing instructors from this committee.
- They will be observing the FI-210 course in Red Bluff, CA for presentation and field portion.
- USFS will put on a class at RDD. Demo how they put on the field portion.
- Gary- Prescription for fire can be issue around Gettysburg and green-up may be problematic. So continued dialog will be key.
- Scott- Logistics need to be considered with interagency funding.
- **NFPA 921** – Shawn Zimmermaker, Jeff Henricks, Jim Shanley
 - **Rewrite-** The working relationship is good, and the project is still underway.
- **Microsoft Teams Access**—Scott Fischer and Sarah Lee
 - Teams/SharePoint - Any new access issues? None mentioned.
 - Found that for some members that had issues we couldn't resolve, using direct access to SharePoint solved the issue. Continue to use team links if working. More space is requested, be more conscientious on how much stuff is uploaded, condense if possible. Good to have legacy doc but manage data space.
 - Scott will find out what storage issues are and available capacity. TEAMS has issues, can access SharePoint through the Teams application or web browser. SharePoint is a better application for working on documents and file management.
- **FI-110 Revision Update**– Jeff Henricks
 - Close to finish line, with the bulk of work by Jeff and others in review, but will need beta test. Currently with NWCG training to get it ready for the portal and create the test course for review within portal.
- **PMS 412 and FI-210 Revision Update** – Shawn Zimmermaker
 - PMS 412 is down to handful of comments by subcommittee. Have assigned individuals to answer comments and a group to address comments. Will send out to the full group after for last review before publishing.
 - FI-210 has divided chapters into groups of 3-4 people. Some groups near completion (beta). Send Brenda pictures- email or google drive to maintain size. Fire pattern section is picture heavy.
 - FI-210 Chapter 8 (specifically)
 - Task groups looking at 2 options, which include removing chapter 8 from field guide. Targeting multiple jurisdictions. Topics are of value but need tailored to students/agencies being presented. Thoughts include removing chapter 8, but leaving the time requirement in course for the instructors to tailor to the specific students in the course. Other options are to build a base model to mimic federal jurisdictions, but allow state agencies to address chain of custody.
 - Discussion included that chapter 8 was not in the 1974 guide or 2005 revision, but became par of the field guide in 2016. Some support keeping some materials in FI-210 to cover legal sections, but addressing the Field Guide and to provide basic training to students less experienced in the courtroom. Up to instructor to present jurisdictional requirements.
 - FI-210 task group will work to build it out.
- **FI-310 Update** – Scott Fischer
 - **Rex and Shawn-** FS recently sponsored FI-310. Two students from the committee were in class, along with Ken Ness virtually instructing. Feedback received from beta-presentation was that people

were happy with it. Several instructors want to make minor tweaks, and expect edits completed by June. Hiring a contractor to optimize the video portions of the class in the portal to turn it into template with professional editing as the sound/video quality is not great.

- How long does it take for accreditation? Sarah – It depends, but a 300-level course will require at least one test course. NWCG will observe for instructional design, recommend for certification, and WFISC will provide final certification as the course steward.

- **Reference Manual** – Alan Carlson

- Moving along. Chapters going through task group and working groups.

- **Fire Pattern Indicator Studies with Cal Poly Humboldt** – Shawn Zimmermaker

- Contracts and funding are not an easy task, so not yet finalized with Humboldt. Students attending FI-210 will observe burning for study setup, such as cigarette testing in lab and modified fire pattern indicators in lab with grasses. Hope to have studies from field next year.

- **X-900 Project** – Shawn Zimmermaker and Sarah Lee

- Powerline Caused Fire Investigation Course—The Statement of Work and purchase request have been submitted to contracting with the expectation that the bid will go out next week or so. Then about 30 days before a vendor is awarded. Joe Heidelberger is the lead SME with Shawn Zimmermaker and Joe Bird. This new contract's period of performance has one calendar year to work on it from the award. Three SMEs in working group, but may expand if there is a need.

- **IAAI CFI Trainer Module for Wildland Fire Investigations** – Shawn Zimmermaker and Jim Shanley

- Discussion about the CGI trainer module and options/opportunities for use.
- Gary- Module was good but, make sure to have opportunities to review exam questions. Some questions were worded poorly.

- **Task Group Assignments and Subcommittee Membership** – Shawn Zimmermaker

- New members may hold out until the October meeting for assignments, but take a look at the spreadsheet. Must participate in 1 taskgroup as a member of the subcommittee.
- Secondary requirement is that as a taskgroup puts materials out to be reviewed to subcommittee, the entire subcommittee needs to participate in review to maintain membership.
- Need to ensure the taskgroups give enough time for review. Taskgroups will need expectations and timelines, such as parameters/criteria when assigning a task.
- Voted to approve the requirement for membership.

- **Locations for Next In-Person Fall Meeting** – All

- Dates and location? Will send a poll for location.
- Valuable to meet in person for 3-4 days not including travel. Location with most votes and dates.
- Identify tentative location. Sacramento/Chico. Boise, Reno, or Portland.
- Tentative dates for the poll: weeks of 10/23, 10/30, or 11/6.