



NWCG Meeting Notes

March 18, 2020

Executive Board (EB): Garth Fisher (BIA), Dan Smith (NASF), Frank Guzman (USFS), Shane McDonald (FWS), Mark Koontz (NPS), Will May (IAFC), Jeff Aramberger (BLM), Kim Van Hemelryck (DOI OWF Liaison), Tim Sexton (FS RD&A), Aitor Bidaburu (USFA), Jim Durglo (ITC).

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

Guests: FMB Members: Leon Ben (Chair), Dan Buckley (NPS), and Chris Wilcox (FWS); Kaili McCray (Chair, Emergency Medical Committee); Dave Haston (Chair, Equipment Technology Committee).

Topic & Notes	Decision
Emergency Medical Committee (EMC) – Revision to the NWCG Infectious Disease Guidelines for Wildland Fire Incidents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board briefed EMC’s revision of the guidelines which provide NWCG recommendations for infectious disease prevention, planning, identification, and response during wildland fire incident management activities. The information is hosted on the NWCG website. 	Approved.
Wildland Fire Learning Portal (WFLP) Governance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board reviewed and approved the final draft of the WFLP Governance Charter. 	Approved.
FY21 Budget Priorities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board was briefed on the FY2021 Preliminary Project Funding Priorities. Overall requests have increased significantly. Projects are funded according to the NWCG Split Interagency Agreement. Discussed the possibility of an increase in the budget. 	Approved. Deb Fleming, Sean Cross, and federal Exec Board members will further discuss potential for increasing funding.
Project Planning and Prioritization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NWCG staff is developing a process and criteria for prioritizing projects, as well as a process for committees to request work from the NWCG staff. Staff will continue to work on the process and will report back to the EB in the coming months with more detail. 	Topic added to May agenda.
Proposed Tasking – NWCG Steering Committee Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board reviewed the draft tasking that asks a task team to be formed to a) develop standard operating procedures (SOPs) outlining expectations for how NWCG Committees, NWCG Course Steering Committees, and NAFRI Course Coordinators will work together, and b) establish appropriate web presence for Steering Committees, as well as the specific course information, between the NWCG and NARFI websites (with appropriate linking to avoid duplication). 	Approved.
Follow-Up to the Interagency Fire Planning Committee (IFPC) Discussion from February <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board members will confer with their respective committee members regarding whether the IFPC should continue as an NWCG committee. Findings will be discussed at the April meeting. 	Topic added to April agenda.

Additional information beyond these meeting notes (i.e. handouts, presentations, maps, etc.) will require a FOIA request to ensure proper privacy regulations are followed. Please request via email: blm_fa_foia@blm.gov



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<p>Direction to NWCG Committees on the use of external websites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board briefed on the April transition of FireNet to Office 365. Currently, there are still NWCG groups with that have not migrated from Google Sites to another platform. NWCG has reached out to these groups to migrate to NWCG website or to the Wildland Fire Learning Portal (WFLP) where applicable. 	<p>NWCG staff will draft a memorandum to committees providing direction for hosting NWCG material on the website.</p>
<p>Incident Workforce Development Group (IWDG) Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The group recently held a workshop with additional representatives from the Coordinating Group Advisory Council (CGAC) and the National Incident Commander/Area Commander Council (NICACC) to develop specific management roles and responsibilities that will support and facilitate successional planning in a changing incident management workforce environment. A memo was sent to each group stating IWDG's position supporting a move towards complex incident management and asking each for assistance with specific actions. IWDG requests assistance with field-level communications on these efforts. Original intent was to include briefings at spring Incident Management Team meetings which have since been cancelled. 	<p>Members support the actions of IWDG. Further discussion needed on the best way to communicate with the field.</p> <p>Topic added to April agenda.</p>
<p>RT-130, Training and Qualifications Certification Issue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board briefed on the desire of the agencies to provide the interagency wildland fire community with guidance on adjustments to wildland fire preparedness activities for 2020. These activities include: Medical Clearance, Work Capacity Test (WCT), and RT-130, Wildland Fire Safety Training Annual Refresher (WFSTAR). This will be discussed at the Fire Management Board (FMB) meeting for decision. 	<p>Board members support the intent and recommendations.</p>