



## Western Regional Update from The Council of Western State Foresters and the Western Forestry Leadership Coalition



June 2016  
Southern Group of State Foresters' Annual Meeting

### ***CWSF/WFLC 2016 Spring Meeting Recap***

The 2016 Western Forestry Leadership Coalition (WFLC) Spring Meeting took place May 10-12 in Portland, OR at the Portland Marriott Downtown Waterfront. The theme of this year's meeting was *Connecting People and Forests*. On May 10, the Council of Western State Foresters (CWSF) met for a business meeting. The WFLC meeting kicked off with a welcome reception on May 10 where sponsors and WFLC attendees were able to network. May 11 began with welcoming remarks from Governor Brown's office followed by a presentation from Under Secretary Robert Bonnie. On the afternoon of May 11, attendees participated in a field tour to Tillamook Forest organized by Oregon state forester Doug Decker and Oregon Department of Forestry staff. The final day of the meeting featured two panels discussing partnerships to advance collective forestry visions in the Pacific Northwest and partnerships to advance regional and national shared forestry goals. A full recap and meeting minutes are available online at: <http://wflccenter.org/2016-wflc-spring-meeting-recap/>.

### ***Western Competitive Grant Portal***

CWSF continues to move forward with the grants web portal project with an expected completion date of August 2016. This project includes portals for the Western LSR, the Western WUI grant process as well as the Southern Group of State Foresters' LSR. These portals make applying, reviewing and scoring much easier and allows for a search function and historical database. New for 2017, WUI grant process will be online forms for use by the local cooperators requesting funding from the states. The Western LSR web portal and the Western WUI grant portal are now open and accepting applications. For more grant information, please visit <https://www.forestrygrants.org/>

Diane Denenberg, CWSF Competitive Grants Manager, has left CWSF effective May 31, 2016 as this project has been completed. Diane worked for the CWSF/WFLC for over 13 years first as the Communication Director and was in the term-limited Competitive Grants Manager Position when she left CWSF. We thank Diane for her contributions over the years!

### ***CWSF/WFLC Business Operations***

CWSF is also pleased to announce that Ann Juette of South Dakota has been contracted to be the new Western LSR Grant Team Facilitator. Diane Denenberg's term sunset May 2016, and Ann is currently facilitating all duties with administrative support from Grace Mirzeler, CWSF Member Services Associate.

## Climate Change RFP

- The Council of Western State Foresters is seeking proposals from qualified parties to analyze and synthesize the work that the Western states and Pacific islands are currently undertaking on issues related to the changing climate.

Proposals must be received by 4:00 p.m. MDT on June 16, 2016. The complete RFP is available at <http://bit.ly/ClimateChangeRFP>. Submit proposals and questions to Grace Mirzeler at [gmirzeler@westernforesters.org](mailto:gmirzeler@westernforesters.org).

## True Cost of Wildfire RFP

- The Council of Western State Foresters is seeking assistance in updating the Western Forestry Leadership Coalition *The True Cost of Wildfire in the Western U.S.* report originally published in 2009 and updated in 2010. The report is available at <http://bit.ly/TrueCostofWildfire>.

Proposals must be received by 4:00 p.m. MDT on June 16, 2016. The complete RFP is available at <http://bit.ly/TrueCostRFP>. Submit proposals and questions to Grace Mirzeler at [gmirzeler@westernforesters.org](mailto:gmirzeler@westernforesters.org).

## ***CWSF/WFLC Membership Update***

### **New State/Island Foresters**

- Rebecca Lorennij – Republic of Marshall Islands
- John Phipps – WFLC Executive Board Research Lead Position

## ***CWSF Legislative Priorities***

CWSF remains engaged with NASF, NAASF and SGSF along with other partners on Western forest policy issues of priority. The latest CWSF policy and legislative update, providing a snapshot of several issues CWSF is monitoring or engaging in, can be found at [www.westernstateforesters.org/publications](http://www.westernstateforesters.org/publications). Recently, the CWSF Policy Director provided a presentation to Western state forestry communicators on CWSF policy and legislative functions, and brainstormed opportunities to work together and to share information and successes between CWSF and the states. In addition, CWSF contributed an article to the Society of American Foresters Western Forester Publication about our 2016 priority issues.

The link to the publication and the CWSF article is:

<http://www.forestry.org/media/docs/westernforester/2016/WFMarAprMay2016.pdf>

In advance of WFLC federal members Capitol Hill meetings this spring and summer, CWSF policy and communications staff have been assisting Western Forest Service Regions by supplying talking points and informational materials on WFLC priority issues upon request.

CWSF staff participated at the *Collaborative Restoration Workshop* hosted by the National Forest Foundation, April 26 – April 27. The workshop acted as a forum for “sharing innovative approaches to collaborative restoration, tools, and lessons about planning, implementing, and monitoring restoration efforts on and around National Forest System lands.” CWSF staff attended

on behalf of the WFLC. Over 300 Forest Service, state agency, local, regional and national partners participated at the event.

### ***CWSF/WFLC Communications Highlights***

The new CWSF logo and website launched in March. As a next step in the roll-out, CWSF recently became active on social media, utilizing LinkedIn and Twitter, @westernforester. CWSF began a monthly newsletter in April. This monthly newsletter will be sent out on the fourth Wednesday of each month and will be positioned as a CWSF focused newsletter with a WFLC section. Sara Goodwin, WFLC/CWSF Communications Director, is working with SE2, a local communications company, to refresh the WFLC website and logo. This work kicked off in early June and will wrap up in November.

### ***CWSF/WFLC Meeting Dates***

- CWSF Executive Committee Retreat, June 30, 2016, Denver, CO
- Western LSR Grant Committee Meeting, August 24-25, 2016, Denver, CO
- CWSF Executive Committee Retreat, October 4-5, 2016, Sunriver, OR
- Western State Fire Managers' WUI Meeting, October 27-29, 2016, Sunriver, OR
- CWSF and WFLC 2016 Fall Meeting, November 15-17, 2016, San Diego, CA
- CWSF and WFLC 2017 Spring Meeting, May 16-18, 2017, Flagstaff, AZ
- CWSF and WFLC 2017 Fall Meeting, November 28-30, 2017, San Diego, CA

Please see our full Calendar of Events at <http://www.westernforesters.org/events>.