



Wildland Urban Interface Mitigation Committee

Conference Call Minutes – February 5, 2020

Notes by: Jeremy Taylor

Time: 1200 MT

Roll Call:

Marty Cassellius, Jonathan Bruno, Jon Skinner, Jeremy Taylor, Pam Leschak, Nicole LaRosa, Deb Fleming, Jolene Ackerman, and Sarah McCaffrey

Approve January Minutes:

Motion to approve January minutes with a request to change the date to January: by Jeremy Taylor, Second Pam Leschak - approved

New Vice-Chair & Historian

- Pam Leschak nominated Jeremy Taylor as vice-chair via email to the committee.
 - Jeremy Taylor is willing to take the roll as vice chair and accepted the nomination.
 - Other nomination requests - none
 - Historian will be deferred to the newest member of the committee
 - Erin O'Connor will be the new Historian and Nichole LaRosa will support in Erin's absence.

NWCG All Chairs Meeting, Feb. 11-12 in Boise, ID

- No committee members on the call can represent the WUIMC at the in-person All Chairs meeting. Deb will be checking into a call-in line for the meeting.
- Committee members are to provide Deb with bullets on what we are working on or challenges, etc. in the event she can report to the group.
 - Historically, the Chair represents the committee at the NWCG All Chairs Meeting on a yearly basis (usually in February) by informing other committees what the WUIMC is working on and status. This meeting also creates opportunities for various committees to collaborate on items.

History of the WUI Mitigation Committee (Deb and Pam)

- History and context
 - Originally, the WUIMC was called the WUI Working Team. This team provided the funding and guidance of performance to the NFPA Firewise Program. In 2007, the committee formed formally, then became adopted by NWCG, and became the WUI Mitigation Committee through adoption. With the formalization of the committee, it became inappropriate for the committee to assign NFPA tasks relating to the Firewise program. The focus of the group transitioned to the WUI and the larger need for community fire adaptation.
- What the committee can/cannot do
 - NWCG operates under an Executive Board master charter. Committees have a subsequent NWCG Master Committee Charter. These charter can be found on the NWCG Website.
<https://www.nwcg.gov/sites/default/files/executive-board/eb-nwcg-charter.pdf>

<https://www.nwcg.gov/sites/default/files/committee/docs/nwcg-master-committee-charter.pdf>

- The Master Committee Charter addresses most regulations and rules regarding the committee and manages what can/cannot be done within the committee. Information about the membership and responsibilities can be found on the NWCG website.
<https://www.nwcg.gov/membership-information>
- The WUIMC also has a Firewise Subcommittee and supported by WUIMC Committee members.
- The WUIMC does not have assigned positions other than Chair and Vice Chair assignments. The assigned positions are optional depending on the operational need of the committee.
- What potential is there for action
 - NWCG Executive committee has high level of interest relating to the WUI Committee and there is a high level of interest with the Executive Board in mitigation.
- What's out of scope
 - No items were identified as being out of scope, as long as topics relate to mitigation and community fire adaptation.
- Opportunities
 - It is critical for the WUIMC to gain committee input on documents that relate to mitigation and the WUI. Such documents include S-130, IRPG, NWCG Glossary of terms, etc.
 - WUI Specialist position is one that should be supported and reviewed by the WUIMC. The committee has the potential to submit and support the position through the federal supplement process.
 - Pam will resend the document again for the committee to review.
 - Jon Bruno will be sharing information on the Best Practices/CMAT trainings to be offered.
- Length of Terms
 - The length of terms has shifted over the years to a 1-year term as Chair. Other committees typically have a 2-year rotation; this can be determined at the discretion of the committee.

State Farm Insurance Effort (Pam)

Wildfire Defense Systems will be providing fire suppression for policyholders. The WUIMC may have a roll of this effort that may distract from mitigation. Insurance may be out of the scope of the committee and it would behoove the committee to review the impacts of decreasing mitigation. Further discussion may be relevant for the background and history regarding mitigation and these groups.

Creating a Work Plan for the Committee – Mission, Membership and Work Plan (Jolene)

- Jolene created a document to help track members and commitments for the WUIMC for working targeted projects.
 - The document had been shared with the committee via email with the agenda for the month of February. The intent of the document is to serve in the background of the committee and is to be updated frequently and shared with the committee.
 - The document includes; membership, developing items, term durations, committee member responsibilities, etc.

Mitigation infrastructure – any final questions/comments for Pam?

Remain on agenda for next meeting



Wildland *U*rban *I*nterface *M*itigation *C*ommittee

Round Robin (skipped)

Meeting adjourned @ 1:09 MT

Next meeting: March 4, 2020 (conference call)