



Wildland Urban Interface Mitigation Committee

Conference Call Minutes – May 5, 2021

Notes by: Faith Berry

Time: 1200 MT 5/5/2021

Roll Call

Jennifer Hansen, Jeremy Taylor, Deb Flemming, Faith Berry, Annie Schmidt, Jonathan Bruno, Erik Litzenburg (IAFC), Erin O'Conner, Jolene Ackerman, John Skinner

Approve April Minutes

Minor corrections made

Follow-up items

Most items will be complimentary to the WUI standard.

We will continue moving on to update the desk reference and field guide and as we move forward, these documents may be included or referenced in the WUI standard.

WUI Specialist – Lead (Annie B. or Deb) Not an NWCG product. Deb will be reaching out to Mike Mattfieldt regarding the memo sent out regarding the WUI Lead nomenclature and task book.

Desk Reference Guide Update (Jennifer H.) Want to make sure field guide is completed to make sure desk reference guide compliments the field guide.

WUI Field Guide (Annie S.) Completed a preliminary review and it has been shared with Sarah McCaffrey for comments and then it will go back to Jon Bruno upon completion. Jon will have a meeting with Sarah and Annie for final comments and will finalize the document.

Action Item: Committee members are asked to share with Jeremy if their respective agencies have need and value for a WUI Mitigation Specialist position.

WUI Mitigation Standard (Erin and Jeremy)

Over the past several Committee calls, the WUI Mitigation Standard has been discussed. Further development in to the WUI Standard composition is being considered before development. Consideration of WUI specific positions, guides, Task Books, glossaries, etc. will be reviewed to determine need and inclusion into the standard. As a review of these documents and composition of the standard is completed, a working group for this project will be developed.

Overview: NWCG and others are looking for a standard to have an overarching standard for anything that contains WUI or mitigation fit under. If the Standard is developed, the committee can update this regularly.

Discussion on the possibility of developing a WUI mitigation Standard:

- The roles and responsibilities for 130 other positions are defined by standards, these positions would not be pulled into this standard rather it would influence the standards for other positions. This would also influence the terms in the glossary that the committee has responsibility for.

- How documents and terms complement and reference each other is to be considered since the WUI specialist position is not yet an NWCG Product.
- The NWCG guide for standards will serve as a guide to this process of the WUI Standard. Are there more best practices for WUI that can become a baseline for WUI and mitigation? Glossary definitions reference them so not duplicating them.
- Standards are intended to support positions, they are designated to educate and inform people on how to function in WUI mitigation world and how people can better function in the field.
 - The WUI Standard will need to look at a common base layer. Don't drill in to specific keep it general.
 - This type of work is being many different ways under an umbrella of the Cohesive Strategy. This will be different than an agency standard. How do we get mitigation into field positions?
 - Need to understand things a little more clearly. What is target audience.
 - Perhaps a survey what are they doing commonly and what do they want to accomplish?
 - Some communities have a higher level of risk, our work needs to reach all communities. Commonalities may be with professionals, and some communities are at greater risk not addressing their risk and values.
 - Working with social scientist to see how we can look at pursuing this from a social science perspective.

Action item: Jeremy will send a more complete package of standards for the committee to review and to further explore the possibility of the WUI Standard.

Volunteers to assist in a working team: Jonathan Bruno, Annie Schmidt, Sarah, Jeremy Taylor, Jennifer Hansen and Faith Berry

ACTION ITEM: NWCG connections call tomorrow will get feedback on the WUI standard possibility

Face-to-face Meeting for 2021 or 2022 (All)

Review the possible dates for a WUI MC Face to Face work session in late (4th quarter) 2021 or early (1st quarter) 2022. Discussion was had to make the meeting part of the IAFC WUI Conference.

WUI conference with IAFC in November will be the targeted opportunity for a meeting. Further development and decisions have yet to be made as the Forest Service and others remain on no non-essential travel through the fall.

Action Item: Tentatively set a face to face meeting and for those who cannot travel will set up a virtual opportunity.

Report outs (All) None

Round Robin: None

Meeting adjourned: 12:58

Next meeting: June 2nd, 2021 (conference call)