



NWCG Meeting Notes

May 15, 2019

Executive Board (EB): Aitor Bidaburu (USFA), Dan Smith (NASF), Frank Guzman (USFS), Beth Lund (USFS), Shane McDonald (FWS), Mark Koontz (NPS), Will May (IAFC), Jeff Arnberger (BLM). Not present: Garth Fisher (BIA), Tim Sexton (RD&A), Jim Durglo (ITC), Rod Bloms (DOI OWF Liaison).

NWCG Staff: Sean Cross (NWCG Manager), Deb Fleming (Coordinator), Jeff Hughes (Training Prm Mgr), Krysta Shultz (Exec. Secretary), Tim Blake (Coordinator), Paul Schlobohm (Coordinator), Jesse Bender (Publications Mgr), Nancie Turner (Webmaster).

Guests: Erik Torres (NPS), Chris Buzo (Office of Wildland Fire). Mike Mattfeldt (Chair, NIMS Integration Committee), John Wood (Co-Chair, Leadership Committee).

Topic & Notes	Decision
RMC proposal to establish a Mental Health Subcommittee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board discussed the proposed mission and primary objectives. Board members will vet proposed subcommittee with their agency leadership prior to the June meeting. 	Topic added to June agenda.
NWCG Related Corrective Actions from the Factual Report Brian Hughes Serious Accident Investigation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Briefly reviewed the four recommendations for the NWCG Hazard Tree and Tree Felling Subcommittee. The National Park Service (NPS) and Forest Service will send a formal joint request to NWCG to engage in the corrective actions. 	N/A
Affirm readiness to transition Leadership Subcommittee (LSC) to a Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Operations and Training Committee (OTC) supports the timing of moving the LSC to a stand-alone committee when feasible. Deb will work with Nancie to update the website accordingly. 	Approved.
Operations and Training Committee (OTC) Qualification Health Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The average number of years to complete a Position Task Book (PTB) has not changed in 10 years. Time to PTB certification takes an average of 1.8 to 2.5 years for all qualifications. The OTC has decided to cease collecting data due to the inability to gather statistics across all NWCG member agencies. 	N/A
Review of Draft OTC Name, Mission, and Objectives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The draft attempts to capture the idea that the committee will have a high level oversight role for incident management and qualifications standards. Will be presented to OTC by the Executive Board members at their meeting May 21st. 	Approved.
Communication Section Task Force Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Communications Section Task Force group met in San Diego in March to determine the best path forward for changing the organization of ICS. The group laid out all of the potential 	N/A



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<p>communications structure options for changing the ICS organization and discussed the benefits and drawbacks of each option.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NWCG does not support the creation of a Communication Section. 	
<p>Implications for NWCG: S.47, the John D. Dingell, Jr. conservation, Management, and Recreation Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act (S. 47) provided direction to modernize wildland firefighting technology. The law identifies capabilities and standards managed by at least seven NWCG committees. Included in the law is a provision to develop a tracking system to remotely locate the positions of fire resources assigned to Federal type 1 wildland fire incident management teams (Sec 1114 (d) (1) et seq.). The USFS Wildfire Technology Modernization Industry day is in response to this legislation. The Wildland Fire Information Technology (WFIT) community will look to NWCG to set business requirements to assist in providing a response when the time is right. 	Topic added to June agenda.
<p>USDA Purple Ribbon Campaign: A Guide for Firefighters and Their Families</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Forest Service document is a compilation of resources and information for entry-level firefighters and their families. The FS proposed that NWCG endorse the document for release as a PMS publication in time for Week of Remembrance. 	Topic added to June agenda.
<p>Update on the Spanish translation of the <i>Incident Response Pocket Guide (IRPG)</i>, PMS 461</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Translation work is complete with about a 25% increase in word count. Working to correlate the page numbers to match English IRPG prior to printing. Translation paid for out of NWCG budget. Electronically accessible version in progress. 	N/A
<p>Final proposal to close out TM-18-002: NWCG NIMS National Qualification System (NQS) Position Endorsement Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board was briefed on the recommendations to close the tasking that include initial actions and identifies additional endorsements-related work that will need to be accomplished. Additional endorsements-related work will be assigned to the NIMS Integration Committee (NIMSIC) to keep track of and provide leadership on those efforts. The NIMSIC will discuss their mission as it relates to this effort and revise as necessary. 	Approved.