



# NWCG Executive Board

## Meeting Minutes – 18 May 2016

<b>NWCG Participants</b>	<p><b>Executive Board:</b> Bob Roberts, vice-Chair (BIA), Dan Smith (NASF), John Glenn, Chair (BLM), Kevin Conn (FWS), Mark Koontz (NPS), Will May (IAFC), Aitor Bidaburu (USFA), Kim Christensen for Frank Guzman (USFS); Russ Johnson for Rod Bloms (DOI OWF Liaison). Not Present: Tim Sexton (RD&amp;A), Jim Erickson (ITC).</p> <p><b>NWCG Staff:</b> Krysta Shultz (Executive Secretary), Sean Cross (NWCG Program Manager), Tim Blake (Operations Branch Coordinator), Paul Schlobohm (NWCG FMB Liaison), Deb Fleming (Training Development Program Manager). Not present: Elaine Waterbury (Planning Branch Coordinator).</p>
<b>Other Participants</b>	Roshelle Pederson (Chair, Data Management Committee); Robyn Heffernan (Chair, Fire Environment Committee); Jon Rollens (Chair, National Interagency Aviation Committee).

*Meeting handouts are available upon request via email at [blm\\_fa\\_nwcg\\_executive\\_secretary@blm.gov](mailto:blm_fa_nwcg_executive_secretary@blm.gov)*

Item	Topic	Presenter	Action Taken
1	Welcome, Agenda Review, Active Tasking Review	Paul Schlobohm	N/A
2	National Interagency Aviation Committee (NIAC) topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Update on establishing an Aviation Strategy Subcommittee</li> <li>b) Update on establishing a new Aircraft Dispatching Form</li> <li>c) Update on establishing an Aviation Dispatch Committee</li> <li>d) Recommendation to make the Military Use Handbook an NWCG Publication</li> <li>e) Review and approval of the 2016 Interagency Helicopter Operations Guide (IHOG)</li> <li>f) OAS/USDA signature pages on IHOG and IASG – Should NWCG embed agency specific signature pages in NWCG documents?</li> </ul>	Tim Blake	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Executive Board heard and supported the rationale for this subcommittee. Mission statement and membership will be solidified at the National Interagency Aviation Committee's (NIAC) May meeting.</li> <li>b) Susie Stingley (Chair, National Coordination System Committee) will be invited to NIAC's May meeting to discuss the proposal to use the form as a best practice, but not as mandatory, for the 2016 fire season.</li> <li>c) The necessity of this proposed group, as well its potential membership and location within NWCG structure, will be discussed by NCSC and NIAC representatives at the May 2016 NIAC meeting. The chairs will develop a joint recommendation.</li> <li>d) NCSC will attend NIAC May meeting, hear NIAC argument to convert <i>Military Use Handbook</i> to an NWCG document, and provide a recommendation to the Executive Board on this issue. (Separate but related issue: Prior to release of 2016 <i>Military Use Handbook</i>, document type and title will be changed from Handbook to Guide).</li> <li>e) Approved.</li> <li>f) NWCG Executive Board position is that agency-specific directives should not be embedded into NWCG documents. When agencies</li> </ul>

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			issue agency-specific direction regarding the use of NWCG documents or standards, they may include NWCG documents as attachments. NWCG staff will discuss this with OAS.
3	Review and approval of Data Management for Incidents Managed as Complex and Wildfires that Merge Tasking Deliverable	Roshelle Pederson	Board members were presented with and approved the completed package from the task team addressing data management for complexes and merged wildfires. Proposed changes will be reviewed in November for implementation in 2017.
4	Update on the development of NWCG Guidance to Committees on the WFIT Process	Paul Schlobohm	Draft NWCG roles and responsibilities for the WFIT investment process will be issued to the committees for review and comment. The NWCG task group that developed the draft will incorporate committee feedback, then provide the Executive Board a final draft for review at the July Executive Board meeting.
5	Update on structure protection and suppression terms	Aitor Bidaburu	Coordinating Group Advisory Council (CGAC) tasked to canvas geographic areas to consolidate terms and definitions used for structure protection and suppression. Recommendations will be brought back to NWCG and if appropriate, will be handed off to the Data Management Committee to have them begin the process for incorporation into the NWCG Glossary.
6	Review and approval of proposed meeting schedule – NWCG Tuesday PM/Wednesday AM	Paul Schlobohm	Approved.
7	Fire Environment Committee (FENC) Update: a) ROMAN Shutdown and coordination with ITAB on next steps. b) Update on NOAA Weather Service Products c) Update on NFDRS 2016	Robyn Heffernan	a) The National Multi-Agency Coordination Group (NMAC) released a memorandum indicating that ROMAN (the Real-time Observation Monitoring and Analysis Network) was shut down on April 27 <sup>th</sup> . MesoWest with the University of Utah to be used as a backup for 2016 season. Previously funded integration of ROMAN into the Weather Information Management System (WIMS) is being pursued as a more stable solution in Fall 2016. b) Red Flag warnings to undergo change over the course of the next 5+years. Spot weather forecast information will be hosted directly on NOAA website with changes that make it more user-friendly. Service to be available June 1, but official start will be November 1. c) National Fire Danger Rating System (NFDRS) 2016 is 3-4 months behind original schedule. Finalization of the information is still occurring.
8	Lightning Round	All	N/A

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