The WFMWG is co-chaired by CFS and a rotational oversight team representing the agencies. The WFMWG is supported by a Secretariat position and a part-time Project Implementation Coordinator.

Membership

The WFMWG provides strategic direction, project oversight, and staff resources made available from its member agencies for the execution of its annual workplan. WFMWG work is guided by a Secretariat that provides support and resources. WFMWG and CIFFC: A Strategic Partnership

Roles and benefits

The WFMWG offers strategic direction, project oversight, and financial resources allocated and shared among its member agencies.

CIFFC provides a project management framework through its Working Groups and Communities of Practice, and provides staff resources made available from its member agencies for project delivery. The WFMWG and CIFFC have a parallel governance structure at the Assistant Deputy Minister level.

Current Activities

Both organizations ensure that Canada’s wildland fire management agencies have the most effective preparedness and response capabilities possible, and have a parallel governance structure at the Assistant Deputy Minister level.

The WFMWG and CIFFC are undertaking work that builds on previous initiatives, new initiatives, and furthers the goals of the Canadian Wildland Fire Strategy by:

- Improving data availability and accessibility
- Addressing findings from the resource capacity and fire load survey
- Developing a national strategy for improved information management and decision support systems
- Developing an action plan to address findings of the national fuels survey, and a strategy to expand best practices and develop alternative fuel treatments
- Refining the FireSmart expansion strategy and developing a partnership-based implementation plan
- Developing approaches to measuring resource sharing effectiveness, and assessing and managing risk in the future resource sharing environment

Current members of the WFMWG

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<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Representative</th>
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<tr>
<td>CFS</td>
<td>Tim Sheldon (Federal Chair)</td>
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<td>YT</td>
<td>Rick Smith (Agency Chair)</td>
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<td>BC</td>
<td>Gary Townsend</td>
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<td>AB</td>
<td>Bruce Mayer</td>
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<td>SK</td>
<td>Mart Wittrup</td>
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<td>MB</td>
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<td>NT</td>
<td>Ernie Campbell</td>
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<td>ON</td>
<td>Tracy Mill</td>
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<td>QC</td>
<td>Paul Laminarde</td>
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<td>Julius Tarjan</td>
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<td>Julie Towers</td>
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<td>Kate MacQuarrie</td>
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<td>NL</td>
<td>Jim Evans</td>
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Annual Planning

The WFMWG annual workplan is developed in consultation with the wildland fire management agencies, reflects strategic objectives identified by the CCFM, and addresses the ongoing implementation of the CWFS. The annual workplans are approved and funded through the CCFM on a fiscal year basis.

WFMWG and CIFFC Strategic partnership governance and project delivery

The WFMWG and CIFFC have benefited from the working partnership developed over the past several years, and are committed to delivering sustained results to Canada’s wildland fire management agencies. Both organizations remain committed to:

- Continuing to address fire management issues of strategic national importance, as directed by the CCFM
- Furthering the implementation of the Canadian Wildland Fire Strategy
- Enhancing the successful delivery partnership achieved between the WFMWG and CIFFC
- Building recognition of this role into the renewed CIFFC Strategic Plan now in development

Recent Accomplishments

The WFMWG/CIFFC strategic partnership has made progress on the following initiatives since 2010:

- Completed a status report and renewed implementation plan for the Canadian Wildland Fire Strategy
- Commissioned a report on the state of wildland fire resource sharing in Canada (Stocks, 2010)
- Commissioned a National survey on resource capacity and fire load trends
- Commissioned a National survey on the state of hazardous fuels and fuels management programs
- Supported a series of FireSmart Community Recognition Workshops, in cooperation with Partners in Protection Canada.
- Developed a national strategy to expand FireSmart programs for community wildfire protection (being reviewed at this Conference)

Future Outlook

The WFMWG and CIFFC have benefited from the working partnership developed over the past several years, and are committed to delivering sustained results to Canada’s wildland fire management agencies. Both organizations remain committed to:

- Continuing to address fire management issues of strategic national importance, as directed by the CCFM
- Furthering the implementation of the Canadian Wildland Fire Strategy
- Enhancing the successful delivery partnership achieved between the WFMWG and CIFFC
- Building recognition of this role into the renewed CIFFC Strategic Plan now in development.