

Utah Catastrophic Wildfire Reduction Strategy

Steering Committee Charter

I. PURPOSE

The Committee will be called the Utah Catastrophic Wildfire Reduction Strategy (CatFire) Steering Committee. It is convened by the Utah State Forester to advise and support the Utah [Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands](#)' (Division or FFSL) implementation of the Governor's [Catastrophic Wildfire Reduction Strategy](#) and facilitate the inter-agency coordination and implementation of the [National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy](#) (NCS).

II. GOALS

Catastrophic Wildfire Reduction Strategy:

1. Statewide Coordination of Mitigation Resources
2. Catastrophic Fire Reduction Fund
3. Regional Collaborative Working Groups to Perform Needs Assessment and Prioritization Across the State
4. Technical Committees to Respond to Specific Concerns of Statewide Importance
5. Adopt Key Recommendations from the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy
6. Increase Public Understanding and Participation
7. Report Annually to the Governor and Legislature the Actions Planned and Taken

National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy:

1. Restore and Maintain Landscapes--Landscapes across all jurisdictions are resilient to fire-related disturbances in accordance with management objectives.
2. Fire Adapted Communities--Human populations and infrastructure can withstand a wildfire without loss of life and property.
3. Wildfire Response--All jurisdictions participate in making and implementing safe, effective, efficient risk-based wildfire management decisions.

III. RELATIONSHIP OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE TO FFSL

It is the role of the committee to advise the State Forester and Division on the implementation of CatFire and NCS. The Steering Committee is expected to provide support, expertise, relevant information and recommendations for successful Strategy implementation.

IV. RELATIONSHIP OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE TO THE UTAH OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

The Utah Oversight Committee is comprised of the State and Regional Fire Management Officers for the Federal and State Agencies. This committee provides coordination and oversight to State and Federal interagency fire and fuels projects. The Utah Oversight Committee will provide representation at each CatFire meeting in order to provide coordination and a linkage between the two committees.

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V. MEMBERSHIP

The Steering Committee shall initially consist of [25 members](#). Members were selected and appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture in early 2013 at the outset of the inter-agency planning effort to create the Strategy. Steering Committee members will constitute a cross-section of entities with an interest in reducing the risk of wildfire in Utah and achieving the goals detailed above. Membership may be updated by FFSL over time based on changing conditions and circumstances.

VI. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Steering Committee will be chaired by the State Forester or their designee. A vice chair will be elected by the membership for a two-year term. Elections will be held at the first meeting of any new membership year.

VII. PROCEDURAL RULES

Meetings: The Steering Committee will convene bi-annually when possible and practical. Other meetings may also be necessary based on changing conditions. Notice of any meeting of the Steering Committee, along with a draft meeting agenda, will be distributed to all committee members at least one week in advance of the proposed meeting.

Minutes: Minutes of each meeting will be kept. Copies will be emailed to members of the Steering Committee within two weeks following a meeting.

Voting: Business to be voted on will be identified in the meeting agenda. Voting will be determined by the majority of members present.

Staffing: Staff support will be provided, at a minimum, by FFSL. Other members of the Steering Committee may also provide staff support as they deem appropriate.

Bi-annual Meeting Schedule Targets:

2nd Thursday in April

2nd Thursday in November