



WESTERN FORESTRY
LEADERSHIP COALITION

CWSF FOREST HEALTH COMMITTEE

2025 Annual Report and 2026 Work Plan

LEADERSHIP OVERVIEW

COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP

2025 Leadership Team	2026 Leadership Team
Chair: Harrison Brookes (WY) Vice Chair: Jason Moan (AK) Secretary: Anthony Seidl (SD) Past Chair: Aly McAlexander (AZ) State Forester Advisor: Marcus Warnke (SD) CWSF/WFLC Staff Liaison: Kelsey Delaney	Chair: Jason Moan (AK) Vice Chair: Tony Seidl (SD) Secretary: Dan West (CO) Past Chair: Harrison Brookes (WY) State Forester Advisor: Marcus Warnke (SD) CWSF/WFLC Staff Liaison: Kelsey Delaney

MISSION STATEMENT AND PURPOSE

View the mission on the Forest Health Committee's (FHC) webpage at <https://www.westernforesters.org/committees/forest-health-committee>.

2025 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The FHC completed virtual meetings every other month, including three meetings with state-only members and three with state members and Forest Service partners.
- Continued efforts to expand the FHC membership in western states, U.S.-Affiliated Pacific Islands, and Forest Service regions.
- Crafted an FHC member survey in early 2025 to collect information about whether the FHC structure is meeting member needs and priorities, and ideas for improvement. The results came back favorably, indicating that FHC members find value in the committee, support its core information-sharing intent, and have a continued interest in maintaining the state and Forest Service nexus at every other meeting.
- Responded to the National Association of State Foresters (NASF) Forest Science & Health (FS&H) Committee information requests for national policy and/or programmatic interests, including critical invasive species across the West and western state forestry agency perspectives on FIA macro-plots.
- Made significant progress in building and maintaining a forest health resource library for the FHC to share materials, examples, and state approaches to topics/products such as Forest Health Highlights reports, State Fact Sheets, NASF forest health reporting, and more.
- Conducted information and data gathering within FHC member states to craft the first [Forest Health Highlights & Accomplishments Report](#).
- Completed two standalone virtual meetings to examine forest health metrics across western state forestry agencies, explore ideas to standardize metrics and identify best practices, and determine outstanding

questions linked to NASF forest health accomplishments reporting.

- Hosted a two-day virtual 2025 Annual Meeting on September 30 and October 1, 2025. Attendees included FHC representatives from 13 western states, seven Forest Service Forest Health Management (FHM) staff, and partners such as NASF FS&H Committee staff. Meeting topics included the future of forest health aerial surveys, Forest Service Washington Office FHM updates, NASF FS&H updates, forest health monitoring and the 2025 Conditions Report, and more.

2026 WORK PLAN

MEETING(S) AND CALLS PLANNED FOR 2026

- Virtual meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every other month at 3:30 p.m. MT in the following months: February, April, June, August, October, and December.
- 2026 Annual Meeting, Fall 2026. This meeting may be in-person or virtual.

KEY ACTIVITIES, DELIVERABLES, AND OUTCOMES PLANNED FOR 2026

- Develop one to two whitepapers in response to identified FHC priorities intended to enhance and further state and Forest Service forest health programs, such as the value of continued aerial surveys for state and federal agencies.
- Continue efforts to examine forest health reporting metrics across western state forestry agencies and explore opportunities to standardize metrics and establish best practices.
- Maintain an updated FHC resources library on the CWSF Google Drive, and explore opportunities to continue sharing resources in response to new and emerging priorities.
- Update the Forest Health Highlights & Accomplishments Report, craft two to three success stories to accompany the report, and explore opportunities to strengthen the content and messages within the report.
- Where opportunities arise, invite forest health subject matter experts from state forestry, the Forest Service, tribes, state agriculture agencies, and other partners to FHC meetings.

FOR APPROVAL BY CWSF/WFLC MEMBERSHIP

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- Recommendation for State Foresters to approve the FHC 2026 Work Plan.