Call for Workshop Session 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 at the 4th National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy Workshop to be held October 4-8, 2021 in Asheville, North Carolina.

Submit your Proposal by June 1, 2021

Submit Session Proposal

In our collective effort to facilitate greater understanding and application of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy, we are designing an innovative, constructive and thought-provoking learning event for practitioners and decision-makers around this year’s theme: “Hard Truths, Fantastic Failures and Magnificent Successes of Cross-Boundary, Landscape Level and Community-Wide Implementation.”

The focus for this workshop will be on interactive sessions which actively engage participants, organized around compelling objectives for learning. It is our intent that participants leave the workshop with information that can help them implement tactics and strategies that increase the understanding and use of the Cohesive Strategy Guiding Principles and Management Options.

How can you move beyond a PowerPoint to create such a session? We’ve provided suggestions and resources below. Please review this entire document and the workshop website before preparing your session proposal. Below you’ll find a range of potential topics and examples of session types you might propose. Workshop sessions will be designed to involve the audience in more than just Q & A. We will work individually with session leaders to adapt session topics to active learning formats for maximum learning outcomes. Please use these as ideas as you consider your proposal. Creative, engaging sessions that help participants learn from and connect with each other is the ultimate goal.

We are seeking sessions that feature subjects such as, but are not limited to:

- Where do we see effective or ineffective cross-boundary, landscape-scale, management treatments?
- What barriers are getting in the way of doing more and how do we overcome them?
- What fantastic failures have occurred that we can learn from to change the way we are doing business for better wildland fire outcomes?
❖ What are we learning about the “hard truths” of living with wildland fire – what are stakeholders learning to accept to make meaningful progress towards Resilient Landscapes, Fire Adapted Communities and a Safe, Effective, Risk-Based Wildfire Response?
❖ How are policy changes at local, state, Tribal and federal levels that contribute to greater implementation of the Cohesive Strategy?
❖ How can we improve pre-season stakeholder collaboration and coordination that results in the co-management of risk and allowances for managing fire for resource benefit?
❖ How can we increase the use of prescribed fire through an “All Hands, All Lands” approach?
❖ How can research findings have a bigger impact in the field with positive results in the implementation of Cohesive Strategy Management Options?
❖ How do we better engage communities around community-wide wildfire prevention and prepare those at high risk for large, long-duration wildfires?
❖ What new and emerging technologies and science can be better leveraged to support practices and collaborative, prioritized actions?
❖ How do we move past the “blame game” to work better across boundaries and jurisdictions for better wildland fire outcomes?
❖ What else do we need to be learning about to demonstrate how to make meaningful progress towards Resilient Landscapes, Fire Adapted Communities and a Safe, Effective, Risk-Based Wildfire Response?

Please identify what format you’re proposing for your session. Each session must go beyond the standard presentation format to include audience participation as a tool for shared learning. A few formats are below but you are not limited to these. We encourage you to be creative! We will be working with each successful proposal leader to develop and enhance session interaction.

Please identify what your proposed content will provide for participants in the context of the Cohesive Strategy. Will you be facilitating development of action items in your session or leave participants with information or models they can replicate back home?

Available session opportunities are:

- One-hour interactive sessions, facilitator provided if needed.
- One-and-a-half-hour interactive sessions, facilitator provided if needed.
- Poster sessions – must meet intention to leave participants with information and/or a model that can be replicated back home.

Some resources for creative, interactive workshop sessions:

- **Fail Faire** - Host a session focused on helping people share constructive lessons from failures [https://failforward.org/resources/#materials](https://failforward.org/resources/#materials).
- **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/](http://www.liberatingstructures.com/18-users-experience-fishbowl/).
- **World Café** - table hosts with one question at each table to 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/](http://www.theworldcafe.com/key-concepts-resources/world-cafe-method/).
- **Story Circle** - A story circle may be used to build community, to examine differences, or to explore challenges that people are facing. [http://workingnarratives.org/article/story-circles/](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](http://www.liberatingstructures.com/11-shift-share%20)

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