



Wildland Urban Interface Mitigation Committee

NWCG Wildland Urban Interface Mitigation Committee Conference Call 12:00 P.M. Central Time, August 7, 2013

Minutes:

- **Role call:** Attending: John Fish, Pam Leschak, Phyllis Krietz, Sarah McCaffrey, Greg McLaughlin. Absent: Jon Skinner, Sid Beckman, Len Diaz, Cindy Palmer, Will May
- **Assign notekeeper:** Pam Leschak
- **Review July 2013 meeting minutes:** Unanimously approved
- **Committee membership & leadership:**
 - John Fish will take over the Chair's position in light of Mark Gray's retirement. John plans to fulfill his 2 year term and needs someone to step up and assume the Vice-Chair position to assist when he is unavailable and to assume the Chair position when his term expires. There were no volunteers. **John asked committee members to continue considering this opportunity and we will address on our next conference call.**
 - **John will contact Dan Smith to work on a replacement NASF Western representative to replace Mark Gray.**
 - John Fish contacted Sid Beckman who indicated his desire to continue as a committee member.
- **WUI Wildfire Mitigation Desk Reference Guide status:** Will May, Tim Melchert, and Sarah McCaffrey are working on moving this project to the final draft to be entered into the NWCG approval process. Phyllis indicated her interest/intent to stay with the project and work with this group. **Will felt the group was on task to complete by September 30, 2013.**
- **WUIMC Work Planning:**
 - Project priorities based on survey responses by committee members was as follows;
 - Communicate FAC/WUI information/messages to fire community & public
 - Update strategic plan (equal weight w/#1)
 - Continue development of WUI Guide (*Will*)
 - NWCG course & task book review (*John F.*)
 - Develop position papers (*Pam*)
 - Promote research (*Sarah*)
 - Develop success stories/case studies (*Len*)
 - Identify alternative funding sources (*Cindy*)
- **Position Papers:** Group discussed some possible topics to begin with and Cohesive Strategy trade-off analysis was discussed as a potential topic to draft a position on. **Committee was asked by the Chair to think about other timely topics we should draft a position on and share the ideas during our next conference call.**
- **Future meeting schedule**
 - November 12-13, 2013 @ NIFC/Boise **or** November 14-16, 2013 in conjunction with Backyards & Beyond Conference in Salt Lake City, UT. **Greg McLaughlin to contact NFPA to request meeting space prior to Backyards & Beyond Conference.**
 - February 19-20, 2014 @ NIFC/Boise
 - September 16-17, 2014 @ NIFC/Boise
 - Regularly scheduled meetings by conference call will continue the 1st Wed. of each month
- **Additional Topics:**
 - Phyllis updated the group about the USFA FAC training being piloted in Emmittsburg PA now. USFA would like the training to be "blessed" by NWCG and become part of the NWCG training effort. Pam suggested perhaps USFA could present the course to the WUI MC to determine if they can support the concept.
 - Pam updated the group on the NVFC WUI Fire Assessment Program, a training program for volunteer fire departments to learn how to do community and home risk assessments.
- **Adjourned at 1245 mountain time.**

Chair
Mark Gray
National Association of State Foresters

Vice Chair
John K. Fish
National Association of State Foresters

Sid Beckman, USDI National Park Service
Len Diaz, USDI Bureau of Indian Affairs
Phyllis Krietz, FEMA, U.S. Fire Administration
Pam Leschak, USDA Forest Service
Will G. May International Association of Fire Chiefs

Members:
Sarah McCaffrey, USDA Forest Service – Research & Development
Greg McLaughlin, National Association of State Foresters
Cynthia Palmer, Federal Emergency Management Agency
Jon Skinner, USDI Bureau of Land Management