



CWSF/WFLC COMMITTEES

The Council of Western State Foresters (CWSF) and Western Forestry Leadership Coalition (WFLC) have the following committees, subcommittees, and informal subject matter expert groups.

CWSF Western Communicators

The CWSF Western Communicators is an informal network of communications experts from state forestry and Pacific Island forestry agencies. The group meets quarterly to share information, exchange ideas, and build professional connections.

CWSF Forest Health Committee

The Forest Health Committee serves as a forum to share information, cooperate on program delivery, and advance forest health in the western United States and the U.S.-Affiliated Pacific Islands. The committee creates opportunities to leverage and share resources, expand technical transfer, and cooperate on common goals and efforts.

CWSF Forest Products Committee

The Forest Products Committee addresses a range of regional forest utilization issues. The committee works to support sustainable forest management, the forest industry, and communities.

CWSF Forest Stewardship/Landowner Assistance Committee

The Forest Stewardship/Landowner Assistance Committee provides a structure for ongoing communication and collaboration between western states, the USDA Forest Service, and forestry partners. The committee works to address emerging and ongoing forest stewardship issues at the state and national levels and serves as a source of information and support for members and partners.

CWSF Good Neighbor Authority Committee

The Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) Committee shares information and resources, advises state and federal leadership, staff, and partners through expert technical guidance, and provides recommendations for policy improvements regarding federal forest management, shared stewardship, and the use of the GNA to western state foresters and their federal counterparts.

CWSF Western State Fire Managers Committee

The Western State Fire Managers Committee offers a forum for sharing fire management strategies and information, serves as a sounding board on fire-related issues, and offers perspectives related to fire equipment development and research.

WFLC Pacific Islands Forestry Committee

The Pacific Islands Forestry Committee works to develop informed approaches to natural resources and forestry management issues that represent the needs of the forests of Hawai'i and the U.S.-Affiliated Pacific Islands. In addition, the PIFC provides a forum for technology transfer, training, research, learning, and information exchange among members and partners on topics that concern forests and the livelihoods of those within the region.

WFLC Western Urban and Community Forestry Committee

The Western Urban and Community Forestry Committee serves as a forum to share information, collaborate on program delivery, and advance urban & community forestry in the West. The committee provides a channel for ongoing communication and collaboration between western states, the USDA Forest Service, and forestry partners.

COMMITTEES OVERVIEW

Committees consist of western state program managers and/or subject matter experts appointed by each State Forester. Committees chartered under WFLC include the USDA Forest Service program manager membership. Committees chartered under CWSF do not have Forest Service membership but typically include Forest Service partners in approximately 50% of the meetings. Standing committees have a State Forester Advisor and a CWSF/WFLC Staff Liaison.

Standing committees have leadership teams that consist of state members who fill the roles of Chair, Past Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary, alongside the State Forester Advisor and CWSF/WFLC Staff Liaison. For WFLC committees, a Forest Service program manager is part of the leadership team.

Committees hold virtual meetings throughout the year and convene in-person for their annual meeting.

Goals and Benefits of CWSF/WFLC Committees

- State and federal program managers have a peer-to-peer dialogue to discuss program issues
- Problem-solve, and develop recommendations for State Foresters' consideration
- CWSF maintains a contact list and disseminates program-specific information, policy, guidance, and information requests directly to state program managers
- Western states have an opportunity for input into national program areas
- Formal process to raise issues up to the CWSF membership through the CWSF/WFLC Staff Liaison and to receive requests from the CWSF membership for committee action
- NASF, NMSFA, and SGSF have a vehicle to liaise and coordinate data gathering and information sharing with program area staff