

Wildland Urban Interface Mitigation Committee

# **Conference Call Minutes – April 6, 2022**

Notes by: Alison Lerch

Time: 1200 MT 4/6/2022

#### Roll Call

Welcome Ashley Whitworth, Colorado Springs Fire. Ashley will be taking Jeremy's place as the IAFC Representative and take Jeremy's place on the WUI Subcommittee.

Erin O'Connor, Texas A&M Forest Service Marty Cassellius, Bureau of Indian Affairs Faith Berry, US Fire Administration Sheryl Page, National Community Wildfire Mitigation Program Manager, USFS Jeremy Taylor, IAFC Representative

#### **Approve March Meeting Minutes**

Erin made a motion to approve, Sheryl seconded. All approved.

#### Follow-up items

- Definition Revision Requests for co-owned terms (Jeremy, Sarah, Annie)
  - Annie and Sarah have been working on the list that is owned by NWCG with the remodified definitions. There are terms that are not owned by NWCG and those will be sent to the committee. Lists will need to be passed to 5 other committees for final approval.

## Wildfire Mitigation Field Guide (Sheryl)

- Report-out and update
  - Met March 11 and worked through each section of the field guide. There is still a lot of content work to do. Thanks to everyone who has gone in and provided suggestions. Next steps include adding QR codes, images and graphics. Sheryl will follow up with Jessie on third party QR codes. Next meeting is April 19.

### Wildland Urban Interface Mitigation Standard (Jeremy, Erin)

- Report-out on status
  - $\circ$  Google Doc
    - Clean NWCG-Pubs1-template.docx Google Docs
  - o Structure Hardening Spreadsheet
- Notes: Annie and Sarah have been revising the Google document based on Pam L's comments. There are four Structure Hardening spreadsheets floating around that will get compiled in one spot. As Jeremy transitions out he will ensure Ashley has the links. Jeremy will also share with Eric Luxemburg.

### 2022 Face-to-Face Meeting (All)

It would be great to get together and collectively go over all of the deliverables. It would be best to avoid the national conferences and workshops. Cohesive Strategy is in North Carolina. WUI Reno is going to be in March from now on. Historically the committee met for 3 days in person/year. After October 1<sup>st</sup> is best.

1<sup>st</sup> week in November or last week of October is suggested. Jeremy will send out a doodle poll and can assist in finding a location. Colorado Springs was suggested as a location and Jeremy and Ashley can find a location.

# Report outs (All)

### **Round Robin:**

Faith: Worked with a road safety committee that did a training module on roadway safety during a wildfire or a prescribed fire incident. They called on USFA and NWCG for SME. The module is online and Faith will share the link with the committee.

Ashley: Ramping up the chipping season on April 21<sup>st</sup>. Hired 9 crew members this year. Working with the tabor committee. \$20 million in tabor funds has been set aside for Colorado Springs and the surrounding areas.

Marty: Ramping up for Rx season. It has been a cold and wet spring and no longer in a drought. Dealing with the bipartisan infrastructure legislation for additional funds. There is an opportunity for slip-on pumps for BIA programs.

Sheryl: IJA work including supporting creating and updating CWPPs and supporting activities in a CWPP. Working with a good interagency group on that. Kick off of the Forest Service Resilient Structures Pilot Project that was started by Pam L, including structure assessments and how to improve and maintain. This will provide recommendations to leadership. Wildfire Prepared Home Recognition Program is pulling in different groups to work on this and there is a meeting in DC. NFPA is hosting a Policy Summit the second week of May. If anyone has thoughts or suggestions Sheryl can take a long let her know. WUI Reno Conference was great! It was wonderful to see everyone and to witness the connections made at the conference. Pam L is hired on with the FS on a temporary basis to work on CWPPs.

Alison: DNR-EDO developed the COSWAP program and release the Landscape Resilience Investment program in March.

Erin: Recent Texas fires have gotten close to communities and have helped aid in conversations about wildfire mitigation and home safety. There is state funding available for mitigation projects.

Jeremy: This is my last meeting and value your time, partnership and friendship. Reach out if you need a Utilities recommendation.

#### Meeting adjourned:

*Next meeting: May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022 (Regular meeting via conference call)*