

NWCG is a unifying force behind wildland fire management in the United States. It helps ensure member agency efforts are consistent and coordinated while working collaboratively toward common goals.

Photo: Karen Wattenmaker

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MEMBERS

U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service
Fire and Aviation Management
Atmospheric Sciences Research

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Fire Administration

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Bureau of Land Management
Fish and Wildlife Service
National Park Service

National Association of State Foresters
Eastern States' representative
Western States' representative

Intertribal Timber Council

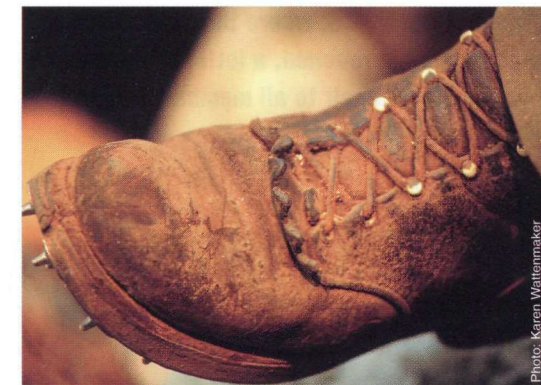
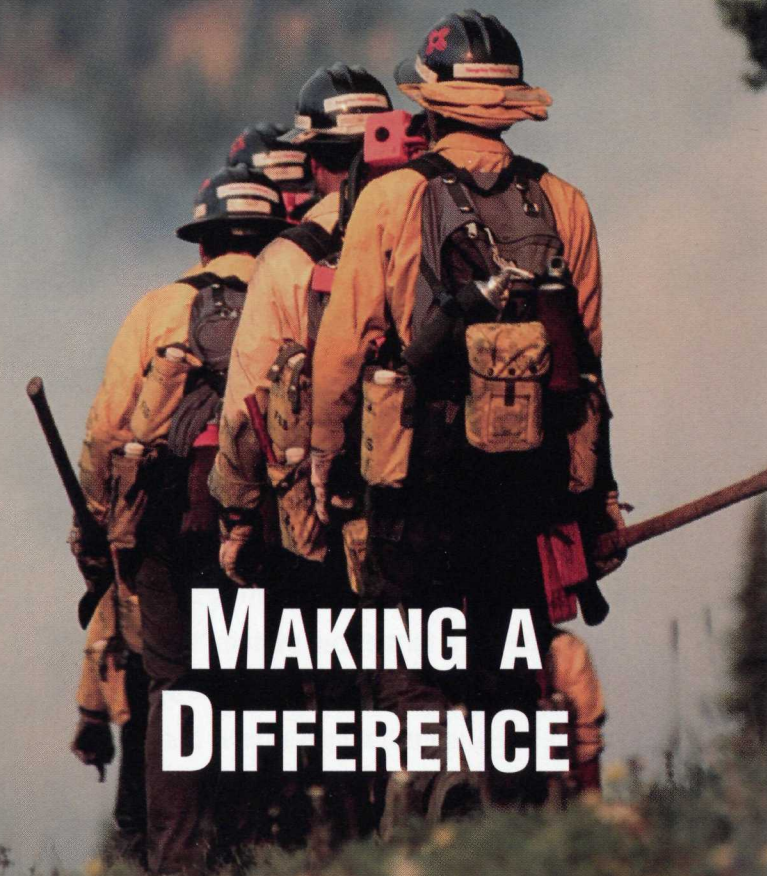
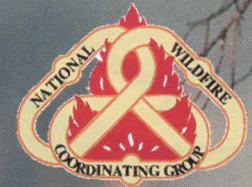


Photo: Karen Wattenmaker

Additional information about NWCG, its working teams, advisory groups, and their recent accomplishments can be found at the NWCG website www.nwcg.gov.

Cover Photo: Karen Wattenmaker

National Wildfire Coordinating Group

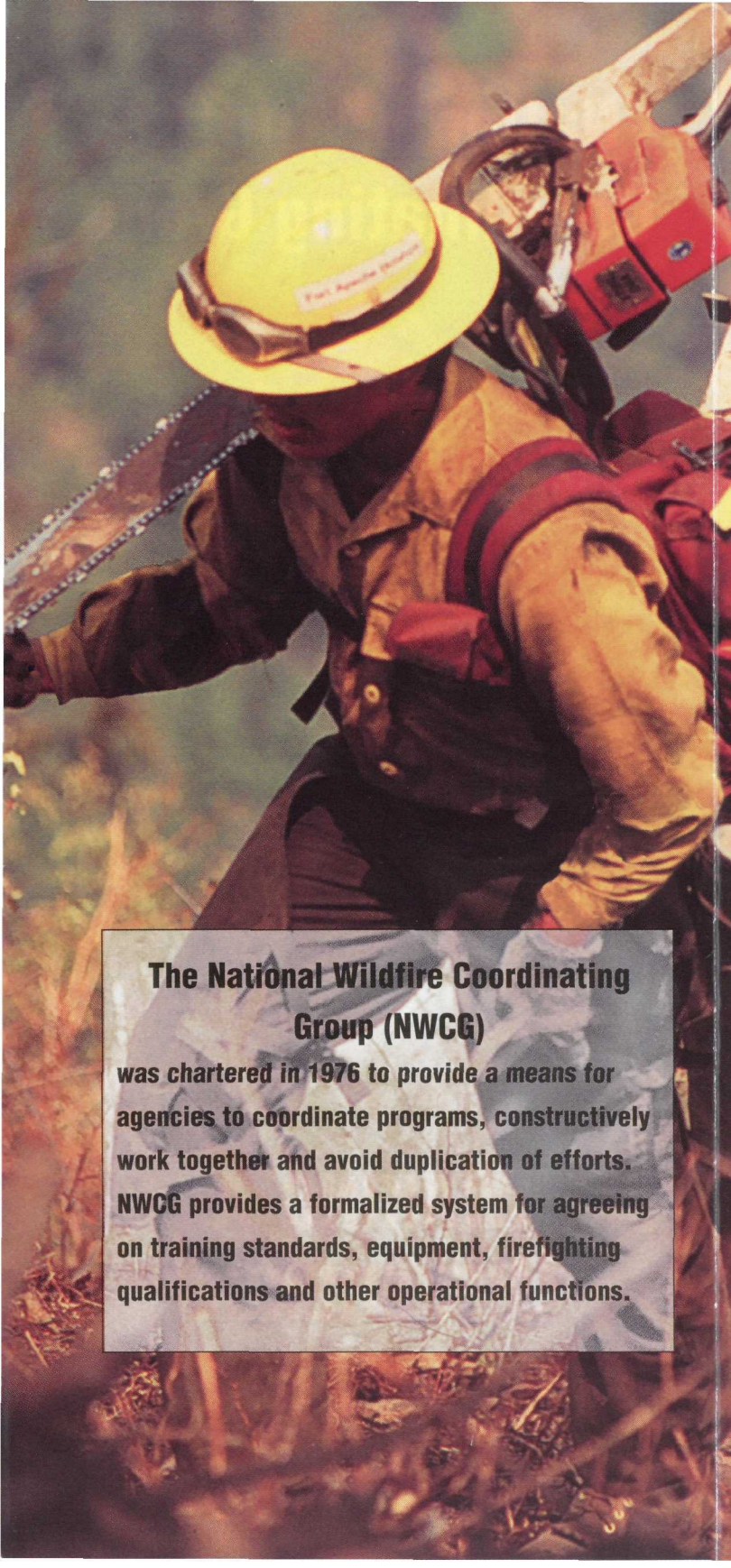


MAKING A DIFFERENCE

A full-page photograph of three wildfire firefighters in a brushy, hilly landscape. They are wearing yellow helmets, orange and brown protective gear, and carrying chainsaws. The firefighter on the left is in the foreground, looking down. The one in the center is looking towards the camera. The one on the right is partially visible behind. A text box is overlaid on the left side of the image.

The National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG)

was chartered in 1976 to provide a means for agencies to coordinate programs, constructively work together and avoid duplication of efforts. NWCG provides a formalized system for agreeing on training standards, equipment, firefighting qualifications and other operational functions.



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How It Works

NWCG utilizes working teams and advisory groups, representing different agencies and geographical regions. Working teams and advisory groups draw upon the technical expertise of their members to address issues and concerns affecting the wildland fire community. Currently, thirteen working teams and two advisory groups are addressing a variety of wildland fire issues. Some teams and groups are permanent; others are formed and disbanded depending on the issue.

Products developed by the teams and groups are presented to the NWCG, where they are reviewed. Once consensus is reached, a letter of decision is sent by the NWCG chair to all members and the applicable changes are made.

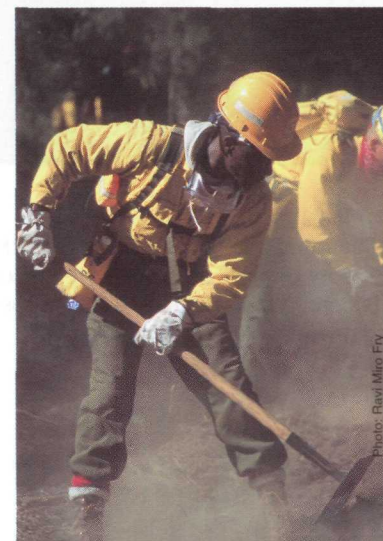


Photo: Ravi Miro Fry

WORKING TEAMS AND ADVISORY GROUPS

- **Fire Danger Working Team** advances the science and application of fire danger rating.

- **Fire Equipment Working Team** coordinates chemical and fire equipment needs, development, and implementation between federal and state agencies.

- **Fire Use Working Team** coordinates and advocates the use of wildland fire to achieve resource benefits.

- **Fire Weather Working Team** identifies opportunities for improving fire weather services.

- **Incident Business Practices Working Team** identifies issues, develops acceptable solutions, and implements the solutions within business practices for wildfire, non-fire, and Federal Emergency Management Agency responses among state and federal agencies.

- **Incident Operations Working Team** addresses issues regarding the National Wildfire Qualifications and Certifications System and its associated components, and the National Interagency Incident Management System (NIIMS).

- **Information Resources Management Working Team** identifies policy-level information issues that may affect interagency fire management and addresses them through information and communication systems.

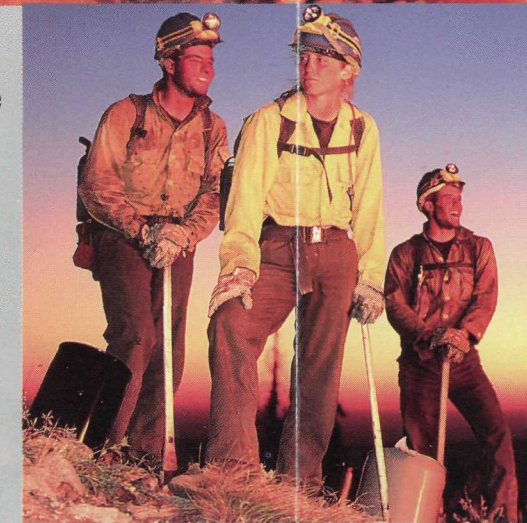


Photo: Karen Wattermaker

- **Publication Management System Working Team** makes all information sponsored by NWCG, including publications and visual materials, readily available.

- **Safety and Health Working Team** is committed to creating a safe work environment for the wildland fire community.

- **Training Working Team** develops and coordinates fire management training programs.

- **Wildland Fire Education Working Team** provides leadership for national level wildland fire education programs.

- **Wildland/Urban Interface Working Team** provides leadership in addressing issues regarding fire activity and firefighter and public safety in the wildland/urban interface.

- **Wildland Fire Investigation Working Team** develops policies, methods, procedures, and other actions for systematic and science-based wildland fire investigations to support criminal prosecution and cost recovery.

- **Radio Narrowband Advisory Group** identifies and addresses policy-level and operational radio narrowband issues that could affect interagency fire management activities.

- **Fire Social Science Task Group** addresses social science needs related to wildland fire management.

Because of the National Wildfire Coordinating Group, wildland fires are more efficiently managed, the people working on them better trained, communication is clear, and operational consistency among firefighters is ensured.

BEHIND THE SCENES, NWCG IS MAKING A DIFFERENCE!