



Wildland Urban Interface Mitigation Committee

Conference Call Minutes – April 7, 2021

Notes by: Faith Berry

Roll Call: Faith Berry, Sarah McCaffery, Jonathan Bruno, Erin O’Conner, Jolene Ackerman, Annie Benoit, Jeremy Taylor, Jolene Ackerman, Annie Schmidt

Approve March Minutes

Approved with minor edits

Follow-up items

- America Burning WUI Jeremy submitted all of the group’s input. The America Burning WUI contractor brought together a stakeholder group to work through the comments. They had 42 rich responses from many different groups and should have a draft completed the end of August.

Memo and NWCG Lead Position (Jeremy)

- Regarding the National submittal for assistance/project support of the WUI Specialist Position and recommendations, Jeremy sent out an email with a Draft agenda, including a letter to get the WUI mitigation position as well as lead position approved along with recommendations about and why we feel there is a need for lead and member positions.
- Used same format but positions are vastly different. A memo was sent to establish the lead position and nomenclature. Also discussed in the memo was how to grandfather in those who have already completed trainings and been on CMAT deployments.
- Annie Benoit has worked to make sure the position is forwarded.

WUI Mitigation Standard (Erin and Jeremy)

Had discussion with Jessie Bender NWCG working needs, he helps facilitate standards and working documents, re field guide and desk reference guide.

Discussed the possibility of developing a standard for how publications are developed and standardize the mitigation guide for all programs with generalized language. This helps keep consistent messaging, will create a standard that may help. A reference guide standard sample from CEPC committee was shared with Jeremy he will share out.

The WUI mitigation standard may act as an umbrella for all WUI related items that compliment the position to help standardize messaging. Perhaps another document under this umbrella is best practices.

We also need to make room for community and network opportunities for more localized context approaches to WUI work and be cognizant of complexities of working with diverse communities.

Annie Benoit: Position standards are the how of the positions, the IRPD are the what of the position.

- The need, target audience, terminology, and prevent varied publications
- Merge the Desk Reference Guide, Mitigation Programs, "WUI Field Guide", IRPG WUI Section
- The standard becomes the umbrella and develop branches under the standard at the request and recommendation of NWCG.
- Develop a working group for this work, this may be a new subcommittee under our charter.

Action Item: Jeremy will send us a package of all the information related to the standard, and we can take time to review this and discuss as an agenda item for next meeting.

Face to face Meeting for 2021 or 2022 (All)

- Discuss the details for a face to face and made plans to meet in person for late 2021 or early 2022, we may host this late fall the end of October, November 2021 or in March 2022.
- Maybe add to the end of another conference.
- It would be a good opportunity to work on some of the working items face to face at this meeting.

Action item: Share other upcoming face to face WUI conferences coming up with Jeremy and we can potentially meet at the end of the conference, or we can host ourselves later in the calendar year.

Report outs (All)

1. Desk Reference Guide Working Group: (Jennifer) not on the call, working on the guide.
 - a. Will be completed pending the Standard
2. Draft Mitigation Field Guide (Annie Schmidt and Jon Bruno)
Status Jen Hanson finished up a lot of changes passed on document to Annie Schmidt and she added attributions and some language to be more inclusive. It may need to be passed on and paused depending on decision of the standard. It is a good building block for the standard.

Action item pending the standard development will move forward the desk reference guide with Sarah to look at after Annie's edits.

Round Robin: None

Anything needs to come forward.

Annie Benoit shared a change in March Minutes and Annie will be stepping down from her position for Deb Fleming to take back over.

Meeting adjourned:

Next meeting: May 5th, 2021 (conference call)