

# National Wildfire Coordinating Group

Wildland Fire Education Working Team



## NWCG Wildland Fire Education Working Team, Albuquerque, NM

Meeting Notes - January 31 – February 2, 2006 (Tuesday – Thursday)

**Attending:** Maureen Brooks, Roberta D'Amico, Bernie Andersen, Rick Gibson, John Owens, Dennis Dupuis, Germaine White, and Robin Hanford. **Guests:** Bill Sweet, Donna Hummel.

Topic	Notes (Indicate DECISION / ACTION items in notes.)
<b>Tues, January 31, 2006</b>	<b>Facilitator:</b> Maureen/Roberta <b>Notes:</b> Roberta
Group attends WFU sessions 0800-1000 hrs.	General information / education session.
Team Status Overview from Maureen	<p>Maureen welcomes group, overview of agenda changes. She reviewed team success with getting information to the field.</p> <p>Maureen thanked team members for all their hard work – acknowledging that this is not our “main” job. Points Maureen noted from WFU session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It’s all about ability and support.</li> <li>• Field people need to get more skillful in communicating about WFU.</li> <li>• Value of Staff Ride – Is there opportunities to do a Staff Ride about Communications? <b>(Follow-up for future action item.)</b></li> <li>• <b>Bin Item:</b> Possible Masters Project – Michelle Fiddler, re: Fire Education and Interpretation. <b>(Follow-up for future action item.)</b></li> <li>• What communication products are the fire staffs using – reemphasize the need to educate the internal audiences. <b>Action item:</b> Send out an update to internal audiences about products available from the NWCG WFEWT, include. <b>Roberta</b> (Include Prev/Ed Team info.) by <b>March 13 team phone call.</b></li> </ul>
WFEWT Operating Principles	<b>Action item:</b> Final comments on draft Operating Principles to Roberta by <b>Friday 2/10/2006</b> . Next draft to be discussed on phone conference.
Smoke Management - Presentation by Kara Paintner.	<b>Action item:</b> Roberta to send team members PowerPoint slideshow presented by Kara. (Either by e-mail or via an FTP site.)
Communicators Guide	<p>Bernie Andersen and Bill Sweet presented the conceptual outline of the WFEWT. Team members should note where their names are indicated to serve as Subject Matter Experts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussed Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP’s.) Initiative to have community members involved and need within GG.</li> <li>• Need to include, be sure it is addressed: enhancing partnerships &amp; collaborative efforts. (Relayed to Amy</li> </ul>

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	<p>on phone call.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Page 2, 2.5: Fire dependent ecosystems and species. (Relayed to Amy on phone call.)</li> <li>• Discussed need to come to conclusion on product title – not a “Communicator’s Guide” not a “Revised Communications &amp; Prevention Guide.” (Relayed to Amy on phone call.)</li> <li>• <b>Action Item:</b> In tandem with this discussion we need to be sure to advise Deb at Symbols Cache – estimated delivery date is end of CY 2006. (Draft by MAY, final by December 06.) <b>Robin by Friday 2/10/06.</b></li> </ul> <p>Phone conference with Amy Schneider, Fleishman-Hillard (FH) to follow-up Bernie and Bill’s discussion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seeks to reduce repetition and develop user friendly style to compile all of the pieces. Combining elements from Communicator’s Guide and Prevention Guide.</li> <li>• FH will be in contact with SME’s.</li> <li>• Next draft for the Task Group by the end of the month.</li> <li>• Reviewed the Conceptual Guide (outline provided by Bernie).</li> <li>• <b>Action Item:</b> Maureen to contact Gary Mullins, to clear copyright issues by <b>March 13 team phone call.</b></li> <li>• <b>Action Item:</b> Send additional comments to Bernie by <b>Friday 2/10/2006.</b></li> </ul>
<p>Information Update from NWCG – Mike Wallace (Mike is Acting for Edy Williams-Rhodes who is the NWCG Team Liaison.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maureen provided Mike a brief team update.</li> <li>• <b>Action Item:</b> Roberta to provide Mike copy of strategy, tasks, and budget about WFEWT, <b>by Friday 2/10/2006. (Compare with Maureen before sending.)</b></li> <li>• Mike noted that Kirk Rowdabaugh (NWCG chair) received the memo to re-issue the Fire Message. Mike to follow-up with a note to Mike.</li> <li>• NWCG has a number of working teams and task groups, but a defined priority list of needs doesn’t exist. NWCG is now engaged in a Strategic Planning process. At the end of end of February – early March a small group will develop a first draft of this strategic plan. Follow-up for the teams will be to review their existing charter and how it ties into the strategic plan. Two key areas for NWCG: Mandated items that need to be accomplished, the second being into priorities. Analysis of 2007 budget forthcoming from a small group.</li> <li>• Communications from NWCG and the working teams will continue through the team liaison.</li> <li>• General discussion on All Risk / All Hazard Teams.</li> <li>• General discussion on NIMO – not an all hazard effort, but intended to augment long term situations. FS has made the decision to fund the first two NIMO teams out of fire suppression accounts.</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential for busy fire season and busy hurricane season – implications for a “predictable surprise.”</li> <li>• WFEWT asked Mike about the status of the NWCG webpage, re: updating information, keeping it active.</li> <li>• <b>Action item:</b> Maureen to send an e-mail to Mike Wallace regarding the NWCG webpage concerns by <b>Friday 2/10/2006.</b></li> </ul>
Training Discussion P-101	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Team’s concern about content and quality of P-101 course.</li> <li>• John shared the material delivered by the contractor and presented a short synopsis of the comments received.</li> </ul> <p>Phone conference with Jeanette Hartog, to follow-up on John’s update.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Punky to send course materials to Jeanette by 2/17/06, Jeanette to distribute material to instructors. Alpha course to be held in Nashville, March 6-10, 2006. LaMar St. John will attend from the NIFC training group, other observers are welcome. Beta course will be held at the Utah Fire Academy, May 16-19.</li> <li>• <b>Action item:</b> Jeanette to send copies of Alpha curriculum to John Owens – who will distribute revised course materials to the NWCG WFEWT members. Team members will review course and send comments to John Owens by a date to be determined. NOTE: There will be a short turn-around for response. John Owens will combine the comments on behalf of the interagency team. <b>Estimated date 3/2/06.</b></li> <li>• Concerns voiced about short time frame between Alpha and Beta test.</li> <li>• Jeanette provided updates on Team Leader, P-310, and mobilization for prevention/education teams.</li> </ul>
Group attends WFU session	Communicating the Message – Punky Moore
<b>Wed, February 1, 2006</b>	<b>Facilitator:</b> Maureen/Roberta <b>Notes:</b> Roberta
Discussion with Social Science Task Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participating by phone: Ron Hodgson, Aden Seidlitz</li> <li>• See separate page of notes.</li> </ul>
P-301 goal - John Owens (Lead) (Mid-February deadline.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• John will serve as the lead for P-301 on behalf of the team. There is a mid-February deadline for the RFP. <b>Action item:</b> John Owens, Maureen Brooks to have a phone conference with Lew Southard to resolve the COTR issue – by <b>Friday, February 10.</b></li> <li>• <b>Action item:</b> John to lead the work group, identified as: Maureen, Rick, Pat McDowell (future BIA WFEWT member.) Dennis is available for review of fire ecology sections.</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss how all the prevention courses – and how that mesh together.</li> <li>• Currently, P-301 has a heavy emphasis on RAMS.</li> <li>• Need to build 101, 201, 301 with a progression of skills sets.</li> <li>• WFEWT will outline course direction for the work group. Group worked through an existing outline – attached as an separate file.</li> </ul>
Backyards and Beyond Session Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NWCG WFEWT presentation session not included</li> <li>• NWCG WFEWT invited to have an exhibit and information table. Action item: John Owens to coordinate with assistance from other teams members.</li> </ul>
International Fire Congress Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• John / Robin <a href="http://emmps.wsu.edu/firecongress/">http://emmps.wsu.edu/firecongress/</a> Information is due to the congress by March 18, 2006.</li> <li>• <b>Action item:</b> Provide possible names to John / Robin for the sessions by <b>Friday, February 10, 2006.</b> John and Robin will follow up on the potential contacts.</li> </ul>
FPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hard copies of information received from the meeting John, Roberta and Dennis attended were shared with the group. Suggestion to review for Communication / Education ideas – look at Sequoia-Kings Canyon FMP: Overall plan: <a href="http://www.nps.gov/seki/fire/ffmp/seki_ffmp_fmp.htm">http://www.nps.gov/seki/fire/ffmp/seki_ffmp_fmp.htm</a> and <a href="http://www.nps.gov/seki/fire/ffmp/pdf/seki_ffmp_fmp_3toolbox_v0505.pdf">http://www.nps.gov/seki/fire/ffmp/pdf/seki_ffmp_fmp_3toolbox_v0505.pdf</a></li> </ul> <p>Discussed interagency involvement in all levels of FPA development. FPA group asked WFEWT team members to share this information with the WFEWT. FPA has requested to attend the May WFEWT.</p>
Team member updates.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Germaine White:</b> introduced “Native Peoples and Fire in the Northern Rockies” and distributed the book Beaver Steals Fire and the two accompanying DVD’s. The team was awed by this production!</li> </ul>
Review and update of past team action items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maureen advised that the NWCG Re-release of NWCG Interagency Wildland Fire Key Messages memo will be forthcoming. (Cross-reference with notes from Tuesday.)</li> <li>• <b>Action item:</b> Roberta to send NWCG exhibit and additional information “stuff” to Rick Gibson for arrival on Monday 2/13/2006. (PNW Fire Prevention workshop.)</li> <li>• WFEWT and WUIWT will seek to have a joint meeting in 2007</li> <li>• Investigate possibilities of meeting with WFUWT, FENWT in the future.</li> <li>• <b>Decision item:</b> The team would document activities and action items through team notes versus the matrix.</li> </ul>
Team member updates:	<p><b>John Owens:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Boy Scout Merit Badge Update – he met with the NFAEB for support – this effort is going forward on an interagency basis.</li> </ul>

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- Natural Inquirer – there maybe an opportunity to participate in the next version.
- Rick Gibson:**
- Distributed updated versions of the WFEWT team histories. **Action item:** Rick to make corrections and send out revised versions to team members. Team members should provide Rick any updates and needed revisions by **Friday, 2/10/2006**. This information needs to be posted on the web – Maureen and Roberta to pursue.
- Bernie Andersen:**
- Wildland Urban Interface and Fire Prevention Exchange scheduled for February 13-17, 2006. **Action item:** Roberta to send NWCG Wildfire brochure, NWCG brochure, and other info.
- Maureen Brooks:**
- **Action item:** Maureen to send to team CWPP CD.
  - Working on a project titled: Cumulative water effects on Eastern Forests. The goal is develop a general technical report on effects of fuels treatments.
  - Coordinating an Insurance Safety Organization workshop in the fall.
- Robin Hanford:**
- IAWF meeting in Portland in March 27-30 in conjunction with fuels meeting. Info on the web: <http://www.iawfonline.org/fuels/overview.shtml> **Action item:** Robin to send the draft agenda out to team members.
  - Future agenda item: Continue to promote WFEWT products, publications and work activities.
- Dennis Dupuis:**
- BIA is presenting a BIA version of P-101 and P-301.
  - BIA has completed their National Fire Prevention Handbook and in progress is a fire investigation handbook. Action item: Dennis to share this information with the team members via hard copy and electronic.
  - Pat McDowell will be at the May WFEWT meeting and will serve as the BIA representative. Dennis will continue to work with the WFEWT as a liaison with the National Interagency Fuels Coordination Group and FENWT.
- Roberta D'Amico:**
- S-203 update – Alpha Course to be presented in May at the Utah Wildfire Academy. Need to reaffirm that messages within S-203 are expanded beyond suppression Information Officer activities. The web site for the Utah Wildfire Academy is: [www.utahfireinfo.gov/academy](http://www.utahfireinfo.gov/academy)

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shared hard copies of “NPS Communications Information Material Checklist” and NPS Fire Communications and Education – Program Update.</li> <li>• <b>Action items:</b></li> <li>• Roberta to do an announcement for distribution to remind various audiences about the NWCG WFEAT products and publications. Bill Clark to share mailing list of the attendee from the WFU conference and this group will receive this flyer.</li> </ul>
<b>Thur, February 2, 2006</b>	<b>Facilitator:</b> Maureen/Roberta <b>Notes:</b> Roberta
<p>May 2006 meeting:</p> <p>Next phone conference:</p> <p>Tentative dates/locations for 2007 meetings:</p>	<p>Tuesday – Thursday May 2-4, 2006 travel days Monday and possibly Friday 5/5 depending upon the agenda. <b>Tentative agenda items:</b> Social Science Task Group representative(s); Revisit and revise strategic Plans; product review, comment and evaluation; review status communicator guide; invite Mike Wallace; invite a representative(s) from FPA for an update; discuss training; NFPET project update &amp; web, NWCG website; regular updates;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Action item:</b> Roberta to send logistics for may 2006 to team <b>by March 13 phone call.</b></li> <li>• <b>Action item:</b> Roberta &amp; Maureen to check with Kathy Shores re: November meeting logistics in tandem with Int’l Congress.</li> <li>• Next phone conference: March 13 1PM MT. Agenda and call details will be sent prior to March 13.</li> <li>• Week of Jan 22, 2007, Portland or Tampa; May 21, 2007, Montana; October 22, 2005, Boise.</li> </ul>
<p>After Action Review of Meeting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Achieved what was planned.</li> <li>• Notetaker / facilitator same throughout – merits and detriments of this effort.</li> <li>• Group had a bit of a backslide, re: side conversations.</li> <li>• Meeting was very this meeting collegial and relaxed.</li> <li>• Tuesday – agenda tight, it is a good sign other people want to talk to the WFEWT, expresses an interest in our work. Cautionary tale for future meetings – agreement needed for speakers’ presentation time and be clear about expectations for speakers. Discussed possible agenda issues for November, possible exposure to other key players</li> </ul> <p><b>Action item:</b> John to contact Melanie to see if they can schedule our session on Tuesday.</p> <p><b>Action item:</b> Robin to send info communications plan out about the November meeting.</p>