



Wildland Urban Interface Mitigation Committee

Agenda – February 1, 2023

Time: 1200 MT 2/1/2023

Roll Call

Attendees: Faith Berry, Sarah Lee, Bailey Horton (on behalf of Ashley Whitworth), Jolene Ackerman, Sheryl Page, Martin Casselius, Erin O'Connor, Dan Beveridge

Approve November and December Meeting Minutes

No discussion; motion to approve by Sheryl Page, seconded by Faith Berry

Discussion/Follow-up Items

- Glossary Terms – update/feedback. Faith and Erin worked through the resilience term feedback and submitted revisions to NWCG; Risk Assessment Term – feedback from IPSC prompted further discussion and Sarah Lee brought this up at the Data Standards and Terminology Board. Agreed to create multiple Risk Assessment terms, WUIMC will steward Risk Assessment (Mitigation).
- In-person Committee Meeting (WUI Conference or National Cohesive Strategy Conference). Committed to tying in with an existing conference; tentatively plan for National Cohesive Strategy Conference in Fall 2023 with a WUIMC meeting 1-2 days before or after the conference.

Wildland Urban Interface Mitigation Standard (Erin)

Update: Erin formatted and sent to Sarah who submitted the document to NWCG Publications; feedback waiting for Faith and Erin to meet and discuss. Sheryl asked if the feedback and changes were anything substantial, but Erin confirmed that the changes were phrasing and tone related. There was some discussion about Quantitative and Qualitative Risk Assessment – Erin confirmed these definitions have been removed from the glossary and are only briefly mentioned in the Standard with new definition for Risk Assessment.

Wildfire Mitigation Field Guide (Sheryl)

- Report-out and update; moving to the more engaging process and working through visual content additions. Task group is having a 2-hour work session to start finishing work and wrapping things up. Jolene confirmed that she is finishing her content review. Image discussion: received a variety of images from committee members and other partners, NFPA and NIFC providing additional images. USFS may have someone available to support graphic development.

WUIMC SOPs (Erin)

Small working group getting started to create guidelines for committee members and to capture historic information for officer/member changes. Working to include updates to committee functions, products, taskings, roles and responsibilities, representation, etc.

Next Steps (All)

Erin has tasked members with thinking of next projects, considerations; where do we want to go and what should we be involved with? Faith has created a document to capture ideas, which include:

- Podcast of WUI mitigation success stories of new WUI Mit Specialists using the guide & standard
- Updating S-215
- Updating & maintaining the committee webpage

- Guest speakers
- Updating SOPs
- Informal database characterizing WUI practices for states/regions

Report-outs/Round Robin (All)

Erin discussed shared access location for file sharing/storing. DOI Teams has not worked well for committee members, so Erin has created a Google Drive that can be passed from chair to chair and shared with all members. Sarah Lee offered to occasionally transfer materials and products from Google Drive to meet requirements of NWCG.

Membership: Faith Berry is retiring, and the committee will need a new vice-chair until April 2024.

- Sheryl Page
 - USFS is hiring a mitigation specialist that will work with her in Comm. Mitigation for USFS (1 year, not to exceed position)
 - Working with IAFC through a program agreement with them, working on a WUI Mitigation gap analysis
 - Eric Litzenburg (NM) will be doing the work and would like to speak to this group for brainstorming purposes
 - Sooner the better for involvement (March meeting)
 - 2 qualifications
 - Mitigation Specialist Team Leader & Team Member
 - Only USFS positions at this point
 - Working on building these positions within the agency
 - Working out associated AD pay plan on how to integrate these roles into the system
 - Requires PDs for each position
 - Hopes to have the new USFS mitigation specialist provide support with this
 - Support offered by SL from NWCG
- Faith Berry
 - Wildland Fire Mitigation & Management Commission
 - Information available online
 - Public comment being solicited
 - <https://www.usfa.fema.gov/wui/wildland-fire-mitigation-management-commission.html>
- Sarah Lee - from NWCG
 - The annual Meeting for committee chairs is next week (2 day)
 - Executive Board provided leader's intent
 - Priorities for 2023
 - Systems Improvement (IPTM - incident performance & training modernization)
 - Complex Incident Management Teams (CIMT)
 - Support to committees
 - ★ **Third priority was Mental Health/Firefighter Wellness - has been moved to a VALUE rather than a PRIORITY**
 - Many NWCG vacancies that need to be filled
 - *Sarah reinforces that NWCG is here to provide support*

Meeting adjourned

Next meeting: March 1, 2023, via Teams Video Conference