



Wildland *U*rban *I*nterface *M*itigation Committee

Agenda – August 6, 2025

Time: 1200 MT 8/6/2025

Roll Call: Marty Cassellius, Daniel Beveridge, Ashley Whitworth, Sheryl Page, Jennifer Hansen, Jonathan Bruno, Sarah Lee, Erik Litzenberg

Approve Meeting Minutes (June and July)

Jennifer made a motion to approve June meeting minutes, Sheryl second motion.

Sheryl made a motion to approve July meeting minutes, Jennifer second motion.

Sarah will be working to go back to make sure all our previous meeting minutes are posted on the website. She will e-mail the group with a list of any missing minutes that we need to locate and upload to the website.

Discussion/Follow-up Items

- **Wildfire Mitigation Field Guide – Process for Ordering:**
 - All printed NWCG publications can be ordered through the Great Basin Cache using the NFES Catalog Part 2 - Publications, which is posted here: <https://www.nwcg.gov/publications/nfes-catalogs>. When you click on the link to "NFES Catalog Part 2 - Publications" it will open a very similar looking webpage, but if you scroll down there are expandable + signs that give more information on how to order.
 - If you click on the "Full Catalog" link under the "+ Catalog and Order Form Excel Workbooks", it will bring up a spreadsheet with the first tab showing the ordering instructions and fillable areas for your shipping/billing information. Then the second tab is the order form.
 - Current issue: The NFES number for the new PMS 053 is 008839, but since the cache hasn't updated their order form yet we needed to find out how someone orders a new NFES publication (until the form is updated).
 - Solution: NWCG Publications is working with GBK to update the order form, but in the meantime you can submit an order using NFES 008839 with a cost of \$16.98 each.
- **WUI Mitigation Training (Gap Analysis Update) - Erik Litzenberg**
 - Erik briefed on the history of the gap analysis along with the next step which is to prioritize the identified needs. Everyone involved in the process would like to focus future efforts on developing virtual trainings and the modernization of existing training.
 - Daniel suggested bridging to Podcast and shared an example of the Wildfire Lesson Learned Podcast - 41 Structure Protection Operations: [Wildfire Chronicles: Heroism Beyond the Flames](#).
 - Erik mentioned that IAFC's has a podcast every other Wednesday: [Wildfire Podcasts](#).
 - WFSTAR RT-130 Mitigation video. Jennifer and Jon met with Joe Schindel about the project idea. Joe sent over the project intake form. Jennifer has a draft started but is looking for help from committee members for more input. Daniel, Jon, and Sheryl all said they could help. Jennifer will e-mail it to the group.
 - National Fuels Academy – Jennifer is working with BLM Fuels lead on incorporating our committee's publications (desk reference and field guide) as reference material. WUIMC may have an opportunity to be a guest lecturer. She is meeting with Angie again in September.

- **NWCG Restructuring**
 - Sarah shared that NWCG received approximately 49 pages of feedback. The team has pulled out bullet points from the forms to include in a summary report. The Executive Board has a small group reviewing the feedback. In another month, the full board will review and then vet through their respective agencies.
 - The current proposal is following the recommendation of this committee to be moved under Operations.
- **Committee Members Replacements** - Any Update on replacement of Jolene and/or Faith?
 - Dainel submitted a formal request to Sarah to request a replacement for NASF.
- **WMTM/L positions (All)** – Potential opportunities

Report-outs/Round Robin (All)

- Marty – been working on the Fuel Treatment Effectiveness Monitoring Report for BIA. BIA traditionally has the most fires that interact with fuel treatments. The report showed many successes.
- Daniel – the Western State Fire Managers established another workgroup under them to focus on WUI codes. He's participating in that group.
- Ashley – upcoming mitigation work in partnership with USFS and Air Force Academy.
- Jon – COCO is training younger groups (NextGen) on mitigation best practices and mitigation 101. He's excited for the first cohort of 18–20-year-olds that will have this knowledge.
- Jennifer – Jon Skinner's position is still vacant, but the national office is planning on doing a detail/temp promotion in the upcoming months.
 - The BLM national office has been participating in workgroups to develop action items in response to Executive Order 14308 with aggressive deadlines. The national office has been asking some state leads to provide ideas or review proposed action items.
 - State Offices are busy with completing the merit review process for Fuels and Community Assistance proposals. This is another aggressive timeline due to the upcoming end of the fiscal year when all funds need to be obligated.
- Sheryl – There are several Executive Order workgroups that she's participating on along with prioritizing responses based on deadlines established in the EO.
 - Additionally, the USDA recently announced their proposed reorganization plan. They are soliciting feedback on the proposed reorganization plan. USDA has an email (reorganization@usda.gov) set up to capture feedback on the proposed reorganization plan.
 - Within the Mitigation and Prevention Branch, USFS is reviewing their agreement with NFPA Firewise USA® and will be having a meeting to discuss their program. Headwaters Economics could help with codes and insurance stuff.
 - Some personnel changes, the national prevention lead took another job, but Liza Simmons will lateral into the position next week. She's permanently filling the wildfire prevention/mitigation specialist positions that we've detailed a couple of folks into.

Meeting adjourned

***Next meeting: September 3, 2025, via Microsoft Teams Video Conference*