Call for Workshop Session or Presentation Proposals

The International Association of Wildland Fire in partnership with the Wildland Fire Leadership Council (WFLC) and the Western, Southeast and Northeast Regions of the Cohesive Strategy, invites you to submit a proposal for a workshop session or presentation at the **2nd Annual National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy Workshop** to be held **March 26-29, 2018 in Reno, Nevada**.

Submit your Proposal by November 20, 2017

Submit Session/Presentation Proposal

We Need Your Ideas:

Help us design a workshop that brings Cohesive Strategy practitioners and decision makers together to learn from one another. Propose a workshop session or presentation that helps participants explore key issues like:

❖ How could you do more prescribed burning? How have others scaled up their use of prescribed fire? What barriers have people encountered?

❖ Fire adapted communities! What is working for you? What did you wish worked better?

❖ How can we make progress at the local, regional and national scales on issues like air quality, prescribed burning, big box burns, smoke management, funding opportunities?

❖ Managing fires for resource benefits—who has done it, what went right, what could be done differently? How do you get your local partners on board?

❖ Lessons from fire season 2017. What are your options when you are at PL5 and suppression is not an option?

❖ National priorities, regional priorities—where do you fit?

Workshop Intent and Background:

Our goal is to build capacity, improve preparedness and learn from each other about how to make the Cohesive Strategy work. We want this workshop to give practitioners and decision makers tools and ideas that support what's working and help identify opportunities for improvement. To that end, we're designing this event as an interactive **workshop.** We welcome session or presentation proposals that will lead to active learning and participation. Proposals for sessions that help create new knowledge, support skill building and draw out people's experiences are preferred.

We are seeking workshop sessions or presentations that feature:

❖ Case studies of effective or ineffective management treatments;

❖ Roundtable discussions about what is getting in your way of doing more;

❖ A sharing circle on Cohesive Strategy planning and implementation status;

- ❖ Stories about failures and what was learned from them;
- ❖ Tactical truth telling in the form of examples of the unintended consequences of actions taken and lessons learned;
- ❖ Policy insights on the evolution of the Cohesive Strategy and what is needed next;
- ❖ The latest relevant research findings presented in an interactive format.

Your proposal:

Please review this entire document before preparing your session or presentation proposal. Since we are hosting a **workshop**, we're very interested in the purpose, content, and format of your proposed session. Below you'll find sample purposes, a range of possible topics, and examples of some of the session types you might propose. Please use these as a jumping off place as you consider your proposal. Creative, engaging sessions that help participants learn from and connect with each other is the ultimate goal.

The Purpose:

When you submit your proposal, be prepared to let us know what you are you hoping to create out of your session. Some examples are listed below to help you imagine what you could do.

- ❖ Gather experiences to help others for future work,
- ❖ Explore a specific issue and how it informs the Cohesive Strategy,
- ❖ Transfer information and practices among participants.
- ❖ Make connections among participants and build relationships,
- ❖ Create new knowledge,
- ❖ Give practitioners a platform to share their experiences,
- ❖ Create opportunities for future work with others/collaborative opportunities.

The Content:

Each day of the workshop will focus on one of the following themes: Building Capacity, Improving Preparedness and Learning from Experience. Consider how you might host a session that allows participants to share their knowledge and engage around some aspect of these themes. We've developed a list of example topics/learning questions that might make for fruitful workshop sessions. Please do not feel limited by this list; it is provided as a starting place to begin brainstorming.

Building Capacity

- ❖ Understanding Cohesive Strategy vision and goals, what they mean, and how to implement all or parts of them
- ❖ Understanding realities of specific authorities – exploring how agencies and their partners can apply existing authorities to achieve all-lands work effectively. Sharing what's possible within our existing framework (we have a lot of opportunity!)
- ❖ What leads people to take action? How we can stop focusing on awareness and move to action.
- ❖ What are some successful models for building capacity? How can we spread those?
- ❖ What kind of capacity do we need to change our fire paradigm?
- ❖ What kinds of training are needed to build the capacity we need?
- ❖ How are we actively engaging vulnerable populations in our work?
- ❖ What is local coordinating capacity and why do you need it?
- ❖ How might we invest in diversity in fire management?
- ❖ Identify sources of information and support – science exchanges, cooperative extensions, universities, peer networks

Improving Preparedness

- ❖ Build awareness of changing fire environment and increasing challenges
- ❖ Become informed about authorities, tools, processes

- ❖ Learn about the latest wildfire science and delivery
- ❖ Enhance and contribute to ecological knowledge and its application
- ❖ Identify new and appropriate research questions
- ❖ What do we need to learn more about together?
- ❖ Resilience: what it looks like, and how to grow it.
- ❖ Silo busting: making space for more voices, getting "outside" input, and seeing a bigger picture.
- ❖ How might our current ways of thinking about preparedness be limiting?
- ❖ What would "better preparedness" look like?

Learning from Experiences
- ❖ How can we transfer ideas that work?
- ❖ Questioning what we "know." Myths that prevent us from taking strategic action.
- ❖ Acknowledge what is not working – unintended consequences, incomplete project implementation, improper project planning, failed strategies or low value strategies, inaction, status quo perception, lack of cooperative efforts, etc.
- ❖ How can we replicate success?
- ❖ How can we *scale out* instead of just "*scale up*"?
- ❖ Identify issues limiting growth and successful implementation and how to resolve them
- ❖ Explore action at all management levels – local, regional, and national
- ❖ Learn more about programs and resources that can support CS goals: Firewise USA, Ready, Set Go!, etc.
- ❖ Collaborative planning

Session Formats:

We want to know the format you're proposing. We've provided some examples of formats here, but again, this list is merely a starting point. Feel free to propose something else.

Presentations: (Note that based on participant feedback we're going to limit the number of traditional presentations at this event. However, if a presentation is the most appropriate format for your idea you may propose one.)
- **Ignite talks (**Presenters get 20 slides, which automatically advance every 15 seconds. The result is a fast and fun presentation which lasts just 5 minutes.)
- **Posters**
- **Traditional presentations**

Workshop Sessions: (The follow facilitation techniques and session formats are examples. Feel free to propose your own! Make sure to indicate the amount of time you need for your session as different formats require different amounts of time.)

- **Facilitated Discussion (Consider various discussion group formats that draw out the insights and ideas of participants.)**
- **Fail Faire (Host a session focused on helping people share constructive lessons from failures** https://failforward.org/resources/#materials)
- **User Experience Fishbowl (**People with direct field experience can quickly foster understanding, spark creativity, and facilitate adoption of new practices among members of a larger community. http://www.liberatingstructures.com/18-users-experience-fishbowl/)

- **World Café (** table hosts with one question at each table will talk about different topics and participants move around to hear what others have to say. http://www.theworldcafe.com/key-concepts-resources/world-cafe-method/)
- **Story Circle (** A story circle may be used to build community, to examine difference, or to explore challenges that people are facing. http://workingnarratives.org/article/story-circles/)
  Shift and Share (Quickly and effectively share several innovations or useful programs that may lie hidden within a group, organization, or community. http://www.liberatingstructures.com/11-shift-share%20)

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If you have any questions, contact:
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