

# NWCG Connections Call Meeting Notes

**Date:** May 6, 2021

**Time:** 1:00 to 3:00 PM MDT

**Microsoft Teams meeting**

## Committee Members Present:

Tina Boehle, CEPC | Roshelle Pederson, DMC | Cole Belongie, DMC | Kaili McCray, EMC | Bill Yohn, ETC | Robyn Heffernan, FENC | Mike VanHemelryck, FMC | Justin Boeck, IFPC | Jim Shultz, IPSC | Steve Griffin, NIMSIC | John Buehler, NIAC | Eric Fransted, RMC | Dave Mueller, SMOC | Erin O’Conner, WUIMC

## Committee Members Absent:

Dave Burley, IBC | John Wood, LC | Jarrod Simontacchi, NCSC | Heath Cota, TDC | Peter Dutchick, TDC

## NWCG Staff:

Katie Wood, NWCG Program Manager | Deb Fleming, Coordinator | Katy O’Hara, Coordinator | Chris Marks Coordinator (detail) | Jesse Bender, Publications Manager | Jeff Hughes, Training Program Manager | Annie Benoit, NWCG Training | Mark Cantrell, NWCG Training | Colby Jackson, NWCG Training | Wendell Welch, NWCG Training | Heather Harkley, NWCG Executive Secretary

## NWCG Executive Board:

Jeff Arnberger, BLM | Shane McDonald, FWS | Heath Hockenberry, NWS

Topic	Presenter
<b>Roll Call and Agenda Review</b>	<b>Deb Fleming</b>
<b>NWCG Staffing Update and Introductions</b> Introduction of Katie Wood including her background, and role as the NWCG Program Manager.	<b>Katie Wood</b>
<b>Project Priority Review</b> Reviewed the project priorities. List is updated monthly and available at <a href="https://www.nwcg.gov/priorities">https://www.nwcg.gov/priorities</a> .	<b>Deb Fleming</b>
<b>NWCG PowerPoint Template</b> Non-training PPT template is available for use by all at <a href="https://www.nwcg.gov/correspondence-templates">https://www.nwcg.gov/correspondence-templates</a> . The inclusion of logo and pictures should make it easy for anyone to use for NWCG-related briefings and/or presentations.	<b>Jesse Bender</b>
<b>Committee Reports – Brief update on key activities and issues.</b>	<b>Committee Chairs</b>
<p><b>CEPC-</b> Completing the Incident Position Descriptions (IPD) has been the primary focus. Several are out for review.</p> <p><b>DMC-</b> The data management program was discussed, there are some changes but will continue to work through that. Tim Blake is on a detail with OWF leading a task group. GSC refresher courses and 2021 updated Wildland Fire locations were discussed.</p> <p><b>EMC-</b> The First Aid Task Group is developing the first aid standards for the firefighters on the line. Standing up a new subcommittee to support and update incident medical units. Medical document is held up for medical units, new OSHA requirements. OSHA guidance used to handle COVID.</p> <p><b>ETC-</b> The new NWCG alert system is working well. The committee developed a bulletin and advisory</p>	

regarding fire shelters. The first safety warning was issued on April 22 about the detaching drip torch lock rings. The feedback about the newly formatted safety warning form was positive. The next meeting will be in November, virtual or in -person. Ops normal for ETC, next 6 months, the glossary terms are included.

**FENC-** The mapping system project is moving forward. The charter is ready to be signed. Looking at dedicated programmers to work on that. The Fire Behavior Subcommittee submitted information. Two fire weather online publications near completion.

**FMC-** Continue working on production tables, have a few leads. Finished RT-300 video. Finalized Burn Boss 1 & 2 IPDs. Developing an online version of RX-310 in the WFLP.

**IBC-** Updated *NWCG Standards for Interagency Incident Business Management*, PMS 902, and linking to Performance Support Modules.

**IFPC-** The Enterprise Data Governance Tool is going to meet a lot of the data management needs in the future. Working on 4 new positions, ARCH is the furthest along in that process.

**IPSC-** Revising the Request for Change process needs to provide more transparency. Will have templates for the qualification sheet and transition plan. Monthly updates from the Training Program will continue. Drafting the Recognition of Prior Learning standards for Executive Board review.

**LC-** Met last week, progress has been slow on standards and course revisions. Mike Ellsworth has taken over as chair of the Leadership Curriculum Management Subcommittee and will try and reinvigorate the group.

**NCSC-** Working on sub-structure as a result of the 2019 tasking. Will present recommendation to the Exec Board in May.

**NIAC-** Working with dispatch on Aircraft Dispatch Form. Draft memo from NIAC to IHOPS for approval of the Slim Dragon aerial ignition device for interagency use, IHOPS. Thinking about NCSC managing PMS 512. Scooper standards will be out soon.

**NIMSIC-** Down a vice-chair. Continue to work on endorsements. Reviewing ICS glossary terms to align with FEMA where possible.

**RMC-** The IPDs for SOF1 and SOF2 are approved, SOFR (Line Safety) is under review. Mental Health video in the works and should be done by the end of the month. Safe net admin Karma Hope taking that role. Discussions with Lessons Learned regarding oversight of 6 minutes for Safety.

**SmoC-** Finishing up the video project with support from Medical Unit Leaders and other SMEs. Close to completing the Smoke Management Field Guide. Smoke Pocket card has been submitted. Looking into the RX-410 Smoke Management revision.

**TDC-** Wrapping up Executive Board tasking. Discussing what's next for TDC, what other topics for the future.

**WUIMC-** Creating standards working group to explore a more holistic WUI standards publication. Working with the Forest Service to establish the WUI Mitigation Specialist position within the Federal Supplement.

<p><b>Incident Position Description</b>  92% completed with 10 to go (114/124). There are 27 IPDs in review status and 87 are in the approved status.  A deadline of May 31<sup>st</sup> to submit or approve IPDs was sent out a month ago. Will update Exec Board in June. The ability to provide feedback on IPDs will never go away as our system incorporates an ongoing feedback process.</p>	<p><b>Annie Benoit</b></p>
<p><b>Incident Workforce Development Group (IWDG) Update</b>  IPSC, NIMSIC, and DMC are all represented in the group. IWDG is moving forward on action plan to implement Complex Incident Management Teams (CIMT). IPSC will have tasks as part of implementation and will coordinate with position stewards going forward. Streamlining training and qualifications pathways will improve efficiencies. There is a desire to distribute assignments more equitably across individuals and IMTs and to improve work/life balance. Data collection and analysis have been challenging. Find overview at <a href="https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/9d3aea07bbdb4e23a734ba3fcacc6217">https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/9d3aea07bbdb4e23a734ba3fcacc6217</a>.</p>	<p><b>Jesse Bender</b></p>
<p><b>Closeout Thoughts and Next Meeting</b>  Next meeting will be September 2, 2021 from 1-3 MDT with Katy O’Hara as the Facilitator.</p>	<p><b>Katie Wood</b></p>