



Wildland Urban Interface Mitigation Committee

Conference Call Minutes – May 1, 2019

Historian – Melanie Karns

1300 Central Time

Roll Call - Marty Cassellius, Jennifer Hansen, Melanie Karns, Pam Leschak, Sarah McCaffrey, Jon Skinner, Jon Bruno, Jeremy Taylor, Jolene Ackerman

New Leadership Terms:

- **Chair** – Jolene Ackerman
- **Vice Chair** - Jennifer Hansen (nominated by Pam, Marty seconds, unanimous agreement)
- **Historian** - Riley Pilgrim (nominated by Pam, unanimous agreement)
- **Change in Terms** - change to two-year terms for Chair & Vice Chair
 - Check-in one year from now to ensure committee is functioning as it should be, fairly divided between members

Future call options – conf call, Skype, other options? (Jolene)

- We will have web meetings occasionally when we have documents to review
- Pam recommended to send documents to group in advance to be reviewed (Skype will not work for federal employees)

Review and approve December and February minutes

- Motion to approve December and February notes by Pam for both, Sarah seconds

Mitigation Specialist (Pam)

- It is in the same place as it was last time we met. Pam talked to Deb and others for suggestions to make minor changes. The next phase is to make suggested changes and get back to them for review. Nothing is needed from the committee at this time.

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National Association of State Foresters

Vice Chair
Jennifer Hansen
National Association of State Foresters

Members:

Jon Skinner, Bureau of Land Management
Melanie Karns, National Association of State Foresters
Brett Holt, FEMA
Riley Pilgrim, International Association of Fire Chiefs
Ricky Ziebart, US Fire Administration
Sarah McCaffrey, US Forest Service

Pam Leschak, US Forest Service
Marty Cassellius, USDI Bureau of Indian Affairs
Chris Crew, National Emergency Management Association
Jon Bruno, Coalition for the Upper South Platte
Jeremy Taylor, Mitigation Branch Cf, Colorado Springs FD



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NWCG Connections Call (Jolene)

- The Connections Call is a quarterly call between NWCG committee chairs
- Jolene will attend and report pertinent information back to WUI Mitigation Committee
- Agendas will be sent ahead of time by Jolene. More committee members can attend the meeting, if they would like.
- During the last Connections Call, it was discussed that incident position descriptions will be created for consistency in terminology. These will be posted on the NWCG website.
- Positions will have subject matter experts from NWCG committees – may need to check what positions are being reviewed
- For updates on these position descriptions, go to <https://www.nwcg.gov/>. On the far left-hand side of the website, click "Make your selections here" to pick the areas you would like information on through MailChimp
- Position description coordinators – might be a possible work plan item for us to create these position descriptions

NWCG data standards are under review, need to look through them to see if they need to be reviewed and if input is needed

- There are 9 data standards open for review/comment from **April 12 - May 11, 2019**. All standards are found at: <https://www.nwcg.gov/data-standards-proposed>
- Marty volunteered to be the lead on reviewing data standards that are open for review/comment and determining if any are WUI MC appropriate.

WUI Desk Reference guide, definitions of 'qualitative and quantitative risk assessment' are in conflict with definitions in NWCG glossary

- Jennifer will review that portion of the guide, if no issue default to NWCG update to reflect glossary

S-130 updates

- Jolene (lead), Riley and Jon Bruno will work on providing WUI content for the revised course
 - "Line Safety Unit", WUI is in that unit, the goal is to move away from PowerPoint and be more hands on
 - It was suggested to look at what information should be added and conceptualizing what FF2s should be aware of in the WUI, use IRPG for basis of content

Firewise sub-committee update (Pam)

- Subcommittee comments or concerns for NFPA's modified work plan is due next week (Pam sent this to the WUI Mitigation Committee April 29th)

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- A quarterly report can be sent from Pam to the Committee as well
- No call is scheduled, but sub-committee should have one before long

Parking lot: WUI Mitigation trainings

- Melanie volunteered to maintain the list of WUI trainings around the country
- Add the following training video to the list: (State that video is more of a suppression video, but in the WUI)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W27Kc7_M8lc&feature=youtu.be

In-Person Meeting – We will discuss again after summer

- The November – February timeframe was suggested by Pam

Round table –report on items relevant to the member agency you represent, other relevant/interesting items

- Marty Cassellius (BIA) – Nothing to report
- Jennifer Hansen (NASF) – Working with Pam on WUI Mitigation position, looking into measuring what is effective for grant funding
- Melanie Karns (NASF) - Sites of Excellence Pilot Program, working on prescribed fire grants
- Pam Leschak (USFS) – CMAT WUI Mitigation Best Practices Training, FEMA funding ideas – easier way to get pre-mitigation funding on the ground, briefing undersecretary on the future of mitigation, create national mitigation infrastructure to provide funding, training, best practices for mitigation on the local level
- Sarah McCaffrey (USFS) – Nothing to report
- Jon Skinner (BLM) – had to sign-off call early
- Jon Bruno (advisor) – Attended FAC annual meeting – significant need to operationalize mitigation professionals, CMAT WUI Mitigation Best Practices Training hosting again in Boise (looking at dates), from the last training it was realized there is a lack of knowledge relating to mitigation tools and techniques
- Jeremy Taylor (advisor) – Recently was on a panel at the EMI Conference to discuss mitigation and successful use of pre-mitigation funds, how FEMA can help practitioners at the local level, promote mitigation as a whole
- Jolene Ackerman (NASF) – Sites of Excellence Pilot establishing how assessments will be completed, communications plan to talk to residents

Meeting adjourned 1402 Central Time

Next Meeting: June 5, 2019

- Sarah will discuss changes in education relating to mitigation on the next call

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