



## Conference Call Minutes – August 5, 2020

Notes by: Faith Berry

Time: 2:01 pm 8/5/2020

**Roll Call:** Jeremy Taylor, Erin O’Conner, Jonathan Bruno, Faith Berry, Sarah McCaffrey, Jennifer Hansen, Deb Fleming, Martin Casselius, Jolene Ackerman, Jonathan Skinner, Greg Phillip

**Approve July Minutes:** Approved changes highlighted and bold removed for ease of creating 508 compliant copy for posting.

### Microsoft Teams Run Through

There are some problems with federal websites being able to access, Jeremy is working to get general access.

The best part of using Microsoft teams is keeping files and working documents organized.

We want to make these files easily accessed and available for comments, so that all committee members can access them.

### Wildfire Risk to Communities Website Update (Jeremy)

Jennifer had sent an email about this topic to everyone that was right on point regarding the committee’s conversation today.

One thing that has come up was the desire to get the committee’s comment, because initially the committee was quiet. Many people from the committee subsequently sent an email with their concerns about the website to Jeremy.

Some concerns were:

- Who is the target audience? This information is not clear. Their comment was that they had to create website that was all inclusive in one portal. They agreed they were not sure who or how to direct the content to the audience.
- Another comment was that the website is redundant telling us things we already know.
- They also shared they are not sure if the website is continuing or will be funded.
- They stated that they will try and define two areas of topics one aimed at the practitioner and the other at the homeowner.
- They are still looking for our input regarding content and information to include.
- They are trying to be nondiscriminatory to single entities regarding information they highlight, but then went to the site with best information, which CAL FIRE happened to be the best source of information they could find on certain topics. We can help them get better information and sources to highlight.

Some questions raised in committee discussion:

- Is this efficient for us to review if they may not keep this going.
- Jonathan shared links should have been identified from the front end and not requested afterwards.

- Jolene in initial meetings with them, they shared this would be focused to state and local officials and land managers, are they planning a roll out to these audiences?
- Is there opportunity on this webpage to help them connect with NASF or state forestry folks as this may be a win for us since they are involved in managing wildfire preparedness activities in their respective states.

***Action Item: Jeremy shared that in conversations with the web team they shared they would like to break down information by state to make content more applicable. Could we hop on a call collectively with them? Committee members agreed to assist.***

It was mentioned that Headwaters Economics was the developer of the website.

## **WUI Specialist Task Book Working Group**

This topic came out of the last call and call before based on documents Pam pushed out for the WUI Mitigation Specialist. This position has been pushed to the Federal Supplement and has to have a task book created.

***Action Item: We need a working group to hone-in this. Greg Phillip, Jen Hansen, Faith Berry, and Jonathan Skinner volunteered to assist Jeremy. Jeremy will send out an invitation for this group. Jeremy asked Deb what is the next step for submitting PTB? It was recommended that we contact someone detailed to the Forest Service, there will be a new contact and Deb will help as needed. The first virtual meeting will be scheduled sometime the morning of August 14<sup>th</sup>.***

## **Mitigation Field Guide (Jon Bruno)**

Jon wanted to bring everyone up to date regarding the job description task book and best practices. He is thinking about creating an additional job aid, some short, abbreviated guidance to accompany the book. He has hosted several calls and consolidated information from across the US. Building this document. He is also going to include information about safety considerations, conflict resolution and tools they can refer to throughout their career. He will create something similar to IRPG documents to help with various challenges. This will provide quick and easy talking points. When the document is ready for release in draft, he is hoping the WUI committee can give their input on it. This will also provide information about how to work with volunteers, codes and ordinances, other information. He will align this material with CMAT and other best practices information.

Jolene asked if they are going to give case studies with best practices. Jonathan shared that no specific case studies will be included, nothing in depth, it will be just like a pocket guide with general information. He will have QR codes to get you directly to information such as funding. There will be a link included to resources on the web. A lot of work has been done developing the best practices, so it makes more sense to call this a mitigation pocket guide. Jeremy asks if this should be referred to in the task book? Jonathan shared that NWCG is moving away from handbooks and going to standards documents. This will become the student handbook.

***Action Item: Jon shared that he did not want to inundate group but wanted to share this information with the WUIMC for review. The question was asked if we wanted to form a smaller working group or whole group. Jonathan said can share with all for input. If you can all look at this it will add credibility to the committee. Maybe WUIMC can sponsor this to the next phase.***



## **Wildland Urban Interface Mitigation Committee**

*Action Item: Jeremy would like to add more documents to website to help people that are going to our website for help.*

### **WUI MC Historical Record and Committee Document**

Committee discussed capturing this historical information in a document. It is important to know who has had a hand in developing this Committee so people can learn more about the Committee and learn more about what we do.

The utility of a document like this, may be especially helpful for new members of the committee. The Committee is in support of creating a document like this, if it isn't too large. It is important to understand what the history of the Committee is, also what we do, how we function and how we can be of assistance. This information will even help with those using our website.

Maybe we can add a summary that can be added as an intro to the work plan. Maybe put it in a frequently asked questions format. Make it easy to use, to help with things coming out of the website. Include some of the historical record component, something from a legacy and historical component, also knowing what we can and cannot do based upon the mission/objectives of the Committee.

*Action Item: Jeremy will create a draft we can edit. Some info got lost with web page changes and updates. If not a lot of information is available, we can focus on frequently asked questions. FAQ's would answer a lot of questions coming through the webpages. Jeremy will put few things together and share with Deb, Jon Skinner and Jolene.*

### **Other Discussion**

There was a question regarding the IRPG being updated. Deb shared they are setting up a meeting for this fall where they are reviewing comments. No update scheduled until 2021. It may be good for us to review and update WUI portion of this.

Jon Skinner is looking for innovative ideas to inform people about keeping campfires safe due to increased use of outdoor resources during the pandemic.

Jeremy has a meeting to find out how the Firewise subcommittee is doing.

*Meeting adjourned @ 2:59*

*Next meeting: September 2nd (conference call)*