



INTERNATIONAL  
ASSOCIATION OF  
WILDLAND FIRE

# STRATEGIC PLAN

2020 - 2022



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### **PURPOSE:**

To advance discovery, communication, leadership, and continuous improvement in the global wildland fire community and to those who have a shared interest in wildland fire, its management and practice.

### **MEMBERS:**

As a broad and welcoming global organization, membership of the International Association of Wildland Fire (IAWF) may include anyone having an interest in any aspect of wildland fire. The IAWF strives for a diverse and inclusive membership.

### **SCOPE OF PRACTICE:**

Wildland fire management encompasses a broad spectrum of activity. This includes the development of policy and practice in land use and natural resource planning, community engagement, firefighter and community safety, and infrastructure development. Wildland fire management includes the understanding of the impact of fire on the natural, built and cultural environment and the science and practice of prescribed fire. This includes making landscapes and the communities that live in them more resilient.



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### VALUE PROPOSITION:

**IAWF's global members and stakeholders benefit from engagement with IAWF through the following:**

IAWF values personal **safety as the highest priority**. We promote the safety culture with the goal that **'everyone goes home'**.

IAWF **promotes the protection of people, property, infrastructure, cultural heritage, and the natural environment from the negative impacts of unwanted fire.**

IAWF members demonstrate **leadership, trust, integrity, and professionalism**. Members will act with the highest standards of **ethical, moral, professional, and personal behavior**.

IAWF's culture will be **positive, empowering, inclusive, and innovative**. Our members feel safe and valued.

IAWF uses its **influence to advocate for more resourcing of the wildland fire profession**.

IAWF offers a **neutral forum for the discussion and resolution** of wildland fire issues using the **best available evidence**.

### IAWF promotes:

- diversity and inclusiveness
- cooperative relationships
- a culture of research and enquiry
- the sharing of knowledge and information
- continuous learning and professional development
- opportunities for networking and resource sharing
- improving the awareness of wildland fire management in the media, public, scientists, institutions, and governments.



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### GOAL

# 1

**IAWF RELEVANCE AND VALUE: Enhance and grow the capacity of IAWF to provide high-quality services to members and the profession globally.**

**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 advocacy and leadership to global wildland fire management programs.

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

**Strategy 3:** Be the global leader in presenting neutral forums for discussion of important and controversial wildland fire issues.

**Strategy 4:** Establish networks and conversations with wildland fire individuals, entities, and governments.

### GOAL

# 3

**MEMBERSHIP: Ensure IAWF has a sustainable and active international membership base supported by the association.**

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

**Strategy 2:** Provide products, services, and capabilities to all individuals interested in the wildland fire profession.

**Strategy 3:** Establish networks with organizations and entities with whom IAWF shares common interests.

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### GOAL

# 4

**MEMBER PROFESSIONAL GROWTH: Provide the means for improvement through member professional development and maintaining professional networks.**

- Strategy 1:** Utilize members' knowledge and experience for research, problem solving, teaching and knowledge transfer.
- Strategy 2:** Recognize individuals for exemplary service to IAWF and to the wildland fire profession.
- Strategy 3:** Promote 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 and mentoring opportunities for all individuals interested in wildland fire.
- Strategy 5:** Promote and participate in the development of core skills and competencies for wildland fire roles.

### GOAL

# 5

**WILDLAND FIRE INFORMATION DISSEMINATION: Promote development, expansion and dissemination of wildland fire knowledge and information.**

- Strategy 1:** Develop an agenda with conferences, symposia, workshops, meetings, webinars, special sessions, training courses, and other opportunities to deliver educational, professional development, and networking opportunities.
- Strategy 2:** Promote solutions that address wildland fire safety concerns.
- Strategy 3:** Support increased resourcing of multidisciplinary fire science research programs.
- Strategy 4:** Support the development and delivery of wildland fire knowledge transfer programs.
- Strategy 5:** Increase awareness of IAWF, its role as an international advocate for wildland fire, and the benefits of membership.

### GOAL

# 6

**DIVERSITY AND INCLUSIVITY: IAWF is striving to become a more diverse and inclusive organization that can learn from others, grow our understanding, and find new ways to address, understand, and implement solutions to complex problems, and become better at what we do.**

- Strategy 1:** Create a fire community where all members feel safe and welcomed and valued.
- Strategy 2:** Promote the benefits of diversity and inclusivity in all IAWF activities.
- Strategy 3:** Measure, monitor and report on diversity and inclusivity targets.
- Strategy 4:** Provide members with a safe and confidential means to report inappropriate behavior or ethics.

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