

National Wildfire Coordinating Group

Master Committee Charter

20 July 2015

Master NWCG Committee Charter

Purpose

This charter establishes the committees and subgroups of the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG).

NWCG Mission

The National Wildfire Coordinating Group provides national leadership to develop, maintain, and communicate interagency standards, guidelines, qualifications, training, and other capabilities that enable interoperable wildland fire operations among federal and non-federal entities. NWCG will facilitate implementation of approved standards, guidelines, qualifications, and training (NWCG Charter, November 19, 2013).

Committee Objectives

NWCG committees and subgroups are established and organized to accomplish the overall NWCG mission. They provide leadership to and represent the major functional areas of wildland fire management. Primary objectives common to all committees are:

- Accomplish the NWCG mission.
- Accomplish the committee and subgroup objectives stated in *Appendix A* of this charter.
- Ensure that NWCG membership is properly represented in committee actions and decisions.

The committee/subgroup objectives stated in *Appendix A* may be amended to accurately reflect actual and evolving business practices and priorities. These amendments will be vetted by the NWCG Staff and are subject to Executive Board oversight.

Authorities

Each committee or subgroup is established pursuant to the National Wildfire Coordinating Group Charter, November 19, 2013.

Membership

Committee and subgroup members are leaders, subject matter experts, and contributors from NWCG member agencies and other stakeholders. Membership will be managed by the committee/subgroup chairs with approval from the member agencies. All membership is subject to Executive Board oversight.

Additional membership direction is located on the NWCG website at <http://www.nwcg.gov/>.

Operations

Each committee or subgroup will:

- Establish and implement effective and cost efficient business practices.
- Document and archive proceedings, decisions, and actions.
- Collaborate with pertinent individuals, organizations, and entities.
- Establish and direct functional area or task specific subgroups as necessary to accomplish the committee's mission.
- Access and commit resources as authorized by the NWCG Executive Board.
- Coordinate activities with NWCG Staff.

Charter Maintenance

The charter is approved and reviewed annually by the NWCG Executive Board, updated as necessary, and effective until terminated.

Dan Smith

Chair, NWCG Executive Board

28 May 2015

Date

Appendix A – Committee Objectives

Appendix A: Committee Objectives	7
Communication, Education, and Prevention Committee	7
Wildland Fire Investigation Subcommittee	7
Data Management Committee	7
Data Standards and Terminology Subcommittee	8
Fire Reporting Subcommittee	8
Geospatial Subcommittee	8
Geospatial Training Unit	9
Unit Identifier Unit	9
Equipment Technology Committee	9
Fire Shelter Subcommittee	9
Ground Ignition Subcommittee	10
Invasive Species Subcommittee	10
Mobile Fire Equipment Subcommittee	10
National Fire Equipment System Subcommittee	10
National Interagency Support Cache Managers Unit	11
National Interagency Support Cache Kit Unit	11
National Interagency Support Cache Motorized Equipment Unit	12
National Interagency Support Cache Refurbishment Unit	12
Fire Environment Committee	12
Fire Behavior Subcommittee	12
Fire Danger Subcommittee	13
Fire Environment Curriculum Subcommittee	13
Advanced Fire Environment Lessons Unit	13
Fire Behavior Curriculum Unit	13
Fire Danger Curriculum Unit	13
Fire Weather Subcommittee	13
Fire Environment Observation Unit	14
National Predictive Services Subcommittee	14
Fuels Management Committee	14
Fire Use Subcommittee	14

Wildland Fire Module Unit.....	15
Incident Business Committee	15
Incident Records Subcommittee.....	15
Interagency Fire Planning Committee	16
National Interagency Aviation Committee	16
Interagency Aerial Supervision Subcommittee	16
Interagency Airspace Subcommittee.....	17
Interagency Airtanker Base Subcommittee	17
Interagency Airtanker Board.....	18
Interagency Aviation Strategic Plan Subcommittee	18
Interagency Aviation Training Subcommittee	18
Interagency Fire Unmanned Aircraft Systems Subcommittee	19
Interagency Helicopter Operations Subcommittee.....	19
Aerial Capture, Eradication and Tagging of Animals Unit.....	19
Helicopter Short-Haul Unit	20
Interagency Aerial Ignition Unit.....	20
Helitorch Subunit	20
Interagency Helicopter Operations Guide Unit	21
Interagency Rappel Unit	21
Single Engine Airtanker Board	21
Smokejumper Aircraft Screening and Evaluation Subcommittee	21
National Incident Management System Integration Committee	22
Operations and Training Committee	22
Leadership Subcommittee	22
Leadership Curriculum Management Unit	23
Position Naming Board	23
Risk Management Committee	23
6 Minutes for Safety Subcommittee.....	23
Hazard Tree Subcommittee	24
Incident Emergency Medical Subcommittee.....	24
Smoke Committee	24
Smoke Managers Subcommittee.....	25
Smoke Training Subcommittee.....	25

Technical Smoke Topics Subcommittee	25
Wildland Urban Interface Mitigation Committee.....	26
Firewise Subcommittee	26

Appendix A: Committee Objectives

Communication, Education, and Prevention Committee

The Communication, Education, and Prevention Committee (CEPC) provides national leadership, support, and coordination in all areas of wildland fire education and prevention. The CEPC promotes public understanding of wildland fire through communication, education, prevention and outreach. Primary objectives include:

- Develop education programs and tools that provide information about wildland fire ecology, management, protection and prevention.
- Work with stakeholders to identify opportunities for improvement in all areas of wildland fire communication, education, and prevention.
- Assess the effectiveness of wildland fire communication, education, and prevention programs, products, processes, and training. Provide leadership and follow-through in developing solutions to identified weaknesses.
- Provide subject matter expertise in communication, education, and prevention for projects, standards, guidelines, qualifications, certification, and training.
- Collaborate with other committees when appropriate on common messaging, training and other issues.

Wildland Fire Investigation Subcommittee

The Wildland Fire Investigation Subcommittee (WFISC) provides national leadership in wildland fire investigation. This includes developing and promulgating wildland fire investigation standards, qualifications, training, certification, and practices that are sufficient to support fire prevention as well as criminal, civil, and administrative actions. Primary objectives include:

- Establish and maintain a nationally recognized and accepted wildland fire investigation certification program for wildland fire investigators that is both reasonably attainable and meaningful.
- Promote practices that ensure wildland fire investigations are conducted with a systematic and science based methodology.
- Develop and maintain training courses handbooks and guides.
- Develop and maintain an inventory of wildland fire investigation resources and tools.
- Coordinate with pertinent stakeholders to provide information, assistance, and subject matter expertise in wildland fire investigation.

Data Management Committee

The Data Management Committee (DMC) provides national leadership to develop and support national interagency standards and practices for wildland fire data management. Primary objectives include:

- Assist the wildland fire business community to identify, define and standardize data that is reliable and accessible for planning, decision support, reporting and research.
- Support the Wildland Fire Information and Technology program by providing oversight and management of data as an enterprise asset.
- Develop standards for wildland fire data, including data requirements, data governance, and data architecture that support a data exchange environment and improved efficiency in operational work and communication processes.

Data Standards and Terminology Subcommittee

The Data Standards and Terminology Subcommittee (DSTS) provides national leadership to develop, disseminate, and promote universal data standards and terminology for wildland fire management. Primary objectives include:

- Administer the process to develop, approve, and maintain NWCG data standards, including geospatial data standards. Publish these standards in the document PMS 910.
- Administer the process to update and maintain the *NWCG Glossary of Wildland Fire Terminology* (PMS 205).

Fire Reporting Subcommittee

The Fire Reporting Subcommittee (FRS) provides interagency national leadership and guidance for fire reporting. As reflected in its membership, the FRS provides broad representation on fire reporting stakeholders and related business areas and serves as an advocate on their behalf.

Objectives, with regard to fire occurrence data and fire reporting systems include:

- Define, promote, and recommend the use of NWCG standards-based interagency fire reporting information, both current and historic. Provide guidance for combining agency data to build interagency datasets.
- Develop requirements for acquiring, storing, and delivering trusted interagency datasets, including governance, quality control, access, and maintenance of included data.
- Identify gaps and deficiencies in standards and propose solutions. Develop and promote the use of interagency standards within wildland fire applications.

Geospatial Subcommittee

The Geospatial Subcommittee (GS) provides national leadership for the integration of geospatial information, technology, and systems into all phases of wildland fire management. This includes the development and promotion of standards and tools; trusted data to support wildland fire operations; training; the development of geospatial capability in the field; and providing geospatial expertise to other wildland fire lines of business. Primary objectives include:

- Define, promote, and recommend the use of NWCG standards-based interagency datasets, both current and historic. Develop processes for combining agency datasets to build interagency datasets.
- Develop requirements for centralized acquisition, storage, and delivery of trusted interagency geospatial datasets, including governance, quality control, access, and maintenance of included data.
- Provide a platform for the development, revision, review and adoption of geospatial data standards to enable wildland fire geospatial data to achieve broad usage throughout the interagency community. Identify gaps in standards and propose solutions. Promote the use of interagency standards within wildland fire applications.
- Identify common GIS training needs and resources, and plan or make recommendations for the development and presentation of training in cooperation with other groups, programs, or agencies in the wildland fire community.

- Develop, publish, and maintain geospatial training courses, tools, standard operating procedures, guides, and job aids.

Geospatial Training Unit

The Geospatial Training Unit (GTU) provides leadership and technical expertise to the Geospatial Subcommittee to support Geographic Information System (GIS)-related NWCG training. Primary objectives include:

- Provide support and subject matter expertise to the NWCG Training Development Program for all aspects of the *Geographic Information System (GIS) Specialist for Incident Management (S-341)*. Provide GIS support and information for Fire Management and ICS courses.
- Provide technical review of other NWCG courses with geospatial content.
- Coordinate with the NWCG Training Development Program and the Geographic Area Training Representatives to assist with course delivery.

Unit Identifier Unit

The Unit Identifier Unit (UIU) provides national leadership in the approval and use of Unit Identifiers in support of effective fire management decision-making. Primary objectives include:

- Manage NWCG data standards, business rules, and processes related to Unit Identifiers and associated information.
- Publish current Unit Identifiers in the document *NWCG Unit Identifiers (PMS 931)*.
- Ensure standards and processes are implemented consistently by Geographic Area Coordination Centers, agencies, and applications.

Equipment Technology Committee

The Equipment Technology Committee (ETC) provides national leadership in wildland fire equipment, supplies, and chemicals. The ETC enables coordinated interagency management of wildland fire equipment, supplies, and chemicals, including planning, development, acquisition, and utilization. The ETC provides oversight of the National Interagency Support Caches and National Fire Equipment System. Primary objectives include:

- Establish, maintain and communicate consistent interagency standards and guidelines for equipment, supplies and chemicals for wildland fire suppression.
- Establish processes and procedures for the introduction, utilization, refurbishment, replacement, or disposal of any piece of equipment, supply item, or wildland fire chemical that has an established standard or specification.
- Develop and implement standard operating procedures for ETC business practices which establish consistent, well defined methods of operations and decision making.

Fire Shelter Subcommittee

The Fire Shelter Subcommittee (FSSC) provides interagency leadership and oversight in all areas of fire shelter program management. Primary duties include:

- Provide input to the Missoula Technology and Development Center (MTDC) regarding fire shelter specifications.
- Support continuous improvement of fire shelters and the fire shelter program.

- Assist with the development of fire shelter training.
- Recommend and communicate fire shelter life-cycle standards.
- Coordinate with MTDC and other pertinent entities to accomplish the subcommittee's mission.
- Communicate pertinent fire shelter information effectively.
- Maintain a fire shelter website.

Ground Ignition Subcommittee

The Ground Ignition Subcommittee (GISC) provides national leadership for all program elements related to ground ignition equipment. Primary objectives include:

- Develop and maintain standards and specifications for ground ignition equipment.
- Establish, communicate, and implement ground ignition equipment evaluation and approval processes.
- Develop and maintain ground ignition equipment training materials, guides and manuals.

Invasive Species Subcommittee

The Invasive Species Subcommittee (ISSC) provides national leadership in the prevention of invasive species transport by wildland fire mobile equipment and related vehicles. Primary objectives include:

- Develop and disseminate standards, guidelines, best practices, and recommendations to control and prevent the spread of invasive species.
- Integrate new and evolving information from the natural resource management community into the invasive species control effort.
- Evaluate and recommend wildland fire and support vehicle utilization and/or decontamination techniques, equipment, or products to minimize invasive species transport.

Mobile Fire Equipment Subcommittee

The Mobile Fire Equipment Subcommittee (MFES) provides national leadership for all program elements relating to mobile fire equipment. Primary objectives include:

- Monitor member agency mobile fire equipment standards to identify areas of concern or conflict; develop recommendations for resolution of identified issues.
- Establish and maintain mobile fire equipment documents and publications.
- Explore new and evolving mobile fire equipment practices and technologies for potential benefit of the member agencies; recommend actions as warranted.

National Fire Equipment System Subcommittee

The National Fire Equipment System Subcommittee (NFESSC) provides national leadership in wildland fire equipment and supply management. Primary duties include:

- Identify equipment and supplies that should be maintained to a national standard.
- Assist the user community in identifying additional equipment and supplies to be provided through the national cache system.

- Provide guidance on developing Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) between National Interagency Support Cache managers, the Technology and Development Centers, Kit and Refurbishment Units, and the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA).
- Manage the additions and deletions of National Fire Equipment System (NFES) items and product deficiency issues.
- Prepare and communicate NFES equipment issues through Cache Memos.
- Recommend to ETC proposed modifications in standards for fire supplies as it pertains to cache items, kits, or accessories that are utilized nationally or by more than one Agency.

National Interagency Support Cache Managers Unit

The National Interagency Support Cache Manager Unit (NISC-MU) provides national leadership in the development and implementation of interagency standards for supply chain management for emergency incident response. Primary duties include:

- Facilitate standardization of NISC administrative and operational processes.
- Develop and implement new standards, new items, transition and/or disposal plans, personnel qualifications, training standards, and quality control measures related to the NISC system.
- Establish and implement geographic area communication and representation standards to ensure a coordinated and effective national voice for cache managers.
- Develop and maintain Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for NISC operations across the supply chain system.
- Identify NISC operations issues; develop and implement corrective actions.
- Review/identify critical items/shortages within the NISC system and provide recommendations for mitigation.
- Research, identify and develop opportunities for operational and cost efficiencies, capacity and products.

National Interagency Support Cache Kit Unit

The National Interagency Support Cache Kit Unit (NISC-KU) provides national leadership in all areas of emergency incident response kits that are part of the National Fire Equipment System. Primary duties include:

- Manage kit standards development to increase efficiency of wildland fire and all hazard incident response.
- Review, evaluate, and identify kit related issues; develop and implement corrective actions.
- Manage new kit development and kit change requests. Integrate new or modified kits into the NFES system.
- Develop and maintain standard operating procedures for kit building operations.
- Provide recommendations on enhancing production, safety and efficiency for kit building operations.

National Interagency Support Cache Motorized Equipment Unit

The National Interagency Support Cache Motorized Equipment Unit (NISC-MEU) provides national leadership in developing and implementing interagency standards and best practices for NISC motorized equipment maintenance and refurbishment. Primary objectives include:

- Establish and communicate best practices for maintaining pumps, chainsaws, generators and other motor driven equipment used in NISC system.
- Provide recommendations on enhancing performance, management, standardization and life cycle of NISC motorized equipment to the NFES.
- Provide recommendations/specifications for the acquisition of new NISC motorized equipment.
- Assist in the testing of new products in conjunction with Missoula Technology and Development Center (MTDC) and San Dimas Technology and Development Center (SDTDC) to facilitate optimal longevity and performance of motorized equipment.

National Interagency Support Cache Refurbishment Unit

The National Interagency Support Cache Refurbishment Unit (NISC-RU) provides national leadership in the development and implementation of interagency refurbishment standards for supplies and equipment that are part of the NISC system. Primary duties include:

- Standardize refurbishment processes to maximize efficiencies and enhance sustainable NISC operations.
- Provide recommendations on enhancing production, safety, sustainable operations and efficiency for refurbishment operations
- Maintain the *Fire Equipment Storage and Refurbishing Standards* (PMS 448) according to established Standard Operating Procedures.
- Work in collaboration with the Missoula Technology and Development Center (MTDC) and San Dimas Technology and Development Center (SDTDC).

Fire Environment Committee

The Fire Environment Committee (FENC) provides national leadership in measuring and predicting the wildland fire environment. The FENC develops, disseminates, and promotes national standards for fire weather forecasting, fire behavior prediction, fire danger rating, and predictive services. Primary objectives include:

- Develop and support standards, processes, and tools for fire environment predictions.
- Coordinate changes occurring to components of fire environment business.
- Communicate and maintain training for advancements in tools, products, and processes.
- Identify user needs, and support research and development efforts to address them.

Fire Behavior Subcommittee

The Fire Behavior Subcommittee (FBS) provides national leadership in fire behavior assessment and prediction in support of effective fire management decision-making. Primary objectives include:

- Establish and maintain standards for fire behavior assessment and prediction.
- Provide leadership in fire behavior training, including continuing education.

- Provide subject matter expertise for fire behavior modeling and related decision support applications.

Fire Danger Subcommittee

The Fire Danger Subcommittee (FDS) provides national leadership to advance fire danger rating in support of effective fire management decision-making. The FDS is responsible to the Fire Environment Committee to establish and maintain standards and procedures for fire danger rating. Primary objectives include:

- Establish and maintain standards and procedures for fire danger rating, including those for Fire Danger Operating Plans and Fire Danger PocketCards.
- Develop and disseminate fire danger rating training and guidance.
- Provide leadership in the National Fire Danger Rating System and associated decision support applications, including Weather Information Management System, FireFamily Plus, and the Wildland Fire Assessment System.

Fire Environment Curriculum Subcommittee

The Fire Environment Curriculum Subcommittee (FECS) provides technical expertise to the NWCG Training Development Program to support the NWCG fire environment training courses. Primary objectives include:

- Assist the NWCG Training Development Program with course development and maintenance. Provide subject matter experts to NWCG Training Branch as requested.
- Ensure the courses effectively support the wildland fire community.

Advanced Fire Environment Lessons Unit

The Advanced Fire Environment Lessons Unit (AFELU) provides leadership and technical expertise to the Fire Environment Curriculum Subcommittee on continuing education, training on technical tools, and outreach of new research.

Fire Behavior Curriculum Unit

The Fire Behavior Curriculum Unit provides subject matter experts and technical expertise to the Fire Environment Curriculum Subcommittee in support of course development and maintenance.

Fire Danger Curriculum Unit

The Fire Danger Curriculum Unit provides subject matter experts and technical expertise to the Fire Environment Curriculum Subcommittee in support of course development and maintenance.

Fire Weather Subcommittee

The Fire Weather Subcommittee (FWS) provides national leadership in wildland fire weather and climatology in support of effective fire management decision-making. Primary objectives include:

- Establish and disseminate standards for fire weather information.
- Establish and disseminate common standards for fire weather stations used by the wildland fire agencies to provide weather data observations.
- Promote the effective integration of fire weather information into wildland fire operational practices and decisions.

- Develop and disseminate training and information that enable effective interpretation and utilization of fire weather information.

Fire Environment Observation Unit

The Fire Environment Observation Unit (FEOU) provides technical expertise to the Fire Weather Subcommittee in the development of fire weather observation standards and the management of data generated from fire weather operations. Primary objectives include:

- Develop and maintain wildland fire weather station standards and guidelines.
- Coordinate weather monitoring networks for maintenance, compliance, and related issues.
- Ensure wildland fire business needs are met for lightning detection, and lightning and fire weather data retention and storage.
- Represent Remote Automatic Weather Stations (RAWS) on the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS) Satellite Telemetry Interagency Working Group (STIWG) in support of Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite (GOES) utilization.
- Perform change management function for the Wildland Fire Management Information (WFMI) modules for weather and lightning.
- Manage the interagency RAWS web site (<http://raws.fam.nwcg.gov/>).

National Predictive Services Subcommittee

The National Predictive Services Subcommittee (NPSS) provides national leadership in the development and dissemination of situation, meteorological, fuels, fire danger, fire potential, and resource status decision support products. Primary objectives include:

- Improve the quality, accuracy, and relevance of predictive services products.
- Identify, assess, and resolve predictive services issues at the national level.
- Establish and implement methods for tracking the use and effectiveness of predictive service products.
- Provide leadership in the development and delivery of predictive services related training.
- Standardize products and services to improve efficiency and consistency of predictive services information.

Fuels Management Committee

The Fuels Management Committee (FMC) provides national leadership to unite the NWCG member agency wildland fuels management programs under the common purpose of reducing risks of wildfire to communities while improving and maintaining ecosystem health. Primary objectives include:

- Enable coordinated and effective national interagency wildland fuels management.
- Minimize negative impacts of wildland fire to wildland urban interface infrastructure.
- Maintain and restore healthy vegetative communities in other wildland areas.

Fire Use Subcommittee

The Fire Use Subcommittee (FUSC) provides national leadership in the use of fire to meet management objectives. The FUSC is responsible for developing and disseminating standards,

qualifications, training, certification, and best practices in the use of fire. Primary objectives include:

- Enable the safe, carefully planned, and cost-efficient use of prescribed fire to restore natural ecological processes and functions, and to achieve land-management objectives.
- Develop and disseminate unified direction and standardized procedures and practices for prescribed fire planning and implementation.
- Establish standardized prescribed fire terminology and definitions.
- Promote science based on the use of fire practices.
- Promote the integration of the use of fire and effects into land management decision-making.

Wildland Fire Module Unit

The Wildland Fire Module Unit (WFMU) serves the FUSC by directing the interagency wildland fire module program. The WFMU is responsible for providing national leadership on wildland fire modules, developing wildland fire module unit standards, qualifications, training, certification, and practices. Primary objectives include:

- Establish consistent national program coordination and implementation procedures, provide a means for proactive problem and issue resolution, facilitate the exchange of information between groups, and make recommendations.
- Facilitate any revisions or updates of Standards for Interagency Wildland Fire Module Operations under the direction of the NWCG Fire Use Subcommittee.
- Develop standardized procedures and expectations for wildland fire module specifically associated with the planning and implementation of wildland fire and hazardous fuel treatments.
- Improve communication and understanding of the role of fire in the ecosystems of the United States and how land management agencies address air quality.
- Support successful management and utilization of wildland fire while appropriately addressing smoke impacts, for public and fire personnel health, welfare and safety.

Incident Business Committee

The Incident Business Committee (IBC) provides national leadership in all areas of wildland fire and non-fire incident business management. The IBC establishes and promulgates incident business management practices for wildland fire and non-fire emergency responses. Primary objectives include:

- Establish and disseminate interagency incident business management procedures.
- Establish incident business management procedures for uniform application of human resource management regulations; acquisition of equipment and supplies; management of property; financial coordination and maintenance of financial records; sharing resources among federal, state, and local agencies, and the military; documentation of costs and cost management practices; administrative processes for all-hazard incidents.

Incident Records Subcommittee

The Incident Records Subcommittee (IRSC) provides national leadership to establish interagency standards for incident records (including digital records) management. Primary objectives include:

- Establish and communicate incident records management standards.
- Maintain an incident records web site.
- Establish and implement processes to identify and resolve incident record issues.

Interagency Fire Planning Committee

The Interagency Fire Planning Committee (IFPC) provides national leadership in wildland fire management planning. The IFPC facilitates collaborative fire management planning at local, state, regional, tribal, and national levels to support coordinated interagency fire management efforts across jurisdictional boundaries. Primary objectives include:

- Promote cooperative and coordinated interagency fire management planning efforts.
- Ensure that fire management planning is coordinated with and supports objectives of associated land management planning.
- Promote integrated federal fire management planning and communication across departments and bureaus that reflect current federal fire management policies including the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy (Cohesive Strategy).
- Identify impediments to successful accomplishment of fire management plans and work to develop national scale solutions.
- Convey individual agency planning developments and policy changes to assure continued cohesive understanding within the IFPC.
- Develop collaborative training to increase knowledge and capability in fire management planning, resources management planning, compliance, and analysis.

National Interagency Aviation Committee

The National Interagency Aviation Committee (NIAC) provides national leadership in wildland fire aviation. The NIAC facilitates the development and implementation of interagency fire aviation standards, procedures, and programs to enhance safety, effectiveness, and efficiency in all areas of aviation operations. The NIAC develops interagency guidance for fire aviation for adoption and use by the member agencies. The NIAC also provides interagency aviation guidance for law enforcement, search and rescue, and resource management aviation for the US Forest Service (USFS) and Department of Interior (DOI). Primary objectives include:

- Develop and disseminate standards for national interagency fire aviation operations.
- Identify and resolve conflicting interagency aviation operations issues.
- Facilitate implementation of interagency aviation program standards through training and information publication.
- Ensure prompt concurrence and routing of proposed aviation standards to DOI, USFS, and States for approval and implementation.

Interagency Aerial Supervision Subcommittee

The Interagency Aerial Supervision Subcommittee (IASS) provides national leadership in all areas of wildland fire aerial supervision. The IASS identifies and develops opportunities to enhance safety, effectiveness and efficiency in wildland fire aerial supervision operations, procedures, programs, and coordination. Primary objectives include:

- Provide interagency guidance for aerial supervision related activities to wildland fire aviation agencies.

- Develop and disseminate standards and information that promote safe, effective, and efficient interagency aerial supervision operations.
- Develop, update, and recommend interagency aerial supervision operational guides, training programs, forms and job aids.
- Evaluate interagency aerial supervision operations and management issues to determine whether or where problems exist.
- Support aerial supervision training course development, implementation, evaluation, and revision.

Interagency Airspace Subcommittee

The Interagency Airspace Subcommittee (IASC) provides national leadership in airspace coordination issues for the NWCG member agencies. The IASC promotes and enables safe, effective, and standardized flight missions within the National Airspace System (NAS). Primary objectives include:

- Develop and disseminate materials that contribute to clear and mutual understanding of airspace use and related issues.
- Provide aviation managers tools and capabilities to enhance aircraft coordination within the national airspace.
- Promote safe, consistent, and standardized approaches to addressing airspace and land management responsibilities on and above lands managed by the member agencies.
- Identify airspace management and coordination responsibilities among entities sharing the national airspace.
- Coordinate with the NWCG member agencies and with the United States military, participating states and local agencies, and the Federal Aviation Administration.

Interagency Airtanker Base Subcommittee

The Interagency Airtanker Base Subcommittee (IABS) provides national leadership in all areas of interagency airtanker base operations. The IABS develops and disseminates operational standards that promote safe, secure, effective, efficient airtanker base operations. These standards include facility and equipment requirements, operational and administrative procedures, and personnel qualifications and training. Primary objectives include:

- Provide technical assistance regarding airtanker base operations.
- Promote cooperation and standardization in interagency airtanker base operations.
- Identify airtanker base issues, develop solutions, and recommend corrective actions to the National Interagency Aviation Committee (NIAC).
- Support standardized training for airtanker base operations and provide leadership in training course development, implementation, evaluation, and revision.
- Ensure that airtanker base standards are consistent with member agency procedures, practices, and expectations.
- Serve as a central source of information, guidance, and support for national and geographic area airtanker base decisions and operations.
- Provide contracting technical assistance and support as requested.

Interagency Airtanker Board

The Interagency Airtanker Board (IAB) evaluates airtankers against established performance criteria and recommends approval for use. The IAB promotes standardization and cooperation among NWCG member agencies and airtanker related industries in all aspects of aerial delivery systems utilization. Primary objectives include:

- Serve the NIAC as a body of aerial delivery systems subject matter experts.
- Establish and implement an evaluation and testing process to determine acceptable aircraft, tank, and gate system performance.
- Promote improvement in retardant delivery systems and airtanker safety.
- Maintain a central source of information regarding evaluation, testing, selection, and use of retardant delivery systems for agencies and industry.
- Review and evaluate proposals for new or modified aircraft.
- Establish and implement performance evaluation standards for all approved airtankers to ensure their continued conformity to the standard criteria.

Interagency Aviation Strategic Plan Subcommittee

The Interagency Aviation Strategic Plan Subcommittee (IASPS) creates both the Interagency Aviation Strategic Plan, to which partner aviation plans can be linked, and the Interagency Federal Aircraft Acquisitions Plan. Primary objectives include:

- Develop a roadmap to achieve the subcommittee's mission.
- Utilize contracted services – as necessary – in order to manage the program of work required to achieve the subcommittee's mission.
- Utilize, as a guide, the Fire Executive Council's July 30th, 2014 memorandum to the Fire Management Board concerning an Interagency Wildland Fire Aviation Strategy.

Interagency Aviation Training Subcommittee

The Interagency Aviation Training Subcommittee (IATS) provides national leadership to establish and disseminate interagency aviation training standards for natural resource agency personnel in support of safe, effective, and efficient use of aviation resources. Primary objectives include:

- Establish minimum training, skills, knowledge, and currency requirements for agency personnel who work with aircraft or have aviation duties, including managers and supervisors, in order to accomplish fire and resource (non-fire) missions.
- Provide a forum for interagency coordination in the development and implementation of aviation education, training, and qualification standards.
- Recommend standards and guidelines for non-fire aviation training in relation to the Interagency Aviation Training (IAT) Education, Qualification, and Currency System.
- Establish and maintain best practices in education and training methods and techniques. These include: direct instruction, web-based distance learning, and the media and technology necessary to support both..
- Establish and maintain minimum interagency standards for aviation qualification, certification, and documentation.
- Establish qualifications and currency standards for interagency aviation trainers (IATs).

Interagency Fire Unmanned Aircraft Systems Subcommittee

The Interagency Fire Unmanned Aircraft Systems Subcommittee (UASSC) provides national leadership to develop and disseminate guidance on the use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) in wildland fire management operations. Primary objectives include:

- Enable safe, effective and efficient UAS operations in the wildland fire management environment by developing and disseminating comprehensive wildland fire related UAS guidance. Include standards for UAS utilization, performance, risk management, qualifications, training, and equipment.
- Provide coordinated and unified UAS subject matter expertise to NIAC and the NWCG member agencies.
- Serve as a focal point for interagency wildland fire UAS operational initiatives, proposals, and issues.
- Identify and evaluate UAS related problems; develop and propose solutions.
- Solicit input from operations and management personnel on UAS related issues.

Interagency Helicopter Operations Subcommittee

The Interagency Helicopter Operations Subcommittee (IHOPS) provides national leadership in interagency helicopter operations. The IHOPS supports interagency efforts in helicopter safety, efficiency, standards development and implementation, procedures, programs and coordination. The IHOPS also provides interagency guidance for law enforcement, search and rescue, the resource management aviation for the US Forest Service (USFS) and Department of Interior (DOI). Primary objectives include:

- Promote safe, cost-efficient and effective aviation services in support of agency and interagency goals and objectives.
- Define and standardize national interagency helicopter management and operational procedures for helicopter users from participating agencies.
- Through standardization, facilitate the ability of personnel from different agencies to work cooperatively on incidents and projects.
- Provide a framework within which areas, regions, states, and local units can provide supplemental site-specific guidance.

Aerial Capture, Eradication and Tagging of Animals Unit

The Interagency Aerial Capture, Eradication, and Tagging of Animals (ACETA) Unit provides national leadership to promote the safety and well-being of all personnel involved in aerial ACETA operations by developing and disseminating interagency ACETA operations guidance.

Primary objectives include:

- Develop and disseminate ACETA guidance applicable to pertinent agencies, states, counties, and vendors.
- Solicit, identify, evaluate, and address ACETA operations, safety, regulatory, equipment, management, performance, and personnel issues.
- Share information and technology between participants, other working groups and the aviation community.
- Review and approve new ACETA equipment, accessories and modifications.
- Provide oversight of contractor and agency equipment and procedural compliance.

- Identify training needs and develop courses for use in the field by ACETA personnel.

Helicopter Short-Haul Unit

The Helicopter Short-Haul Unit (HSHU) provides national leadership in helicopter short-haul operations for the NWCG member agencies. The HSHU promotes and enables safe, effective, and standardized short-haul operations. Primary objectives include:

- Promote and enable compliance with the *Helicopter Short-Haul Handbook* (351 DM 1).
- Identify, discuss, and evaluate best practices and lessons learned with short-haul operations (procedures, equipment, standards, safety).
- Disseminate information and recommended actions to participating agencies.
- Forward program recommendations to NWCG Interagency Helicopter Operations Subcommittee (IHOPS).
- Coordinate review and revision to the *Helicopter Short-haul Handbook* (351 DM 1).
- Provide assistance with the development of new short-haul programs.
- Compile annual training and operational statistics for helicopter short-haul programs.

Interagency Aerial Ignition Unit

The Interagency Aerial Ignition Unit (IAIU) provides national leadership in all areas of aerial ignition operations, equipment, and management. The IAIU promotes and enables, safe, effective, and standardized aerial ignition operations through the development and dissemination of common technical and operational standards. Primary objectives include:

- Develop and maintain a primary aerial ignition standards document such as the *NWCG Interagency Aerial Ignition Guide* (PMS 501).
- Establish and implement processes for evaluating aerial ignition operations, equipment and management issues. Identify problems and recommend solutions.
- Provide oversight of contractor and agency equipment and procedural compliance.
- Review and approve new aerial ignition equipment, accessories and modifications.
- Solicit and address field input on all areas of aerial ignition operations, including safety/regulatory compliance, performance, personnel qualifications, training needs, and equipment concerns.
- Work with the NWCG Training Development Program to develop aerial ignition training products.

Helitorch Subunit

The Helitorch Subunit (HSU) provides national leadership in all areas of helitorch operations, equipment, and management. The HSU promotes and enables safe, effective, and standardized helitorch operations through the development and dissemination of common technical and operational standards. This work is accomplished under the immediate direction of the Interagency Aerial Ignition Unit (IAIU). Primary objectives include:

- Develop helitorch operations and equipment standards for inclusion into the *NWCG Interagency Aerial Ignition Guide* (PMS 501).
- Establish and implement processes for evaluating helitorch operations, equipment and management issues. Identify problems and recommend solutions.

- Solicit and address field input on all areas of helitorch operations, including safety/regulatory compliance, performance, personnel qualifications, training needs, and equipment concerns.

Interagency Helicopter Operations Guide Unit

The Interagency Helicopter Operations Guide Unit (IHOGU) manages the content of the NWCG *Interagency Helicopter Operations Guide* (PMS 510), which promotes the safe, cost-efficient and effective aviation services in support of agency and interagency helicopter operations.

Primary objectives of the guide include:

- Define and standardize national, interagency helicopter management and operational procedures for helicopter users from participating agencies.
- Through standardization, facilitate the ability of personnel from different agencies to work cooperatively on incidents or projects.
- Provide a framework within which areas, regions, states, and local units can provide supplemental site-specific guidance.

Interagency Rappel Unit

The Interagency Rappel Unit (IRU) enables safe, effective, and efficient helicopter rappel operations by developing, disseminating, and maintaining national interagency standards for wildland fire helicopter rappel operations. Primary objectives include:

- Develop, maintain, update and issue interagency helicopter rappel guidance.
- Identify, evaluate, and address interagency helicopter rappel operations and issues.
- Solicit and address helicopter rappel ideas, practices, techniques, and concerns with helicopter rappel operations, qualifications, safety, training, equipment, and procedures.

Single Engine Airtanker Board

The Single Engine Airtanker Board (SEATB) provides national leadership in all areas of single engine airtanker (SEAT) operations. Primary objectives include:

- Promote safe, cost effective and efficient SEAT services in support of agency and interagency goals and objectives.
- Define and standardize national interagency SEAT operational procedures.
- Through standardization, facilitate interchange and cross utilization of agency SEAT resources.
- Provide a common SEAT guidance framework within which the member agencies and other cooperators can provide supplemental agency specific guidance.

Smokejumper Aircraft Screening and Evaluation Subcommittee

The Smokejumper Aircraft Screening and Evaluation Subcommittee (SASES) evaluates smokejumper and paracargo aircraft and related accessories for safety, effectiveness, and efficiency in smokejumper and paracargo operations. The SASES does not conduct aircraft inspection and carding. Primary objectives include:

- Evaluate new aircraft proposed for smokejumper and/or paracargo operations.
- Evaluate currently approved aircraft as needed.
- Provide recommendations and guidance to the NIAC relative to these evaluations.

- Maintain a master list of aircraft approved for smokejumper and paracargo operations.

National Incident Management System Integration Committee

The National Incident Management System Integration Committee (NIMSIC) provides national leadership related to the National Incident Management Systems (NIMS). The NIMSIC provides guidance and expertise to the NWCG regarding the integration of NIMS standards and requirements into the development and implementation of NWCG standards, guidelines, qualifications, training, and other capabilities. The committee serves as a liaison between NWCG and the Federal Emergency Management Agency National Integration Center (FEMA-NIC). Primary objectives include:

- Provide expertise/guidance to FEMA-NIC and associated committees/work groups relative to the NWCG mission.
- Provide leadership and information to NWCG regarding NIMS integration.
- Develop internal and external partnerships to minimize redundancy in national preparedness systems efforts.

Operations and Training Committee

The Operations and Training Committee (OTC) provides national leadership in the development and maintenance of incident management standards, position standards and associated training. Primary objectives include:

- In coordination with NWCG committees and other SMEs, develop, approve and disseminate standards and best practices for wildland fire incident management.
- Establish the structure and business processes by which NWCG position standards are established and maintained.
- Establish the structure and business processes by which the NWCG committees, NWCG training Development Program and others, develop revise and deliver NWCG Training.
- In coordination with NWCG committees and other SMEs, develop, approve and disseminate minimum requirements for training, experience, physical fitness level, and currency standards for wildland fire positions to support successful position performance.
- Ensure that NWCG ICS position standards are compliant with NIMS requirements.
- Work with Incident Qualifications and Certification System (IQCS) and Incident Qualification System (IQS) leads to ensure these business systems support and maintain established standards.

Leadership Subcommittee

The Leadership Subcommittee (LSC) promotes and enables the development of leaders in the wildland fire service. The LSC provides educational and leadership development opportunities, and supports leadership innovation and best practices throughout the wildland fire community. Primary objectives include:

- Ensure that key stakeholders and partners are identified and engaged in LSC activities.

- Ensure that LSC courseware is of high quality, is consistent with program doctrine, and is aligned with target audiences.
- Manage the Wildland Fire Leadership Development Program (WFLDP).
- Ensure capacity, accessibility and quality of WFLDP products meet demand.
- Continually seek to improve and incorporate best practices in leadership development.

Leadership Curriculum Management Unit

The Leadership Curriculum Management Unit (LCMU) provides leadership to maintain and provide subject matter expertise for each of the NWCG Leadership (L-series) courses.

Position Naming Board

The Position Naming Board (PNB) provides national leadership to maintain incident management position title and mnemonic consistency throughout the wildland fire community.

Primary objectives include:

- Establish business rules and processes for managing the position list in the system of record.
- Maintain definitions of titles and associated mnemonics.

Risk Management Committee

The Risk Management Committee (RMC) provides national leadership in wildland firefighter risk management, health and safety. The RMC develops, promotes, and facilitates universal risk management principles that help firefighters and fire managers mitigate or eliminate the conditions that lead to accidents, illnesses, injuries and deaths of firefighters and other incident personnel. Primary objectives include:

- Develop nationally recognized and accepted standards, processes, and tools for risk management in the wildland fire services.
- Provide all organizational levels a foundation for effective risk management to improve situational awareness and decision making in dynamic high-risk situations.
- Evaluate identified safety issues and provide recommendations to the wildland fire community through established communications processes.
- Support efforts that will lead to increased knowledge and practical applications in the field of wildland fire risk management.

6 Minutes for Safety Subcommittee

The 6 Minutes for Safety Subcommittee (6MFS) provides national leadership and oversight of the 6MFS program. The Subcommittee is responsible for the development, maintenance, and distribution of the 6MFS platform, which delivers the daily topics, *This Day in History*, and the *Wildland Firefighter Week of Remembrance*. Primary objectives include:

- Provide daily topics to help firefighting personnel to actively troubleshoot known high risk situations encountered on the fireline.
- Promote a vigilant fire safety culture by supporting the daily use of 6MFS by every firefighter and every fire program.
- Develop critical thinking skills and awareness by creating meaningful learning opportunities for firefighters.

- Proactively seek and sustain vibrant and collaborative relationships with other wildland fire partners such as the Wildland Fire Lessons Learned Center, the Hazard Tree Subcommittee, the Wildland Fire annual refresher group, Missoula Technology & Development Center, the Wildland Fire Leadership Subcommittee, and all field personnel.

Hazard Tree Subcommittee

The Hazard Tree Subcommittee (HTSC) provides and promotes the application of an effective risk management process when working in hazard tree environments and conducting chain saw operations. Primary objectives include:

- Provide products to assist in the identification and mitigation of risk factors and decision-making ability in the hazard tree environment.
- Provide analysis and guidance to the interagency wildland fire community concerning tree hazard identification and mitigation, chain saw and cross-cut saw operations, and tree felling operations in wildland fire.
- Produce various hazard tree training products and reference materials designed to reduce hazard tree related accidents and maintain consistency and standardization among the NWCG partners.

Incident Emergency Medical Subcommittee

The Incident Emergency Medical Subcommittee (IEMS) establishes a methodology that meets the emergency medical and occupational health care needs of managed incidents with the integration of local, state, tribal, and federal systems. Primary objectives include:

- Establish and develop national emergency medical and occupational health standards and procedures.
- Provide information, updates, and guidance to enhance the health and safety of workers on wildland fire incidents in an efficient and cost effective manner.

Smoke Committee

The Smoke Committee (SmoC) provides national leadership in smoke and air resource management pertinent to wildland fire management. The SmoC develops and disseminates strategies and guidance to help member agencies and partners effectively, efficiently, and consistently manage smoke within their fire and fuels programs. The SmoC provides a forum for air resource and wildland fire management leaders to address technical, regulatory and policy issues related to planned and unplanned fire emissions and air quality impacts on firefighter and public safety and health. Primary objectives include:

- Improve communication and understanding of the interface of wildland fire management and air quality.
- Develop consistent recommendations for wildland fire management which account for the air quality impacts of planned and unplanned ignition for NWCG member agencies.
- For SmoC products, seek consensus and mutual benefit to member agencies and partners when possible, but include full range of discussion and viewpoints if consensus is not achieved.

- Assess and advance technical products and training to build wildland fire management field capabilities relative to smoke management. This includes addressing air quality impacts of planned and unplanned ignitions, and meeting environmental rules, regulations, guidelines.
- Promote coordination and collaboration between agencies, programs and partners.

In recognition of the significance of air quality effects from wildland fire and the need for policies, guidance, information and greater coordination, the Smoke Committee was initially created in 2003 by the Wildland Fire Leadership Council. Committee membership reflects this in that it includes a broad array of agencies, programs and partners representing land managers, air quality regulators, nongovernmental organizations, states, tribal, local and private interests that are not directly affiliated with the NWCG member agencies.

Smoke Managers Subcommittee

The Smoke Managers Subcommittee (SMS) provides relevant technical, administrative, and organizational information and feedback for operational smoke managers, forecasters and modelers. Primary objectives include:

- Identify criteria for and assist with the development of the skills necessary for successful decision-making within the context of smoke managers for wildland fires.
- Develop communication protocols for both wildfires and prescribed fires.
- Develop consistent recommendations for wildland fire management which account for the air quality impacts of planned and unplanned ignitions.
- Develop, publish, and maintain relevant products, handbooks and guides.
- Develop webinars, briefing papers, presentations, etc., to distribute the information.

Smoke Training Subcommittee

The Smoke Training Subcommittee (STS) provides national leadership on training courses and materials related to wildland fire smoke, air quality and emissions. This includes developing and incorporating smoke awareness and management in training courses, manuals, guides, handbooks, standards and practices. Primary objectives include:

- Develop training materials for land managers (burners, fire personnel and line officers) and air quality regulators aimed at balancing land management needs, which includes the use of fire, while addressing air quality (public health, welfare and safety) goals.
- Developing new training material and review and update existing training materials and training courses related to smoke management and emission's that reflects the latest in air quality regulations.
- Develop, publish, and maintain relevant products.
- Develop and maintain an inventory of smoke management resources and tools.
- Coordinate with stakeholders to provide information, assistance, and subject matter expertise in smoke management.

Technical Smoke Topics Subcommittee

The Technical Smoke Topics Subcommittee (TSTS) provides a forum to promote open dialogue among federal, tribal, state and local agencies, non-governmental organizations, academia, and other private partners, to advance practices and understanding of current and emerging

technical subjects surrounding air quality, wildland fire and smoke topics. Primary objectives include:

- Create working groups to advance emerging technical issues on wildland fire and smoke science.
- Assess and advance technical products to build wildland fire management field capabilities to address the air quality impacts of planned and unplanned fires.
- Provide technical analysis of rules, policies and documents that affect wildland fire operations.
- Develop, publish, and maintain relevant products.
- Develop and maintain an inventory of smoke management resources and tools.
- Develop webinars, briefing papers, presentations, etc., to distribute the information.

Wildland Urban Interface Mitigation Committee

The Wildland Urban Interface Mitigation Committee (WUIMC) provides national leadership in wildland urban interface fire mitigation through the promotion and development of fire adapted communities in the wildland urban interface. Primary objectives include:

- Promote fire-adapted wildland urban interface communities by supporting individual and community practices that reduce wildfire risk for communities.
- Facilitate solutions to wildland urban interface fire issues through effective partnerships at all levels.
- Pursue educational opportunities to inform jurisdictional authorities about methods to address wildland urban interface fire.
- Leverage funding organizations for optimal use of investments in wildland urban interface fire solutions.
- Provide oversight for the National Fire Protection Association Firewise project.

Firewise Subcommittee

The Firewise Subcommittee (FISC) serves the WUIMC by providing oversight to the National Fire Protection Association's Firewise Communities program, which is co-sponsored by the USDA Forest Service, US Department of the Interior, and the National Association of State Foresters.

Primary objectives include:

- Review and provide input and recommendations on quarterly Firewise program reports including work plan and budget.
- Review final draft of Firewise program annual work plan and budget. Make recommendations to Wildland Urban Interface Mitigation Committee.