National Wildfire Coordinating Group

Wildland Fire Module Unit

Charter

1 Background

The National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) was formed in January 1974, to expand operational cooperation and coordination between various public agencies having jurisdictional responsibility for wildland fire management.

In 2007, NWCG was re-chartered, expanding its responsibility and adding new partners. The unit chartered herein is one of a number of support groups established by the NWCG to provide stewardship for specific business segment areas in fire management.

2 Name

The name of this unit, hereinafter referred to as the Unit, is the Wildland Fire Module Unit (WFMU) of the Fire Use Subcommittee.

3 Authority

The Unit is established pursuant to the authorities granted in the Fire Use Subcommittee Charter.

The deliberations of this Unit are exempt from the Federal Advisory Committee Act under section 204 of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995.

The Unit Lead is authorized to convene meetings and schedule agenda items. The Unit Lead is also authorized to make contacts, negotiate work assignments, and make commitments on behalf of the Unit.

4 Purpose

The Unit is established to develop and maintain standards, establish consistent national program coordination and implementation procedures, provide a means for proactive problem and issue resolution, evaluate organizational and staffing needs, facilitate the exchange of information between groups, and make recommendations to the NWCG through the Fire Use Subcommittee for the NWCG Wildland Fire Modules.

5 Membership

Unit membership will reflect a mix of people who are knowledgeable in the subject area of the Unit and who are from NWCG member agencies and organizations. With Branch Coordinator approval, other agencies or organizations that are not NWCG members may be selected for Unit membership.
The Fire Use Subcommittee will approve the Unit Lead. The term of the Unit Lead appointment will be 2 years and may be extended at the discretion of the Fire Use Subcommittee.

The Fire Use Subcommittee will approve the Unit Vice Lead. The term of the Vice Lead appointment will be 2 years and may be extended at the discretion of the Fire Use Subcommittee.

The primary Unit member roster will be approved by the Fire Use Subcommittee. The terms of each primary member will be 2 years and may be extended at the discretion of the Fire Use Subcommittee. Technical advisors may be added as associate members with Unit Lead approval.

6 Organization

The Unit is under the direction of the Fire Use Subcommittee.

The Unit may create task teams with concurrence of the Fire Use Subcommittee Chair and the Policy, Fuels Management Committee Chair, and the Planning and Management Branch Coordinator.

7 Cooperation and Coordination

The Unit will work through the Fire Use Subcommittee to ensure appropriate coordination, collaboration, and information sharing with other groups and organizations for the subject matter and specific tasks of the Unit.

8 Responsibility

The Unit is primarily responsible for developing and maintaining standards, establishing consistent national program coordination and implementation procedures, providing a means for proactive problem and issue resolution for the Interagency Wildland Fire Module (IWFM) community, evaluate organizational and staffing needs for the IWFM community, facilitate the exchange of information between groups, and make recommendations to the NWCG through the Fire Use Subcommittee.

A. Host workshop as needed of IWFM Leaders and other interagency partners

B. Facilitate any revisions/updates of Standards for Interagency Wildland Fire Module Operations under the direction of the NWCG Fire Use Subcommittee.

C. Develop and direct IWFM program priorities and initiatives, and conduct assessments to evaluate program effectiveness.

D. Direct consistent standards, guidance, and coordination for IWFM program in accordance with organizational standards outlined in the Standards for Interagency Wildland Fire Module Operations.

E. Organize working groups to address specific issues and/or tasks. Ensure follow-up of timely reporting with working groups.
9 Charter Amendments

Changes to, or revocation of, this charter must follow the process outlined in the NWCG Operating Principles and Guidelines.

10 Charter Approval

This charter is effective as of the date of approval by the Chair of the Fire Use Subcommittee and shall remain in effect until revised or revoked.

Approved:

/s/Mary Taber  5/22/2012
Chair, Fire Use Subcommittee  Date

Concur:

/s/Jim Hutton  5/23/2012
Chair, Fuels Management Committee  Date

/s/Elaine Waterbury  5/25/2012
Policy, Planning and Management Branch Coordinator  Date