

National Wildfire Coordinating Group

Wildland Fire Education Working Team



HISTORY OF PROJECTS

WILDLAND FIRE EDUCATION WORKING TEAM & PREVENTION, EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION WORKING TEAM

Note: Team name changed in May 1997, from Prevention, Education and Communication Working Team to Wildland Fire Education Working Team

1992 - Developed and Distributed Two Editions of the "Hotsheet"

The "Hotsheet" distributed current information of interest to incident information officers.

1992 - Prepared and distributed an "Emergency Information Contacts Directory"

A directory which provided telephone access to the public information officers of five federal wildland agencies and to the state foresters.

1992 - Developed and Submitted Working Team's Charter for NWCG Approval

1992 - Produced "Strategic Communications for Wildland Fire Management" Video

A comprehensive and effective review of the right and wrong ways for managers and incident information officers to interact with external audiences during a crisis.

1993 - Produced "Focus on Wildland Fire Prevention...Profiling Four Programs that Really Work" video.

A fifteen minute video which highlighted successful efforts in four communities or agencies to improve fire prevention programs.

1993 - Developed Five Fire Ecology Modules Into the Project Learning Tree Curriculum.

Designed for use in secondary school classrooms, to teach students about fire fundamentals.

1993 - Published "Bibliography Of Fire Education Materials".

First edition of a publication designed to highlight what the Team considered to be the best and most effective educational materials available.

1993 - Completed Identification of Standards and Qualifications for Two Levels of Fire Information Officers.

The existing I-403 course was broken into two new courses, task books were developed and a new FIO Handbook was completed.

1994 - Produced "Developing a Successful Wildland Fire Prevention Program" Video

A basic "how to" introduction, for the creation of a new fire prevention programs.

1994 - Developed "On the Line of Fire" Pamphlet

Designed to inform the public about what a wildland firefighter does and how they are equipped.

1994 - Published "Bibliography Of Fire Education Materials"

Second edition of a publication distributed to highlight the best fire prevention and education materials currently available.

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1996 - Phase 1, Fire Prevention Education Training Initiative:

This project resulted in three wildland fire prevention guides and job aids which were designed to provide field fire prevention personnel with information and guidance, titled:

- "Wildfire Prevention Marketing Guide"
- "Wildfire Prevention Event Management Guide"
- "Wildfire Prevention Conducting School Programs Guide"

1996 - Created "*Forest Fire Ecology Resource*" Packets - 200 informational packets of fire education materials were distributed to key environmental and forestry education professionals, at a Project Learning Tree annual conference.

1996 - Sponsored Full-day "Fire Ecology and Management" Field Trip - Conducted for 80 professional educators, from the Project Learning Tree network.

1996 - Created "*The Changing Forest: Forest Ecology*" Curriculum - Produced in cooperation with Project Learning Tree. A new secondary school curriculum, distributed to over 8,000 teachers.

1996 - Developed "*One Step Beyond*" Video

This video was designed to educate viewers about the ignition management planning and analysis process.

1997 - Published "*Bibliography Of Fire Education Materials*"

Third edition of a publication designed to highlight the best fire prevention and education materials currently available.

1997 - Produced Series of Video New Releases

Broadcast quality video footage and sample press releases that could be easily tailored to local situations. Available in either Beta or 3/4 inch size. Provided raw video footage, known in the film industry as "B-Roll". Titles distributed were:

- Arson
- Debris Burning (Northeast and Pacific Northwest version)
- Recreational Activities (Northern and Southwest regional version)
- Wildland-Urban Interface

1997 - Revised Training Course P-101, Introduction to Wildland Fire Prevention

1997 - Revised Training Course P-301, Wildland Fire Prevention Analysis and Planning

1997 - Developed Standard Set of Messages Related to Fire's Role and Use

This project was assigned by NWCG and resulted from the Federal Fire Policy. Created a set of consistent fire role and use messages, for use by decision makers and the public.

1997 - National Survey of Prevention, Education and Communication Needs

Conducted by the University of Idaho to identify needed products and projects.

1998 - Revised Training Course S-203, Introduction To Incident Information

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1998 - Phase 2, Fire Prevention Education Training Initiative:

This project resulted in three wildland fire prevention guides and job aids which were designed to provide field fire prevention personnel with information and guidance, titled:

- "*Wildfire Prevention and the Media*"
- "*Wildfire Prevention Strategies*"
- "*Wildfire Prevention Patrol Guide*"

1998 - Conducted Interagency Satellite Teleconference

Conducted on April 8, 1998, this national teleconference featured several wildland fire agency heads communicating the importance of adherence to the Federal Fire Policy, to their employees.

1998 - Developed Training Course P-301, Wildland Fire Prevention Analysis and Planning

1998 - Developed Training Course S-403, Advanced Incident Information

1999 - Phase 3, Fire Prevention Education Training Initiative:

This project resulted in four wildland fire prevention guides and job aids which were designed to provide field fire prevention personnel with information and guidance, titled:

- "*Recreation Area Fire Prevention*"
- "*Fire Communication and Education*"
- "*Fire Education Exhibits and Displays*"
- "*Industrial Operations Fire Prevention Guide*"

1999 - Produced "*Electronic Bibliography Of Fire Education Materials*"

Fourth edition of a publication designed to highlight the best fire prevention and education materials currently available. Distributed in an electronic medium for the first time.

2000 - Wildland Arson Reduction Demonstration Program

Completed a multi-year project, started in 1994, to fund pilot projects designed to foster new and innovative solutions to address the problem of wildland arson. Funded projects included:

- A regional education program, designed to provide multi-agency training in fields of expertise related to wildland fire investigation, in the Pacific Northwest.
- Local and statewide educational programs, to make the general public and business owners more aware of the wildland arson problem and how they can help to reduce it, in Maine, New Jersey, Utah, and Texas.
- Tested the use of infrared trail monitors and remote cameras as a tool to enhance wildland arson investigation abilities in remote locations and at night, in Pennsylvania.
- Purchase of supplies and investigative materials, in Tennessee.
- A program to provide disposable cameras to local residents and others in areas of high wildland arson incidence, in Oregon.
- Creation and implementation of a system to screen prospective members of volunteer fire departments, for illegal fire setting tendencies, in the southeastern states.

2001 - Produced "*Communicator's Guide to Wildland Fire*"

This publication provides comprehensive reference information about wildland fire, for educators and communicators, and is available in written form, on CD and is downloadable through the NIFC website.

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2001 - Electronic Bibliography

Fifth edition of a publication originally titled "*Bibliography Of Fire Education Materials*". It contains a series of links to useful fire prevention and education source materials, which is indexed several ways, to facilitate searching.

2002 - "Wildland Fire in the U.S." Brochure

Designed to increase public awareness about fire and its role in ecosystems.

2002 - Educational Messaging Project

Working through Lifetime Learning Systems, a four page insert titled "*Living with Wildland Fires*" was included with an edition of *Weekly Reader* magazine.

2002 - National Fire Prevention and Education Team Three Year Strategy

At the request of NWCG, a proposed five year strategy, for improvement and coordinated management of the National Fire Prevention and Education Team program, was redrafted and condensed into a three year strategy.

2002 - Assumed Responsibility For Coordination of the National Fire Prevention and Education Team Program

- At the direction of NWCG initiated implementation of a three year strategy to improve and coordinate the program, beginning with the hiring of a national coordinator.

2002 - Completed a WFEWT PowerPoint Presentation

Completed a presentation to be used to familiarize audiences with the mission, organization and work of the Team.

2002 - Completed WFEWT Strategic Plan

2003 - Assisted With Revision to the "Glossary of Wildland Fire Terminology"

Provided recommendations concerning fire prevention related terms, to be included in the next edition of this publication.

2004 - National Fire Messaging Project

Developed a set of national messages for use by agency personnel to communicate about wildland fire.

2004 - "Wildland Fire in the United States" Brochure

Designed to increase public awareness about fire and its role in ecosystems.

2005 - Phase 4, Fire Prevention Education Training Initiative:

This project resulted in a wildland fire prevention guide designed to provide field fire prevention personnel with information and guidance, titled: "*Sign and Poster Guide*"

2005 - Fire Messaging Materials CD

Developed a CD containing materials which can be used by agency personnel to assist them communicate with the public about wildland fire issues

2005 - Fire Management Today Article

Submitted an article to *Fire Management Today* titled "*Building Public Understanding and Support of Fire Management.*"

History of Projects – NWCG Wildland Fire Education Working Team – As of February 2006

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2005 - *People, Land and Water* Article

Submitted an article to *People, Land and Water* titled “*Wildland Fire: A Natural Process*”.

2005 - Communications Planning Guide

Developed “*Best Practices: Communications Planning*,” a collection of planning concepts and a quick “how to” guide on preparing an effective communication plan.

2005 - Updates and Highlights from the “*Communicator’s Guide to Wildland Fire*”

Distributed a “Did You Know?” briefing sheet which highlighted items in the Communicator’s Guide, the NWCG standard messages on wildland fire, and future Working Team products.

2005 - National Fire Prevention and Education Teams

Neared completion of a multi-year project, started in 2003, to implement a NWCG approved strategy designed to integrate the training, use and dispatch of National Fire Prevention and Education Teams into the national mobilization and deployment system.