



2024 CWSF Forest Health Committee Annual Meeting

October 1-3, 2024 | Arizona Industrial Commission Building | Phoenix, AZ

Location: The 2024 Annual Meeting will be held at the Arizona Industrial Commission Building. Tuesday, October 1, and Wednesday, October 2 the meeting will be located in the Auditorium. For Thursday, October 3, the meeting will be located in the Basement.

Meeting Attendees:

- **Day 1:** CWSF Forest Health Committee (FHC) members, CWSF staff, and invited speakers.
- **Day 2 and 3:** CWSF FHC members, Western USDA Forest Service Forest Health Program representatives, CWSF staff, and invited speakers.

<p>Tuesday, October 1 Attendees: CWSF FHC members, CWSF staff, and invited speakers. Meeting Room: Auditorium Attire: Business Casual</p>	
Breakfast	On Your Own
8:00 - 8:20 a.m.	<p>Welcome, Introductions, and Agenda Preview <i>Aly McAlexander (Chair, AZ) and Harrison Brookes (Vice-chair, WY)</i></p>
8:20 - 8:45 a.m.	<p>Welcome from the Arizona Department of Forestry & Fire Management <i>Tom Torres (AZ State Forester)</i></p>
8:45 - 10:15 a.m.	<p>Lightning Round: Understanding Western State Forestry Agencies Forest Health Programs <i>Tony Seidl (SD) and all FHC members</i> CWSF Forest Health Committee (FHC) members will each share a brief 5-minute operations overview of the forest health program within their state forestry agency. This may include information about program location within the agency, staffing, funding, key partners, core issue areas, and more.</p>
10:15 - 10:45 a.m.	Break
10:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	<p>Western State Forestry Agencies Survey Methodologies <i>Jason Moan (AK)</i> The session will begin with a short presentation detailing how the Alaska Division of Forestry & Fire Protection approaches surveys, followed by a group discussion</p>



	to share information and discuss questions around how other western states conduct surveys.
12:00 - 1:30 p.m.	Lunch (provided) Attendees will break for lunch in the Arizona Industrial Commission Building Basement.
1:30 - 2:15 p.m.	National Association of State Foresters (NASF) Forest Science & Health (FS&H) Committee Updates <i>Bob Simpson (NASF)</i> Bob Simpson, NASF staff to the FS&H Committee, will share updates and recent activities by the NASF FS&H Committee. Q&A and dialogue will follow his remarks.
2:15 - 3:15 p.m.	Understanding Forest Health Program Reporting Requirements & Best Practices <i>Harrison Brookes (WY), Aly McAlexander (AZ), Sean McKenzie (OR), Tom Smith (CA)</i> Several CWSF FHC members will provide short presentations detailing how their state forestry agency tackles Forest Health Program reporting requirements, followed by a brief Q&A. Harrison will then lead committee members through a series of reporting-related questions with the intent to share information, support peer learning, and identify possible best practices for reporting across western state forestry agencies.
3:15 - 3:45 p.m.	Break
3:45 - 4:45 p.m.	Understanding Forest Health Program Reporting Requirements & Best Practices cont. <i>Harrison Brookes (WY)</i> Harrison will continue to lead the full group through a series of reporting-related questions, with the intent to share information, support peer learning, and identify possible best practices for reporting across western state forestry agencies.
4:45 - 5:00 p.m.	Day One Meeting Reflections and Day's Wrap-Up <i>Aly McAlexander (Chair, AZ) and Harrison Brookes (Vice-chair, WY)</i>



<p>Wednesday, October 2</p> <p>Attendees: CWSF FHC members, Western USDA Forest Service Forest Health Program representatives, CWSF staff, and invited speakers.</p> <p>Meeting Room: Auditorium</p> <p>Attire: Field Attire</p>	
Breakfast	On Your Own
8:00 - 8:10 a.m.	<p>Board Vans & Depart for Field Tour</p> <p>Meeting attendees will meet at the Arizona Industrial Commission Building to board the field tour vans. The vans will depart at 8:10 a.m. sharp. All meeting attendees must be boarded by that time.</p>
8:10 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Field Tour
12:30 - 1:30 p.m.	<p>Lunch (provided)</p> <p>Attendees will arrive back at the Arizona Industrial Commission Building for lunch in the Basement.</p>
1:30 - 1:45 p.m.	<p>Welcome, Introductions, and Agenda Preview</p> <p><i>Aly McAlexander (Chair, AZ) and Harrison Brookes (Vice-chair, WY)</i></p>
1:45 - 2:45 p.m.	<p>USDA Forest Service Washington D.C. Office (WO) Forest Health Program Updates</p> <p><i>Rick Cooksey (USDA Forest Service WO)</i></p> <p>Rick Cooksey, USDA Forest Service Forest Health Protection Director, will share updates and recent activities about the USDA Forest Service WO Forest Health Program. Q&A and dialogue will follow his remarks.</p>
2:45 - 3:30 p.m.	<p>Exploring Available Forest Health Project Funding Opportunities</p> <p><i>Aly McAlexander (AZ), Michelle Roberts (NV), Jennifer Morris (NE)</i></p> <p>FHC meeting attendees will hear from fellow FHC members about how western states are utilizing funds from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the Inflation Reduction Act, the Landscape Scale Restoration Program, and other funding sources for forest health projects. Q&A will follow the presentations.</p>
3:30 - 4:00 p.m.	Break
4:00 - 4:45 p.m.	<p>Updates by the Northeast-Midwest State Foresters Alliance (NMSFA) and Southern Group of State Foresters (SGSF) Forest Health Committee Chairs</p> <p><i>Tom Macy (OH), Jim Slye (NC)</i></p>



4:45 - 5:00 p.m.	Reflections and Day's Adjournment <i>Aly McAlexander (Chair, AZ) and Harrison Brookes (Vice-chair, WY)</i>
Evening	Optional FHC Group Dinner

Thursday, October 3 Attendees: CWSF FHC members, Western USDA Forest Service Forest Health Program representatives, CWSF staff, and invited speakers. Meeting Room: Basement Attire: Business Casual	
Breakfast	On Your Own
8:00 - 8:10 a.m.	Welcome and Agenda Preview <i>Aly McAlexander (Chair, AZ)</i>
8:10 - 9:30 a.m.	Addressing Invasive Species in Western States <i>Rob Hauff (HI), Sean McKenzie (OR), Tom Smith (CA), and Tom Eckberg (ID)</i> Several CWSF FHC member states will present examples of how their state forestry agencies are addressing invasive species within their state borders. Q&A and a full group dialogue will follow the presentations.
9:30 - 10:15 a.m.	Pair and Share: Addressing Invasive Species in Western States <i>Aly McAlexander (AZ)</i> Following the invasive species presentations, meeting attendees will pair up for approximately 25 minutes to discuss reflections from the presentations and any ah-ha moments. The remaining time will be dedicated to asking follow-up questions identified during the pair and share, discussing examples from other western states, and ideas for invasive species items that they would like the FHC to explore further.
10:15 - 10:45 a.m.	Break
10:45 - 11:45 a.m.	Ideas for CWSF FHC 2025 Work Plan <i>Aly McAlexander (Chair, AZ) and Harrison Brookes (Vice-chair, WY)</i> A 2025 FHC work plan will need to be presented to the CWSF membership for approval at the 2024 Fall Meeting (November). FHC members will utilize this



	<p>agenda session to reflect on the 2024 FHC Annual Meeting topics, discussions, and action items, and offer recommendations for inclusion in a 2025 FHC work plan.</p>
<p>11:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Closing Remarks, Meeting Reflections, and Wrap Up <i>Aly McAlexander (Chair, AZ) and Harrison Brookes (Vice-chair, WY)</i></p>