

INTERNATIONAL  
ASSOCIATION OF  
WILDLAND FIRE

2018

ANNUAL  
REPORT





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# TURNING GOALS INTO REALITIES

Soon after I became President in early 2018, and in my first Wildfire magazine column, I stated that I would like our focus to be on the following areas:

- Improve the value offering to the membership
- Increase our membership so we can truly represent the global wildfire community
- Increase the diversity of participation in the IAWF – gender, race and age
- Develop position papers for the issues that are the same or similar across the globe
- Build on our links with the Association for Fire Ecology in the US, Pau Costa in Europe, the International Fire Aviation Working Group, the Global Fire Monitoring Center, and so many other wildfire groups around the world
- Future-proof the financial sustainability of the IAWF.

As we move into 2019, it is time to assess the 2018 achievements and influences of the International Association of Wildland Fire (IAWF) against these goals. It has been a thought-provoking, very challenging and busy year.

Our membership committee has done considerable work related to the way we attract and retain new members. We have launched a new web site with a more contemporary look and feel, and it is also easier to navigate and find desired information. We are also continuing to improve our communications through Wildfire Magazine and social media. We will also move into publishing articles in two or more languages to make the magazine more attractive to the global wildfire community. This will not just help us increase our membership, but it will also improve benefits to existing members and help us to increase our diversity.

I am very proud of the Diversity and Inclusion Policy that we created in 2018 and have moved to implement more fully in 2019 with the establishment of a Diversity and Inclusion Committee. The policy promotes gender, racial, geographic and experiential diversity for our conference speakers and attendees. Importantly, it strives to be better at being inclusive of people from a variety of walks in life who are dealing with wildland fire issues and research. Our Diversity and Inclusion Committee will hold us to account given the ambitious goals that we have set for ourselves.

At the Board face-to-face meeting in Missoula, we initiated a series of discussion papers that are relevant to our work as wildland fire managers, practitioners and researchers. The first lot was finalised at the end of 2018 and will be published throughout 2019 in Wildfire magazine, with more to follow. These discussion papers are meant to invoke conversation among our community on what unites us and what we stand for, as well as how we can improve what we do. We are encouraging all members of the wildland fire community to provide feedback on these papers.

In May 2018, we held a very successful joint conference with the Association for Fire Ecology (AFE) in Missoula. It provided a great opportunity to expand collaborations, gain new knowledge, discuss the latest research findings, learn about management treatments and engage in discussions on policy. We had more than 600 attendees and more than 450 presentations. We also have a representative from each association attend each other's monthly board meetings in a liaison role. This is helping us better understanding each other so we can collaborate more productively.

We have also started working with the Pau Costa Association to develop a Memorandum of Understanding to formalize past and current collaboration. I expect that to be finalised in 2019.

Our financial situation is strong, and we are looking for further ways to improve it with well-planned and promoted conferences and with a more streamlined production process for Wildfire.

I am proud of what we have achieved last year and looking forward to a strong future.

Alen Slijepcevic,  
IAWF President and Chairman of the Board

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT





# THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WILDLAND FIRE

Wildland fire management encompasses a broad spectrum of planning, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation activities. These activities are designed to safely protect people, property, communities, societal infrastructure, and natural resources from detrimental effects of unwanted fires, to use fire where appropriate, to make all landscapes and human populations resilient to fire-related disturbances; and to accomplish stated goals and objectives. Wildland fire management involves the application of ecologic, social, and physical science, risk-based decision-making, risk management, human performance, and community engagement for discovery of new knowledge and capabilities; strategic planning for prevention, suppression, prescribed fire, use of wildland fire; and tactical application of the full range of ground and aerial implementation practices.

The International Association of Wildland Fire was established in 1990 as an independent, non-profit organization to facilitate global communication about wildland fire and provide leadership through a neutral forum that considers and addresses all important, and at times controversial, wildland fire issues. IAWF has a wide-ranging mission built on a foundation of both current and future ecological, social, economic, and political considerations that affect wildland fire management. We are fervently interested in promoting a better understanding of wildland fire through:

- improving awareness of the interrelationship of this dynamic natural force and natural resource management,
- improving research and information transfer,
- advancing operational implementation methods and standards,
- increasing attention, consideration, and commitment to firefighter safety, and
- furthering professional development and recruiting the next generation of wildland fire professionals.

Membership spans all continents. As a broad and welcoming global organization, IAWF members include anyone having an interest in any aspect of wildland fire.



International Association  
*of* Wildland Fire



## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

The IAWF Executive Committee consists of the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Executive Director. The Executive Director serves as an ex-officio (non-voting) member. All of these positions, except for the Executive Director are members of the Board of Directors. The role of the Executive Committee is to provide consultation and guidance to the Association's Executive Director on matters related to the affairs of the Association between meetings of the Board of Directors; approve any extraordinary expenditure of funds, subject to Board ratification, evaluate the performance of the Executive Director and carry out other duties established by the Board of Directors. Executive Committee members during 2018 were:



**ALEN SLIJEPCEVIC**  
PRESIDENT  
Deputy Chief Officer  
Capability and Infrastructure,  
Country Fire Authority  
Burwood East, Victoria,  
Australia



**TODDI STEELMAN**  
VICE PRESIDENT  
Stanback Dean,  
Nicholas School  
of the Environment  
Duke University  
Durham, North Carolina, USA



**ALBERT SIMEONI**  
TREASURER  
Professor, Department of Fire  
Protection Engineering  
Worcester Polytechnic Institute  
Worcester, Massachusetts, USA



**STEVEN R. MILLER**  
SECRETARY  
Regional Director  
Fire and Aviation,  
USDA Forest Service, Region 9  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

The Executive Director is employed by the Board to serve as the chief executive and operating officer of the Association, and is responsible for the management of its activities and operations in accordance with policies established by the Board. During 2018, the IAWF Executive Director was:



**MIKEL ROBINSON**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
Montana, USA

## COMMITTEES:

The Board of Directors establishes committees as necessary on both a standing and ad-hoc basis. Committees respond to important and ongoing business identified by the Board that requires special expertise and more attention than can be given at a Regular Board meeting. Committees will take on the responsibility of addressing whatever the business is on behalf of the Board and provide the Board with a credible and expert perspective.

### During 2018, standing committees included:

- Executive Committee,
- Finance Committee, and
- Nominating Committees.

### Additional committees that functioned during 2018 included:

- Strategic Planning Committee
- Wildfire magazine and Communications Committee
- Scholarships Committee
- Long Range Conference Planning Committee
- Awards Committee
- Membership Committee
- Wildland Fire Safety Award Selection Committee
- International Journal of Wildland Fire Advisory Board
- Diversity and Inclusivity Committee
- Mentoring Program Committee



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The IAWF Board of Directors is comprised of 17 members representing six different countries around the world. The President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary are listed above; the remaining Board members for 2018 are:



**TIMOTHY BROWN**  
Research Professor  
Desert Research Institute  
Reno, Nevada, USA



**DAVID BRUCE**  
Communications Manager  
Bushfire and Natural Hazards  
Cooperative Research Centre  
Melbourne, Victoria, Australia



**MURRAY CARTER**  
Executive Director, Rural  
Fire Division  
Department of Fire and  
Emergency Services  
Perth, Western Australia,  
Australia



**KATHERINE (KATHY) CLAY**  
Fire Marshal, Battalion Chief  
Jackson Hole Fire/EMS  
Jackson, Wyoming, USA



**EUAN FERGUSON**  
Director,  
Euan Ferguson Pty Ltd  
Melbourne, South Victoria,  
Australia



**PAULO FERNANDES**  
Associate Professor  
Universidade de  
Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro,  
Vila Real, Portugal



**MICHAEL GOLLNER**  
Assistant Professor, Department  
of Fire Protection Engineering  
University of Maryland  
College Park, Maryland, USA



**TOM HARBOUR**  
President/CEO of  
Harbourfire  
Mesa, Arizona, USA



**NAIAN LIU**  
Vice Director and Professor  
State Key Laboratory  
of Fire Science,  
University of Science  
and Technology of China  
P. R. China



**GUILLERMO REIN**  
Reader,  
Imperial College London  
London, United Kingdom



**AMBER SOJA**  
Senior Research Scientist  
NIA / NASA LaRC  
Hampton, Virginia, USA



**MICHELE STEINBERG**  
Wildfire Division Manager  
National Fire Protection  
Association (NFPA)  
Quincy, Massachusetts, USA



**GAVRIIL XANTHOPOULOS**  
Researcher - Forest Fires  
Hellenic Agricultural Organization  
Institute of Mediterranean  
Forest Ecosystems  
Terma Alkmanos, Ilisia, Athens,  
Greece



## OUR VISION:

IAWF takes pride in being the acknowledged professional resource for local to global scale scientific and technical knowledge, education, networking and professional development for the international wildland fire community. Our Vision is simple, but descriptive and impactful for the discipline and field of wildland fire management:

### Uniting the Global Wildland Fire Community

## OUR MISSION:

- To facilitate discovery and communication in wildland fire science, advancement in strategic and tactical planning and implementation, and leadership for the wildland fire community.
- To promote a better understanding of wildland fire, built on the belief that understanding and managing this dynamic natural force is vital for natural resource management, for firefighter and community safety, and for harmonious interaction between people and their environment.
- To communicate with the wildland fire community and provide global linkage for people with shared interest in wildland fire and comprehensive fire management.





# STRATEGIC DIRECTION

The strategic direction of the IAWF is defined through our Goals and Strategies identified in our Strategic Plan and our ongoing efforts in collaboration, and partnerships.

## GOALS AND STRATEGIES:

The strategic direction of the IAWF is defined through our Goals and Strategies identified in our Strategic Plan and our ongoing efforts in collaboration, and partnerships.

### GOAL

# 1

#### IAWF RELEVANCE AND VALUE

Enhance and grow the capacity of IAWF to provide high-quality services to members and the profession.

**Strategy 1:** Ensure that governance, financial, and operational capabilities are sufficient and sound so that the strategic plan can be implemented.

**Strategy 2:** Build and strengthen relationships with other societies and organizations to increase partnerships, cooperation, and capacity for collective action around key issues of common interest and need.

**Strategy 3:** Establish and leverage collaborative processes for members and interested individuals to contribute and exchange information, and evaluate ideas, and develop recommendations.

### GOAL

# 2

#### LEADERSHIP

Advocate for the wildland fire management program and profession.

**Strategy 1:** Act in an independent role to provide leadership to global wildland fire management programs.

**Strategy 2:** Actively promote the development, advancement and application of scientific and operational principles to safeguarding people, property, mission, heritage and the environment from the negative impacts of unwanted fire.

**Strategy 3:** Act a global leader in presenting neutral forums for discussion of important and controversial wildland fire issues, developing recommendations in the form of position papers, testimonies, declarations, and affirmations for resolution, and setting standards to accelerate awareness by the public, scientists, and governments.

### GOAL

# 3

#### MEMBERSHIP

Ensure IAWF has a sustainable and active membership base supported by the association.

**Strategy 1:** Encourage increased membership and involvement through active promotion across multiple platforms and activities.

**Strategy 2:** Follow a broad philosophy of social inclusion realizing that our association will be strongest and achieve its full potential through optimization of global, gender, and age membership diversity.

**Strategy 3:** Provide products, services, and capabilities to all individuals interested in the wildland fire profession.



# STRATEGIC DIRECTION

## GOAL

# 4

### MEMBER PROFESSIONAL GROWTH

**Provide the means to aid members' professional growth.**

- Strategy 1:** Utilize members' knowledge and experience for research and problem solving.
- Strategy 2:** Recognize individuals for exemplary service to IAWF and to the wildland fire profession.
- Strategy 3:** Recognize individuals for potential contributions to wildfire science and safety through scholarships, grants, and initiatives such as Students of Fire.
- Strategy 4:** Enhance engagement and involvement of students and early career scientists, and provide networking opportunities for all individuals interested in wildland fire.
- Strategy 5:** In concert with other organizations, help develop and support core competencies (education, skills, knowledge, etc.) and roles and responsibilities for the profession.

## GOAL

# 5

### WILDLAND FIRE INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

**Promote development, expansion and dissemination of wildland fire knowledge and information.**

- Strategy 1:** Individually and together with other partners around the world, plan, implement, and present significant technical conferences, symposia, workshops, meetings, webinars, special sessions, training courses, and other opportunities to deliver educational, professional development, and networking opportunities.
- Strategy 2:** Promote and distribute strategic and tactical solutions that address and incorporate wildland fire safety concerns.
- Strategy 3:** Support continued and accelerated multidisciplinary fire science research programs to advance this field.
- Strategy 4:** Support the development, delivery, and proliferation of wildland fire knowledge transfer programs.

## GOAL

# 6

### IAWF COMMUNICATION

**Through aggressive strategies, utilize all appropriate modes of communication to increase awareness of IAWF, its role as an international leader for wildland fire, and its benefits for members.**

- Strategy 1:** Produce and distribute a high quality popular magazine of interest to a wide ranging audience - Wildfire.
- Strategy 2:** Produce and distribute a high quality, peer-reviewed, professional, scientific journal - International Journal of Wildland Fire.
- Strategy 3:** Utilize all aspects of social media to rapidly disseminate information, including, but not limited to: Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, and others.
- Strategy 4:** Utilize integrated communications planning, Website plans for new design, function, and platform, eNews – content and distribution.
- Strategy 5:** Increase awareness of the importance of Wildfire issues for non-fire audiences.



# COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMS AND PARTNERSHIP ACTIVITIES:

IAWF strongly believes in collaboration to build strength, influence important issues, and advance solutions. We continue to seek collaborative opportunities, sustain and build collaborative efforts, and work with others to accomplish important goals. Partnering with other organizations enables us to better accomplish common objectives, synergizes shared efforts, capitalizes on different expertise, and creates strategic alliances.

## IN 2018 PARTNERS AND COLLABORATORS INCLUDED:



### Association for Fire Ecology (AFE):

The Association for Fire Ecology (AFE) is dedicated to improving the knowledge and use of fire in land management. The AFE sponsors conferences, publishes the Journal of Fire Ecology, and provides wildland fire professional certification and wildland fire academic program certification services, as well as other education, outreach, and membership development services.



### Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC:

The Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC focuses on the impact of natural hazards on the Australian community and the need for emergency services, land managers, all levels of government and the private sector to understand a range of hazards more thoroughly. It conducts coordinated and interdisciplinary research that includes working with communities to improve disaster resilience and reduce the human, social, economic and environmental costs from bushfires and other natural hazards. Research supports the development of cohesive, evidence-based policies, strategies, programs and tools to build a more disaster resilient Australia. Research is structured into three major themes: policy and economics of hazards, resilience to hazards, and understanding and mitigating risks.



### National Research Institute of Science and Technology for Environment and Agriculture (Irstea):

Public Scientific and Technical Research Establishment (EPST) falling within the purview of the ministries of research and agriculture. Its multidisciplinary, action-oriented approach to research and expertise in support of public policy involves strong partnerships with French and European universities and research organizations, economic entities and public authorities. The Institute is a founding member of AllEnvi, the National Alliance for Environmental Research, and the European PEER (Partnership for European Environmental Research) network. Irstea has the "Carnot Institute" label since 2006.



### National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF):

The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation leads a nationwide effort to honor and remember America's fallen fire heroes, provide resources to assist their survivors in rebuilding their lives, and work within the fire service community to reduce firefighter deaths and injuries. They sponsor the National Memorial Weekend at Memorial Park in Emmitsburg, MD each year.



### Pau Costa Foundation:

The Pau Costa Foundation serves as a reference platform to promote global dissemination of knowledge in fire ecology and forest fire management from technical and research fields.

**More information on collaborative efforts is provided in the Accomplishments Section.**





# RELEVANCE AND VALUE

**The IAWF strives to sustain and improve its relevance and value to the global wildland fire management community by providing high-quality services to members and the profession. Accomplishments in this area in 2018 included:**

## **STRENGTHENING ALLIANCES:**

- AFE: The IAWF continued to pursue collaborative efforts with the Association of Fire Ecology. In May of 2018 we jointly hosted a very successful conference in Missoula, Montana. In an effort to strengthen working relationships and maximize efforts on common objectives, each association has identified a liaison to the other association's Board of Directors; each participate in all regularly scheduled board meetings for both associations.
- Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC: In 2018, the IAWF partnered with Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC to plan the 6th International Fire Behavior and Fuels Conference which will be held in Sydney, Australia; Albuquerque, NM USA; and Marseille, France and will connect with the use of virtual technology.
- NFFF: The IAWF continued to support the NFFF Memorial Weekend by sending representatives in support of activities and recognize the important work of the NFFF.
- Irstea: In 2018, the IAWF partnered with National Research Institute of Science and Technology for Environment and Agriculture to plan the 6th International Fire Behavior and Fuels Conference in Marseille, France; Albuquerque, NM USA; and Sydney Australia. The conference will be held concurrently in 2019 with the use of virtual technology.
- Establish and advance information exchange processes: IAWF continues to pursue opportunities to establish and leverage collaborative processes for all individuals to contribute and exchange information

Establish and advance information exchange processes: IAWF continues to pursue opportunities to establish and leverage collaborative processes for all individuals to contribute and exchange information





# LEADERSHIP

**The IAWF provides leadership to actively advocate for wildland fire management programs and the profession and seeks to find solutions to issues and to advance the field.**

- In March, the IAWF adopted a **Diversity and Inclusion Policy**

## **Embracing diversity and inclusion**

Becoming a diverse and inclusive organisation will enable the International Association of Wildland Fire to learn from others, grow our understanding, and find new ways to address, understand and implement solutions to complex problems.

The IAWF desires to maintain a positive, empowering, inclusive and innovative culture that enables all members of the fire community to feel safe and valued when contributing to the IAWF. We want to operate in a flexible and open manner to meet our membership's needs and to help members achieve their fullest potential.

What we mean by diversity and inclusion Diversity encompasses all the differences between people in how they identify in relation to age, caring responsibilities, cultural background (including Indigenous peoples), disability, gender, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic standing, as well as their profession, education, work experiences and organisational role (professional identity). Inclusion is when a diverse group of people (e.g. different ages, genders) feel equally valued and respected, have equal access to opportunities and resources, and can freely contribute their perspectives and talents to improve the IAWF.

## **Our principles**

- We live our diversity and inclusion values when our people:
- leverage the experience and ideas of others
- embrace different viewpoints
- feel they belong and know their unique contribution is valued
- have equal opportunity to participate
- connect synergistically with our diverse membership and broader fire community to understand their needs.

## **Our Direction – Now and for the Future**

### **Beginning immediately, we will strive to achieve:**

- Gender balance at IAWF conferences, including panels, keynote speakers and registrations.
- Gender balance within our membership and Board members.
- Geographic diversity within the membership, Board members and all other IAWF activities.
- Greater inclusion of other underrepresented groups (age, Indigenous, disability, etc.)

### **We will implement this direction by:**

- Actively seeking gender balance for our conferences and membership
- Actively encouraging and proactively seeking membership from all parts of the globe
- Actively encouraging and proactively seeking members from all different professional backgrounds within the global fire community
- Eliminating any organisational structures or actions that oppress, exclude, limit or discriminate on the basis of race, gender, ethnicity, financial ability, sexual orientation, religion, disability or age.





# LEADERSHIP

**We will monitor and evaluate this direction by:**

- Annually assessing milestones and progress in our direction
  - Annually reporting accomplishments in our Annual Report.
- 
- Provide independent leadership: The IAWF annually visits USA congressional staff to discuss important wildland fire management issues and to encourage awareness, attention and support. In 2018, the IAWF presented information pertaining to wildfire funding legislation, fire science research funding and support, overall wildfire and fuels budget levels, continued support for the National Cohesive Strategy, and needs for increased fuel treatment activities to multiple legislators.
  - Participate in neutral forums for discussion of important and controversial wildland fire issues:
    - Congressional Fire Services Institute (CFSI): The CFSI exists as a non-profit, nonpartisan policy institute designed to educate members of the US Congress about the needs and challenges of our nation's fire and emergency services so that the federal government provides the types of training and funding needed. The strength of CFSI lies in its National Advisory Committee (NAC) comprising 39 trade groups, issue organizations, and professional associations, including the leading fire service organizations in the country. The IAWF is a member of the NAC and attends the annual meeting and can introduce resolutions for the committee to consider. In 2018, IAWF members represented the Association at the CFSI dinner and symposium, presented a seminar during the national meeting, and attended the NAC meeting and raised the issue of federal wildfire funding.
    - Promote the safeguarding of people, property, missions, heritage and the environment from the negative impacts of unwanted fire.
    - Western Region Strategy Committee: This Committee comprises Senior Regional Leadership and the Western Collaborative Advisory Team. It promotes and facilitates resilient landscapes, fire adapted communities, and a safe, effective, risk-based western fire response across the geographic and political boundaries of the western landscape using a network approach. IAWF maintains active support to this group and provides a representative to the Western Region Strategy Committee Senior Regional Leadership (Tom Zimmerman) and a representative to the WRSC Collaborative Advisory Team (Chuck Bushey.)
  - In 2018, the IAWF Board of Directors began develop papers intended to engage discussion of the key facing our profession today. Topics include Extreme Fires, Fire Competing Resources and International Cooperation. The Issue published in Wildfire Magazine in 2019.







## FUND DEVELOPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

The IAWF Fund Development Committee was formed in mid-2107 to provide additional focus on developing ways to acquire more funding in the form of grants, awards, donations, and other contributions.

The Association, as a non-profit organization, has limited earning potential and limited annual budgets. Even a relatively small infusion of additional funds into IAWF's budget enhances our capabilities. As a result, this committee was formed with the objective to pursue grant opportunities and to identify potential foundations and organizations that might warrant contact.

The Committee consists of four Board members, three former Board members, and the Executive Director. It meets through conference calls scheduled on an as-needed basis. Since its inception, the majority of work has been focused on learning more about fund development, developing a plan of action, and pursuing some initial opportunities.

Three calls were held in late 2017 to form the committee, clarify roles and responsibilities, and begin discussion on actions. During 2018, the Committee reported to the Board of Directors at its May meeting and discussed a number of issues for the Committee to give attention to, including: potential grant opportunities; grant management processes; time management associated with grant processes and management; necessary personnel commitments; research and education needs; and grant management training needs and opportunities. The Board gave the Committee clarification on having a specific focus of strategic financial planning for additional funding for IAWF. This information was updated with the Committee.

Activities underway and completed during 2018 included one conference call, continuing work on Grants/Agreements with organizations involved in wildland fire management. One proposal was submitted to a grant organization, however, was not accepted.

The Fund Development Committee is continuing work on these activities and feels that efforts now underway indicate a new stage in the growth of IAWF and will strategically support long-term growth and promote advancement of overall capability as an international professional wildland fire management society.

## DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE

The IAWF Diversity and Inclusion Committee arose from a call to action preceding the May 2018 Fire Continuum Conference in Missoula, Montana. The Association of Fire Ecology (AFE) and IAWF received a letter from members of the wildfire community pointing out that a disproportionate number of plenary speaking opportunities at our recent conferences were going to non-minority men. This call to action increased awareness and encouraged immediate action to make future conference speaking opportunities more inclusive.

Following the May 2018 meeting, IAWF and AFE passed resolutions stating that diversity and inclusivity would be formalized in policies in their respective organizations. This would include representation at conferences, but also extended into leadership, membership, programs, and activities, including recruiting Board members, Associate Journal Editors, and reviewers. We have pledged to hold ourselves accountable by reporting our accomplishments and shortcomings in our annual reports.

In the Fall 2018, IAWF put out a call to its membership to populate a Diversity and Inclusivity (D&I) Committee. The initial response was very encouraging—there was clearly interest in our community to address these pressing issues. Chaired by Toddi Steelman (IAWF Vice-President) and Tom Zimmerman (IAWF recent past president), the D&I Committee has 16 representatives from Canada, Australia, the Netherlands and the United States. 11 members are women and they include fire managers, practitioners, researchers and academics.

Holding our first meeting in October, the D&I Committee set an ambitious goal of drafting Principles of Conduct and Administrative Action Guidelines to be considered by and voted on by the IAWF Board of Directors in January 2019. We are very pleased to report that we have met our challenge and that the Board approved the Principles of Conduct and Administrative Action Guidelines on January 24, 2019.

These documents set clear expectations for the IAWF community in terms of personal and professional behavior. We place high value on integrity, responsibility and individual and collective reputation and are committed to maintaining high standards both within the organization and in our dealings with others in our daily lives. The Principles and the Administrative Action Guidelines can be found on pages XXX in this Annual report.

As the co-chairs of the D&I Committee, we hope that the efforts that are now underway signify a new era in how we address diversity and inclusivity in our professional wildland fire community. We want to be part of constructive change and while these processes are never easy, we are committed to a path that is more diverse and inclusive for all of our members.

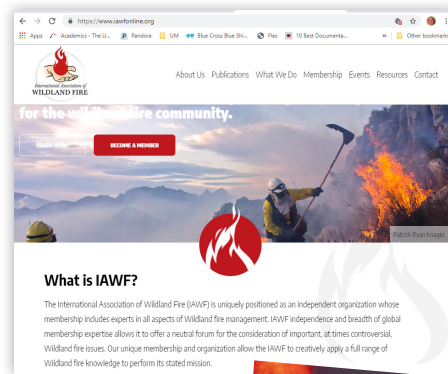
Tom Zimmerman and Toddi Steelman



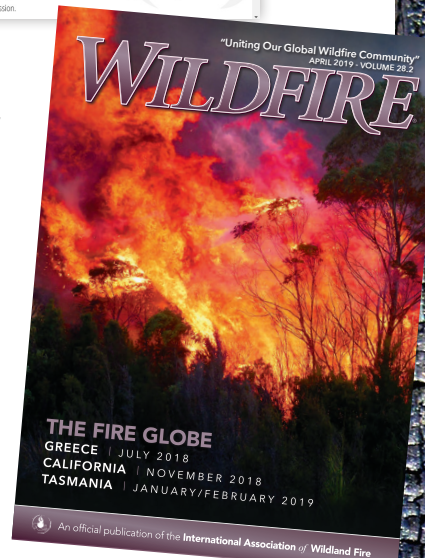
# WILDFIRE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The IAWF is keen to engage its members and other fire professionals and researchers around the world across a range of platforms and the past year has seen several significant advances in this goal. The communications strategy is aligned with all IAWF policies including Diversity and Inclusion.

After a considerable amount of planning and testing, a new IAWF website was developed and launched. Apart from achieving a more modern look and better functionality, the new site has become a hub for all IAWF activities, a resource for members and a source of content for social media.



Wildfire magazine in 2018 strived to produce a high-quality publication that represented the interests and careers of the membership. However, it was a challenging year and publication was restricted to four editions in 2018, two less than planned. This was a conscious decision to ensure that, while the volunteer editorial resources were particularly stretched in the busy wildfire year of 2018, the highest quality of the magazine was retained across all editions. A new Wildfire strategy has been devised for 2019 and beyond, which has harnessed more resources and better support for the editorial process. After a long and successful arrangement with sales manager Dennis Hegg the coordination of advertising has also been brought back "in-house". This will allow better integration with online advertising platforms and better liaison with sponsors.



## SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media activity on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn allowed members and the broader fire community around the world to stay in regular touch with IAWF activities and announcements. The number of followers of all our social media platforms grew in 2018, with particularly strong engagement and interaction around conferences.





# PRINCIPLES OF CONDUCT AND ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES

## STATEMENT OF VALUES AND INTENTION

The International Association of Wildland Fire (IAWF) is a professional association established to facilitate global communication about wildland fire and provide leadership through a neutral forum that considers and addresses all important, and at times controversial, wildland fire issues. IAWF is the acknowledged professional resource for local to global scale scientific and technical knowledge, education, networking and professional development for the international wildland fire community.

We have a wide-ranging mission built on a foundation of both current and future ecological, social, economic, and political considerations that affect wildland fire management. We are passionately interested in promoting a better understanding of wildland fire, improved research and information transfer, advanced operational implementation methods and standards, increased attention, consideration, and commitment to firefighter safety, and improvements in professional development. We fervently seek to promote that understanding wildland fire is vital for natural resource management, firefighter safety, and harmonious interaction between people and their environment.

In the conduct of personal and professional matters, IAWF places high importance on the values of integrity, responsibility and reputation. We are committed to maintaining high standards both within the organization and in our dealings with others in our daily lives. Our leadership has developed these Principles of Conduct to define our accepted and unacceptable ethical behaviors. It is important that our standards are defined, available, and understandable. This document establishes guidelines for all members at all times and non-members who may be participating at any IAWF conducted activities. It helps ensure that IAWF promotes, achieves, and maintains high standards of practice and it provides a benchmark for members and non-members participating in IAWF activities to use for self-evaluation.

IAWF views these Principles of Conduct as mandatory and expects all members and other participants at our professional activities to abide by them at all times. As such, these Principles are regulatory and will be used to guide management in ethical situations (see Enforcement later in this document).

Compliance with these standards demonstrates our individual and collective respect for our profession, our professional and personal relationships with others, and our respect and commitment to the long-term vision, goals, and values of IAWF.

Members of IAWF at all times and registrants, speakers, and other participants at IAWF professional activities assume a personal responsibility to the profession and to all others by promising to uphold and abide by these Principles. If we as individuals and as an association embed the right behaviors and build a truly diverse and inclusive culture, we will lead our discipline by example.

## EXPECTED BEHAVIOR

Based on our core values of leadership, trust, and integrity; diversity and inclusivity; wildland fire advocacy; personal safety; promotion of science and operational principles; global communication; and personal and professional growth, IAWF expects that all members at all times and non-members who may be participating at any IAWF conducted activities will:

1. Base all professional and civic behavior on honesty, fairness, good will, and respect for the law.
2. Provide opportunities for others to learn and develop in ways that are in keeping with the IAWF commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.
3. Be considerate and respectful to all others.
  - a. Refrain from demeaning, discriminatory, or harassing behavior, materials, and speech.
  - b. Refrain from harassment of or any form of discrimination against another participant, staff member, volunteer or others.
  - c. Carry out our actions in a civil and dignified manner; act professionally and respectfully toward one another; respect the needs, contributions, and viewpoints of others; and give due credit to others for their methods, ideas, or assistance.
  - d. Never consider or exhibit any actual or threatened violence toward any individual or group.
  - e. Speak up if observing anything at an event that conflicts with these Principles of Conduct.
4. Never engage in any conduct endangering the life, safety, health or well-being of others.
5. Always present, to the best of our ability, accurate and complete information.
6. Always indicate on whose behalf any public statements are made.
7. Always fully disclose and resolve any existing or potential conflicts of interest.
8. Always keep proprietary information confidential unless the appropriate person authorizes its disclosure.
9. Exhibit professional behavior at meetings, conferences, seminars, etc., including but not limited to:
  - a. Treat all participants, attendees, staff, volunteers, and vendors with respect and consideration, valuing a diversity of views and opinions.
  - b. Be considerate, respectful, and collaborative.
  - c. Communicate openly with respect for others, critiquing ideas rather than individuals.
  - d. Avoid personal attacks directed toward other attendees, participants, staff, volunteers, and suppliers/vendors.
  - e. Respect the rules and policies of the meeting venue.

## UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR

Unacceptable behavior from any member and from non-member participants while at IAWF activities will not be tolerated. Unacceptable behavior includes, but is not limited to:

1. Unprofessional or civic behavior involving dishonesty, unfairness, discrimination, harassment, fraud, confidentiality, or disrespect for the law.
2. Any inconsiderate, disrespectful, or abusive behavior toward others.
  - a. Intimidating, harassing, abusive, discriminatory, derogatory, or demeaning speech, materials, or conduct by any member.
  - b. Violence, threats of violence, or violent language directed against another person.



# PRINCIPLES OF CONDUCT AND ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES

- c. Sexist, racist, homophobic, transphobic, or otherwise discriminatory jokes and language.
  - d. Personal insults, particularly those related to gender, sexual orientation, race, religion, or disability.
2. Any boisterous, lewd, or offensive behavior or language, including but not limited to using sexually explicit or offensive language, materials or conduct, or any language, behavior, or content that contains profanity, obscene gestures, or racial, religious, or ethnic slurs.
3. Misuse of personal contact details associated with members.
4. Wilful disregard to laws, policies, and other rules in regard to ethical behavior.
5. Any unprofessional behavior while at meetings or other venues as a representative of IAWF, including but not limited to:
  - a. Harassment, intimidation, or discrimination in any form.
  - b. Physical or verbal abuse of any attendee, speaker, volunteer, exhibitor, staff member, volunteer, service provider, or other meeting guest.
  - c. Verbal comments related to gender, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, religion, national origin, inappropriate use of nudity and/or sexual images in public spaces or in presentations, or threatening or stalking any attendee, speaker, volunteer, exhibitor, staff member, service provider, or other meeting guest.
  - d. Disruption of talks at oral or poster sessions, in banquets or exhibit halls, or at other events organized by IAWF at the meeting venue, hotels, or other contracted facilities.

## IF YOU WITNESS OR ARE SUBJECTED TO UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR

If you are subjected to unacceptable behavior, notice that someone else is being subjected to unacceptable behavior, or have any other concerns, please notify an IAWF representative immediately. Any IAWF officer, Board Member, or Diversity and Inclusivity Committee are appropriate individuals to notify at any time - <https://www.iawfonline.org/board-of-directors/>. During an IAWF sponsored event, any of these individuals or designated IAWF representatives

announced at the event are appropriate. All reports will remain completely confidential.

Anyone experiencing or witnessing behavior that constitutes an immediate or serious threat to personal or public safety is advised to contact the appropriate police or emergency contact phone number for the specific locality they are in. Appropriate numbers will be stated and posted during every IAWF event and individuals can reference the following figure (Figure 1) or go to [https://travel.state.gov/content/dam/students-abroad/pdfs/911\\_ABROAD.pdf](https://travel.state.gov/content/dam/students-abroad/pdfs/911_ABROAD.pdf) to find appropriate numbers.

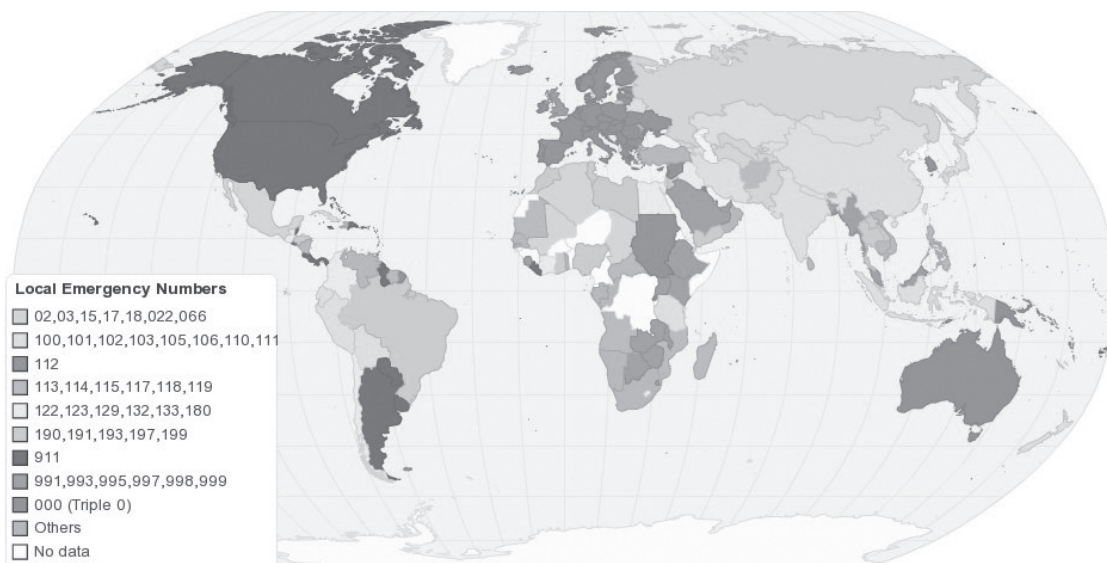
## ENFORCEMENT OF PRINCIPLES OF CONDUCT

Unacceptable behavior will not be tolerated. Anyone asked to stop unacceptable behavior is expected to comply immediately.

The IAWF Bylaws specify processes through which a member's violation of these standards may lead to administrative actions. Any individual, whether or not IAWF members, may charge a member or participant at IAWF activity with violation of the Principles of Conduct. All charges must be made to an IAWF representative and must specify the specific actions that have occurred. IAWF believes all perspectives and feelings are important and as such, will receive, listen to, and review every complaint once received. All such charges will remain completely confidential.

Once a charge of misconduct has been received, IAWF will follow a documented process (included as Attachment A to the Bylaws) that includes a number of steps to document and review the complaint, define options with complainant, conduct a thorough examination, and take action commensurate with severity, in accordance with the IAWF Administrative Action Guidelines.

Administration actions that the IAWF Board may take include discussion with the Board, reprimand, revocation of membership and expulsion from the Association, ban from conference speaking and/or attendance; or other disciplinary action. Guidelines to assess the severity and type of unethical action and appropriate administrative action are included as Attachment B to the Bylaws.

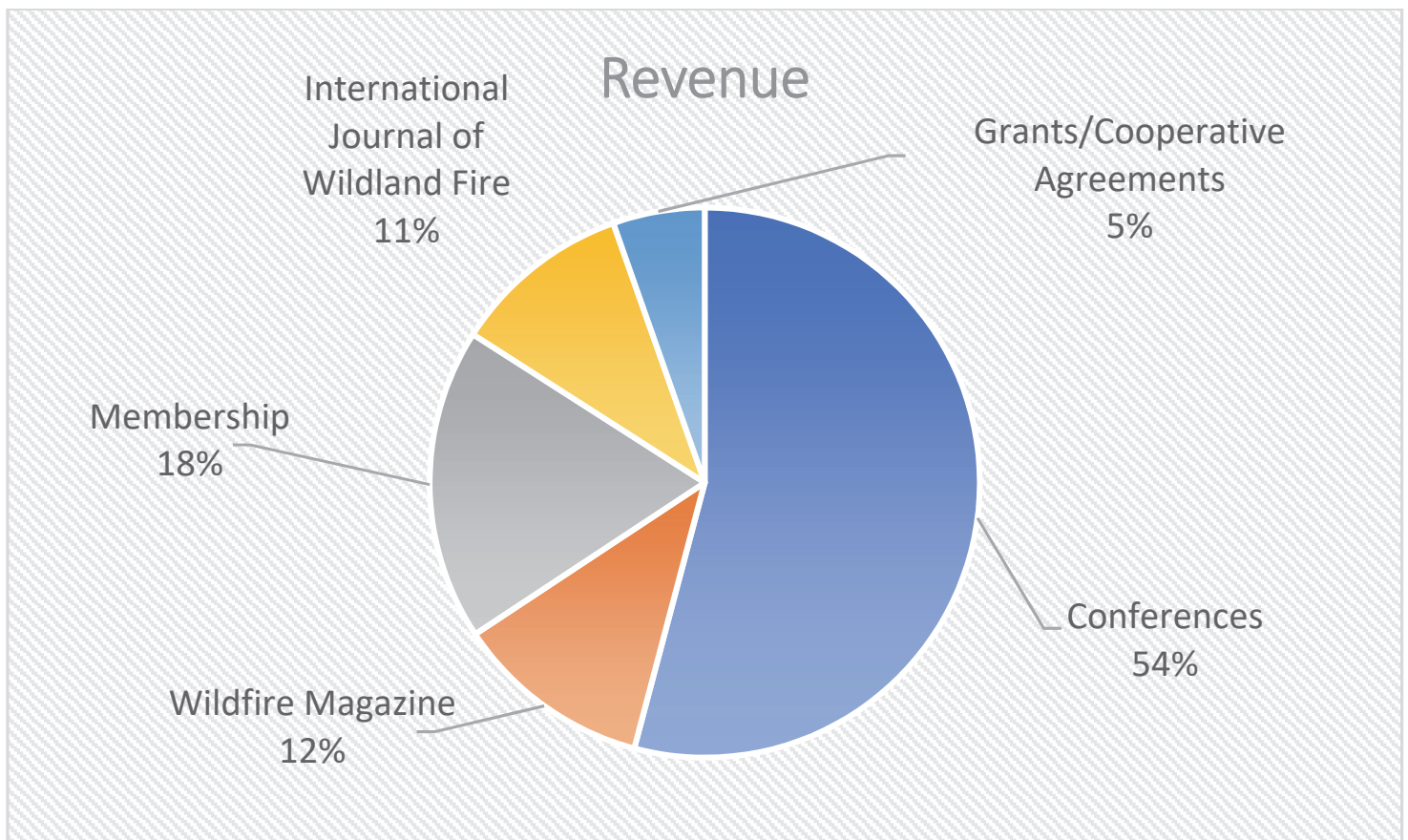




# IAWF FINANCES

Revenue for the IAWF comes from membership dues, royalties from IJWF, Wildfire Magazine advertising, conferences, grants and cooperative agreements. IAWF is reliant on revenue from conferences to balance the budget. Our goal is to increase membership to cover all of the association expenses so we are not so dependent on conference revenue. Revenue from conferences could then be used to start new initiatives that benefit our membership.

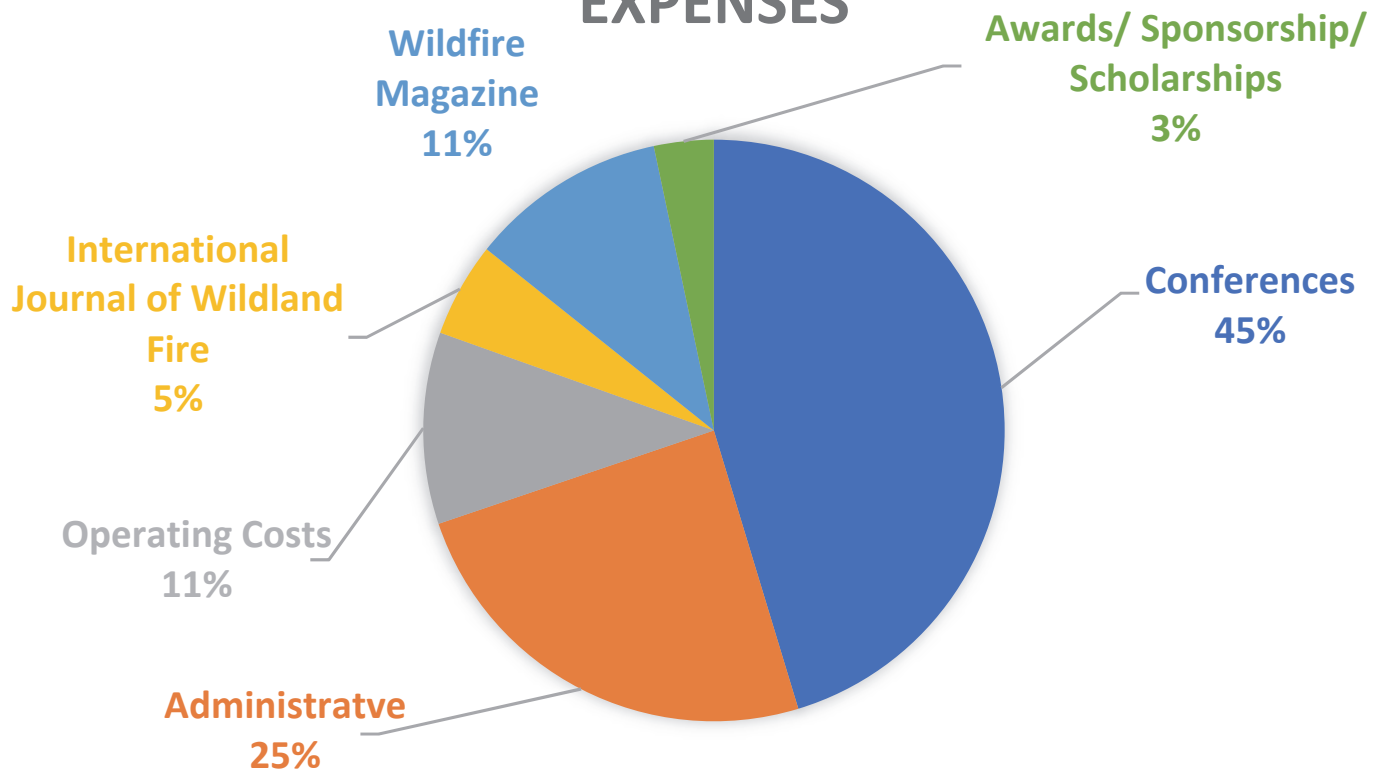
## REVENUE





## EXPENSES

### EXPENSES





# IAWF MEMBERSHIP

The IAWF offers several membership types. All members can improve their knowledge on emerging issues by tracking our webpage and attending IAWF hosted conferences. Members can also find a network of associates to share ideas and tools or work on common problems through our international membership.

The benefits of membership include:

- Subscription to Wildfire Magazine
- Free online access to the International Journal of Wildland Fire
- Discount on subscription to hard copy of the International Journal of Wildland Fire
- Discount on registration fees for IAWF hosted conferences
- Access to the contact information for all IAWF members
- Eligibility to hold a Board of Directors seat
- Eligibility for student scholarships
- And most importantly, the opportunity to be a member of a professional association that is committed to facilitating communication and providing leadership for the wildland fire community

## MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP TYPE	ANNUAL RATE	ANNUAL RATE WITH IJWF
Individual	\$80	\$330
Student	\$35	\$285
Volunteer or Seasonal Firefighter (*new in 2016)	\$50	\$300
Library	\$95	NA
Corporate 5	\$310	NA
Agency	\$750	Included 2 copies

In 2018, the **IAWF** had **606 members** from **27 countries**.

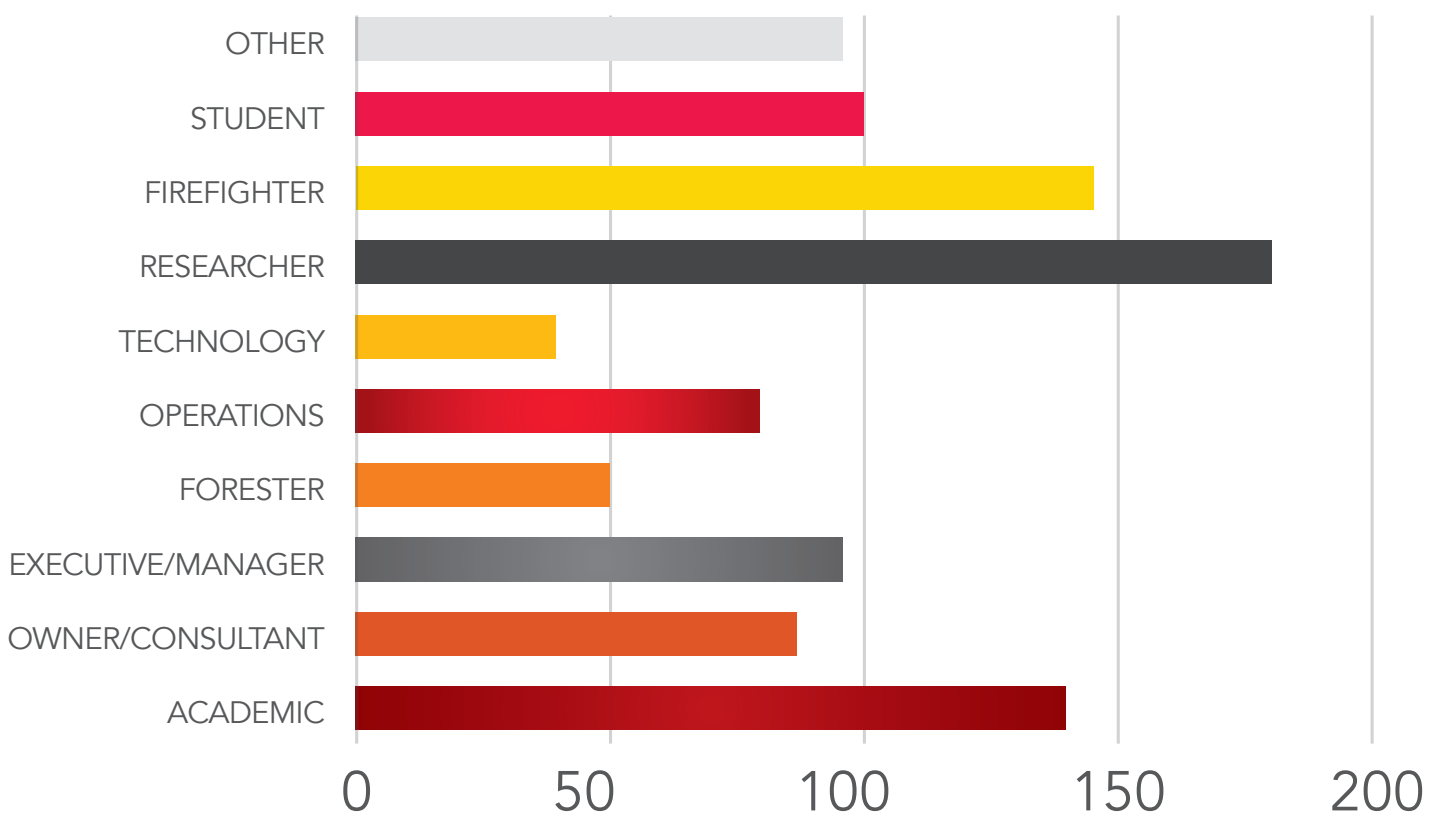


1. ARGENTINA
2. AUSTRALIA
3. BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA
4. BRAZIL
5. CANADA
6. CHILE
7. CHINA
8. CYPRUS
9. FINLAND
10. FRANCE
11. GERMANY
12. GREECE
13. ISRAEL
14. ITALY
15. JAPAN
16. MEXICO
17. MONGOLIA
18. NETHERLANDS
19. NEW ZEALAND
20. PORTUGAL
21. RUSSIAN FEDERATION
22. SOUTH AFRICA
23. SPAIN
24. SWITZERLAND
25. UKRAINE
26. UNITED KINGDOM
27. UNITED STATES



# IAWF DEMOGRAPHICS

## IAWF MEMBER PROFESSION



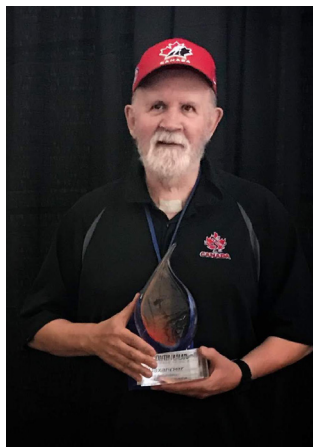


# IAWF AWARDS

The IAWF presented several awards in 2018.  
Annual award nominations are open each year in the fall.

Nominations for the annual awards open each fall.

Visit <https://www.iawfonline.org/awards/> to read full bios on the award recipients.



The 2018 recipient of the Ember Award for Excellence in Wildland Fire Science was Dr. Martin Alexander. His award was presented by Alen Slijepcevic, IAWF President, at the Fire Continuum Conference in Missoula. Dr. Alexander has had an exceptional 40 year record creating knowledge, packaging and disseminating it to the global wildland fire community. He has continually elevated his professional standing to the point where he is now recognized as the premier expert on many aspects of wildland fire. He has collaborated with colleagues across North America, Europe, the Near East, and 'down under' to develop innovative solutions to crucial wildland fire challenges. With more than 350 publications to his credit, including 61 peer-reviewed articles. According to Google Scholar Citations, his publications have been cited 5,634 times.



The 2018 recipient of the IAWF Early Career Award in Fire Science is Dr. Nicholas Skowronski. Nick is a research forester with the Northern Research Station, US Forest Service. His award was presented by Alen Slijepcevic, IAWF President, at the Fire Continuum Conference in Missoula. Dr. Alexander has had an exceptional 40 year record creating knowledge, packaging and disseminating it to the global wildland fire community. He has continually elevated his professional standing to the point where he is now recognized as the premier expert on many aspects of wildland fire. He has collaborated with colleagues across North America, Europe, the Near East, and 'down under' to develop innovative solutions to crucial wildland fire challenges. With more than 350 publications to his credit, including 61 peer-reviewed articles. According to Google Scholar Citations, his publications have been cited 5,634 times.



The 2018 recipient of the IAWF Early Career Award in Fire Operations was Forest Schafer. Forest is the Forest Science and Management Coordinator at the California Tahoe Conservancy. Forest is one of those rare individuals who excel and establish a standard of excellence that defines the true meaning of the word professional. His award was presented by Toddi Steelman, IAWF Vice President at the Wildland Fire Safety Summit/Human Dimensions Conference in Asheville, North Carolina in December.



The 2018 of the IAWF Wildland Fire Safety Award was Kelly Close. Kelly is the Battalion Chief with the Poudre Fire Authority based out of Fort Collins, Colorado. His award was presented by Toddi Steelman, IAWF Vice President at the Wildland Fire Safety Summit/Human Dimensions Conference in Asheville, North Carolina in December. Kelly has demonstrated an unparalleled passion for wildland firefighter safety so as prevent fire tragedies in the future. His presentations and writings have bridged both fire behavior and human behavior in the context of decision-making in rapidly deteriorating environments.



## IAWF Scholarships

Each year, since 2007, the IAWF has awarded two graduate-level scholarships, typically valued at \$3,000 USD, to Master of Science (M.Sc.) or Ph.D. students studying wildland fire or wildland fire-related topics. Student submitted essays are evaluated by an international panel of fire science experts and one award recipient is chosen for the Masters level and one for the Doctoral level.



**Joanne Kingsbury,  
PhD Environmental Science,  
Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, USA.**

Jo Kingsbury is a PhD student in the Environmental Science Graduate Program at Ohio State University and is based within the School of Environment and Natural Resources. She is originally from the Isle of Arran in Scotland and completed her BSc Honors degree in Zoology at the University of Glasgow in 2011. While studying for her undergraduate degree, she spent her summers leading student expeditions to Latin America where she fell in love with tropical ecology and birds. After graduating, she worked for four years with the Royal Society for the

Protection of Birds (RSPB) as a project officer in landscape-scale conservation. Her current research focuses on understanding how fire shapes habitat for globally threatened birds within Bolivia's Beni Savanna Ecoregion, one of the earth's most remote and threatened savanna systems. The Beni is critically understudied compared to other global savanna systems and currently its habitats and biodiversity are experiencing extreme pressure from altered fire regimes associated with widespread cattle-ranching. Rangeland fire-management has altered historic wildfire patterns, changing the frequency, seasonality, extent and severity of fire-events. Understanding the fire ecology of this region will be vital to the future conservation of its habitats and species. She is working collaboratively with the local Bolivian Birdlife International partner Association Civil Armonia, which owns and manage protected land within the Beni. They have implemented multiple experimental burns to study how fire interacts with flooding and grazing to shape avian habitat (vegetation structure/composition) and resources (food/nest sites). Results will be used to build a predictive model to test how fire can be used to protect bird communities. Her work thus aims to develop more sustainable fire-management regimes and predictive tools for land managers that will help to balance agricultural and conservation priorities within this region, and more widely within Latin America.



**Lauren Folk,  
Masters of Applied Science in Civil Engineering,  
York University, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.**

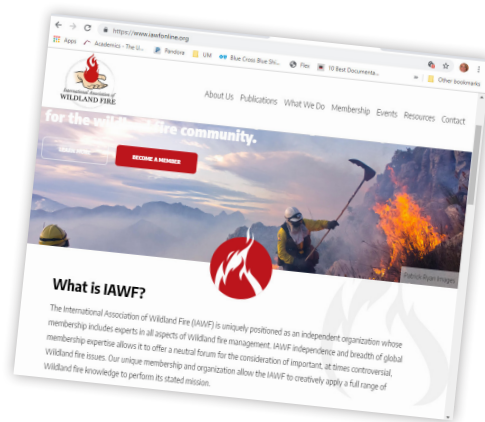
Lauren is pursuing her Master of Applied Science in civil engineering at York University in Toronto, Canada. She completed her bachelor's in Architectural Conservation and Sustainability Engineering at Carleton University in 2017. Lauren has long been passionate about sustainable development and finding ways to help improve the lives of others. She has conducted research on human behaviour in fire (HBiF) since her junior year, transitioning her research focus from long term care home evacuations during her

undergraduate degree to community resilience and wildland urban interface (WUI) evacuations for her master's thesis. She spent three months interning at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) in 2017, researching the factors affecting protective action decision making during wildfires and hurricanes. Lauren is now collaborating with community partners to improve the safety of evacuation routes for vulnerable Canadian WUI communities by incorporating HBiF into evacuation modelling and planning. She hopes that her research will help to improve wildfire safety in WUI communities and to further the study of HBiF in North America.



## WEBPAGE

In 2018, the IAWF partnered with Gecko Design, based in Missoula, Montana to launch a new webpage.



## CONFERENCES

**THE FIRE CONTINUUM CONFERENCE** was held in May 2018 at the University of Montana in Missoula, MT. The conference was jointly organized and sponsored by IAWF and the Association for Fire Ecology. It provided a great opportunity to expand collaborations, gain new knowledge, discuss the latest relevant research findings, learn about management treatments and engage in discussions on policy. We had more than 600 delegates and more than 450 presentations.

**THE 2ND NATIONAL COHESIVE WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY WORKSHOP** was held March 26-28, 2018 in Reno, Nevada. IAWF presented this workshop in partnership with the Wildland Fire Leadership Council (WFLC) and the Western, Southeast and Northeast Regional Strategy Committees. The theme was Making a Difference – Building Capacity, Improving Preparedness, and Learning from Experience, which addressed the role of science in supporting implementation and identified processes to ensure science integration in all planning and implementation activities. Over 180 people attended, with over 45 interactive sessions and panels.

**THE 15TH WILDLAND FIRE SAFETY SUMMIT & 5TH HUMAN DIMENSIONS OF WILDLAND FIRE CONFERENCE** was held December 10-14, 2018 in Asheville, North Carolina. The conference theme was Rethinking the Global Wildfire Problem: Are we Focusing on the Right Problems and Right Solutions? Over 165 people attended, from several countries.

## PLANNING FOR UPCOMING CONFERENCES

The IAWF will continue to partner and host conferences in the coming years:

**THE 6TH INTERNATIONAL WILDLAND FIRE BEHAVIOR AND FUELS CONFERENCE** will be April 29-May 3, 2019, held concurrently in Albuquerque, New Mexico; Marseille, France; and Sydney, Australia

**THE 3RD NATIONAL COHESIVE WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY WORKSHOP** will be held October 21-24, 2019 in Plymouth, Massachusetts.

**THE 3RD INTERNATIONAL SMOKE SYMPOSIUM** will be held April 20-24, 2020 in Raleigh, North Carolina.



# IAWF COMMUNICATION

## INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF WILDLAND FIRE (IJWF)

The IAWF has a contract with CSIRO to continue publishing IJWF. The journal is published 12 times per year. IJWF continues to publish new and significant articles that advance basic and applied research concerning wildland fire. Published papers aim to assist in understanding the basic principles of fire as a process, its ecological impact at the local as well as the landscape level, modelling fire and its effects, and presenting information on how to effectively and efficiently manage fire. The journal has an international perspective, since wildland fire plays a major social, economic and ecological role around the globe.

### IJWF Outstanding Associate Editor Award 2018

#### MARTIN P. GIRARDIN

Martin P. Girardin, Research Scientist, Forest Ecology, Natural Resources Canada, Canadian Forest Service, Laurentian Forestry Centre

We are very pleased to announce that Dr. Martin P. Girardin is the winner of the Outstanding Editor Award of the *International Journal of Wildland Fire* for 2018. Please join us in congratulating Martin for his many years of excellent service to the journal as an Associate Editor (since 2006).

The Editors-in-Chief felt Martin deserving of this award due to his willingness to take on manuscripts that did not fit neatly into a specific subject area, and always provided a very thorough and insightful evaluation, maintaining IJWF's high standards of quality.

Martin obtained a Bachelor's degree in Biological Sciences from the University of Quebec in Montreal in 1999, a Master's degree in Biological Sciences from the University of Quebec in Montreal in 2001, and a Ph.D. from the University of Manitoba in 2005. After a post-doc at Laval University, he was hired as a research scientist at the Canadian Forest Service in December 2005. He has developed expertise in disciplines of forest ecology, fire ecology and climatology, and is the author of more than 70 scientific publications, and is Adjunct Professor at the Centre for Forest Research, University of Quebec in Montreal.



We are pleased to add the 2018 IJWF Outstanding Editor Award to his impressive list of achievements, and we most sincerely thank him for his exceptional service to *International Journal of Wildland Fire*.

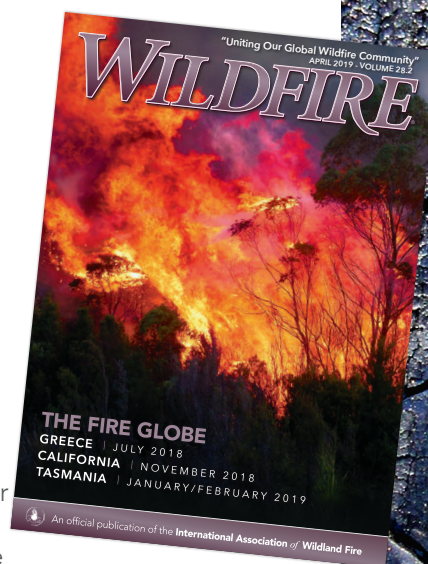


## WILDFIRE MAGAZINE

Wildfire magazine is the only global magazine that connects fire researchers, government agencies, universities, non-governmental organizations, consultants, the fire business, fire-affected communities, and leaders in wildfire, bushfire and all-risk management. We published four editions in 2018 that can be found at: [www.iawfonline.org/wildfire-magazine/](http://www.iawfonline.org/wildfire-magazine/)

The IAWF Wildfire Communications Committee provides guidance and direction on editorial content to an Executive Editor and a Managing Editor, who liaise directly with contributing writers, photographers, advertisers and designers.

Wildfire aims to be a magazine that meets the vision of the IAWF – “Uniting our global wildfire community.” Content includes fire science, operations, policy, people, health and safety, and news. Content strives to be diverse and inclusive of all wildland fire activities around the world.



## SOCIAL MEDIA

IAWF uses Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn to disseminate information





INTERNATIONAL  
ASSOCIATION OF  
WILDLAND FIRE

2018

ANNUAL  
REPORT

