

CONSIDERATIONS FOR BETTER COORDINATION BETWEEN FIRE AND INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

California Invasive Plant Council 2020 Symposium
Oct 27 - 30, 2020

The joint
U.S. Wildland Fire Leadership Council/
National Invasive Species Council
Fire and Invasive Species task team
Mike Zupko, mike@zup-co-inc.com
Jeff Morisette, Jeffrey_morisette@ios.doi.gov



■ Overview

- WFLC Background
- NISC Background
- Opportunities for Fire and Invasive species coordination

Wildland Fire Leadership Council

Membership

- DOI Associate Deputy Secretary and USDA Undersecretary (*co-chairs*)
- Department of Defense, Assistant Secretaries (2)
- FS and DOI Bureau Chiefs (BLM, FWS, NPS, BIA, USGS)
- FEMA/USFA Administrator
- Governor from the West – Gov. Bulloch, MT
- National Governors' Association – Gov. Lujan-Grisham, NM
- National Association of Counties – County Rep. Mariposa County, CA
- National League of Cities – Mayor, Colorado Springs
- Intertribal Timber Council – FMO, Spokane Tribe
- International Association of Fire Chiefs – Fire Chief, Santa Fe NM
- National Association of State Foresters – State Forester, WA



Wildland Fire Leadership Council

Mission

- Dedicated to consistent implementation of wildland fire policies, goals and management activities.
- Provides strategic oversight to ensure policy coordination, accountability and effective implementation of long-term strategies.



WFLC Policy Priorities

- Work Environment
- Joint Messaging (fire year, collective support)
- Active Management (increase, E.C., shared risk)
- Smoke Management and Air Quality
- Integrating Technology Across Organizations
- Workplace Challenges
- *Reducing Risk to Communities*
- *Efficient and Effective Response (COVID considerations)*



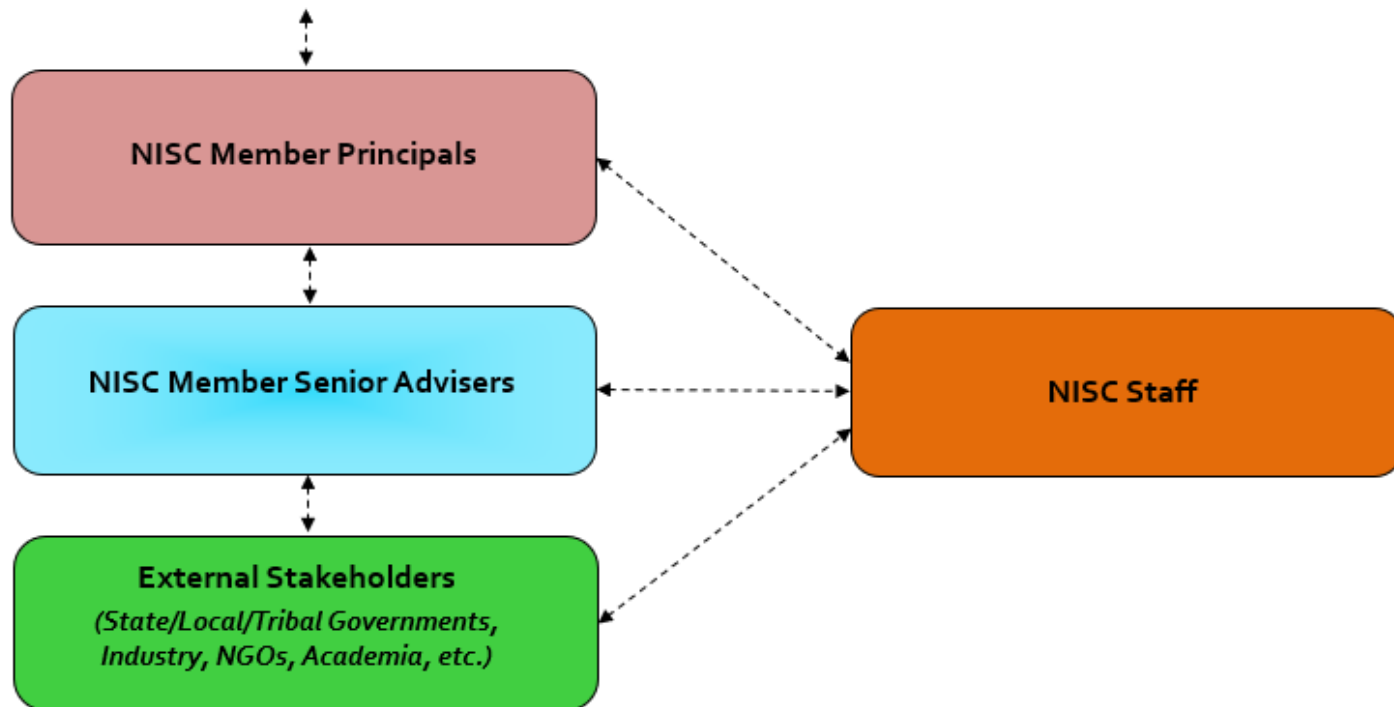
National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy

“Safely and effectively extinguish fire, when needed; use fire where allowable; manage our natural resources; and as a nation, live with wildland fire.”

Elements of the Cohesive Strategy



National Invasive Species Council



Provide the vision and national leadership necessary to coordinate, sustain, and expand federal efforts to safeguard the interests of the United States through the prevention, eradication, and control of invasive species, and through the restoration of ecosystems and other assets impacted by invasive species.

NISC FY2021 Annual Work Plan

CORE COORDINATION ACTIVITIES

- Crosscut budget
- Co-Chair and Senior Adviser meetings
- Coordination with other interagency committees
- Informational updates and materials
- Workshops and webinars
- Response to agency requests
- Stakeholder engagement
- Horizon scanning

THEMATIC PRIORITY ACTIVITIES

- Follow-on activities from FY2020 Work Plan (e.g., rapid response, eDNA)
- New activities (e.g., **fire**, disaster response)
- Topics for interagency dialogues (e.g., advanced biotechnology, information management)

NISC Stakeholder Engagement

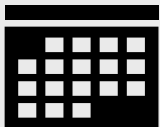
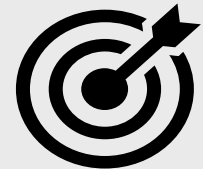
OBJECTIVE

NISC activities and planning are informed by a broad array of non-federal constituencies regarding needs, challenges, and opportunities to address invasive species and their impacts. NISC staff help foster connections between member agencies and relevant stakeholders and serve as a conduit for transmitting information and responding to inquiries about NISC-related activities.



Soliciting Input

Targeted Stakeholders



Annual Work Plan Activities

Outreach Materials



2020 Thematic Priority Activities

Rapid Response – Tools and Lessons Learned

Support national level rapid response efforts by documenting tools and lessons learned.

Rapid Response – Emergency Funding

Increase resource streams for rapid response to new detections of invasive species.



eDNA Assessment and Coordination

Help federal invasive species management efforts more fully and effectively utilize eDNA.

Invasive Species and Wildland Fire



Assess options to advance landscape scale approaches to the management of invasive species and wildland fire.



Advanced Biotechnology Applications

Facilitate communication and information sharing across federal agencies on the use of advanced biotechnologies relevant to the management of invasive species.

Crosscut Budget Assessments – Inventory and Analysis



Maintain inventory of federal spending on invasive species and identify means to enhance the value of interagency coordination on budgetary issues.

See the ***FY 2020 NISC Work Plan*** under “Guidance Documents” at <https://www.doi.gov/invasivespecies/>

Invasive Species and Wildland Fire

Activity: Assess options for managing the interaction between invasive species and wildland fire, invasive species messaging, identify high priority fire-invasive coordination activities

Opportunities for more integrated management actions:

1. **Proactive and pre-fire** invasive species and fire management actions
2. Coordination between fire and invasive species management in **response** to wildfire
3. Coordinated fire and invasive species wildfire **recover and restoration** efforts
4. Coordination between fire and invasive species **information management tools**
5. Coordination between fire and invasive species **research and development activities**



Opportunity Example (DRAFT)

Theme 2: Coordination between fire and invasive species management in response to wildfire

Goal	Opportunity
Increase response capacity and cooperation between federal and state agencies across wildfire and invasive species management.	Include state agriculture and wildlife agency staff (e.g. biologists, ecologists familiar with their state's fire regimes and invasive species issues) to provide real-time input into fire response activities. (through resource advisors)

Invasive Species and Wildland Fire: Data systems example

	Invasive species information systems (e.g. EDDMapS)	Wildland fire information systems (e.g. Landfire)
Invasive species information (e.g. location of invasives)	yes	some
Wildland fire information (e.g. fire behavior)	no	yes

Invasive Species and Wildland Fire

Next steps

Finalize full list of opportunities (Oct. 2020)

List of roughly 30 opportunities will be prioritized by the two Councils (WFLC and NISC) (Nov. 2020)

High priority topics will be further developed considering: (Fiscal year 20210)

- Existing examples that highlight the benefits of the opportunity
- Funding and other resources needed
- Near-, medium-, and longer-term options
- High level policy and planning options
- Tactical actions that could be applied

⋮ Thank you for listening...

Mike Zupko, WFLC Executive Director
mike@zup-co-inc.com

Jeff Morissette, NISC Chief Scientist
jeffrey_morissette@ios.doi.gov

Stas Burgiel, NISC Executive Director
stanley_burgiel@ios.doi.gov