

Date: November 9, 2011

Group/Person Submitting Proposal:

Roy Johnson, WFEC DFO on behalf of the Wildland Fire Executive Council

Description of Proposal:

The draft Cohesive Strategy Phase II report is being delivered for WFLC review and comment.

After receiving the briefings from WFEC, the Cohesive Strategy Subcommittee, the Regional Strategy Committees, and the National Science and Analysis team, the WFLC is being asked to review and comment on the draft document in order to finalize that document for submission to the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture.

Discussion of Proposed Recommendation(s):

Background:

Identified in “**A National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy**” were the activities to be accomplished during Phase II of the Cohesive Strategy. These included the following from the Phase I report (the status of each of these items are indicated in blue):

Phase II: Development of Regional Strategies and Assessments

Regional strategies will be developed and analyzed using a collaborative process that cycles between analysis and engagement with stakeholders. The process will include the following steps:

- 1. WFEC identifies the national science/analysis team; **Completed***
- 2. WFEC adopts guidance for Regional Strategy Committees; **Completed***
- 3. Regional Strategy Committees are identified and will develop an understanding of the governance/oversight roles; **Completed***
- 4. Each Regional Strategy Committee will include representatives identified and selected by WFEC; **Completed***
- 5. Regional analytical teams are identified; **Not Started***
- 6. Timeframes for the following four steps will be determined by the Regional Strategy Committees:*

- a. *Define the analysis process. This will include identifying the information available; the analytical tools that can be employed; and who is available to engage in the analysis. **Completed***
 - b. *Define and analyze initial alternatives. This will involve describing an initial set of broad alternatives, including understanding the goals of each alternative, the components that are needed for the analysis of each alternative and the bounds of the analysis and problem to be addressed. Analysis of these alternatives will help test the analytical methods, and ultimately provide information that will be needed by the regional technical and stakeholder groups to help refine specific regional alternatives. **Partially Completed***
 - c. *Collaboratively identify the regional alternatives. Relying on local and regional knowledge and insights, describe a small set of regional alternatives. This exercise draws from the understanding gained from analysis of the initial alternatives. These alternatives would be shared with and shaped by regional stakeholders. **Not Started***
 - d. *Analyze the regional alternatives and share the results with stakeholders. Update content based on regional feedback. **Not Started***
7. *Submit results of the regional analyses for national analysis. **Not Started***

The Phase II report primarily summarizes the results from the three regional assessments, identifies the similarities between regions as well as highlights some of the differences.

Considerations:

The process used to compile the National Cohesive Strategy Phase II report included the participation of the Cohesive Strategy Subcommittee along with three Regional Strategy Committees, the National Science and Analysis Team and a group of writer/editors.

The review process is identified below.

1. The Wildland Fire Executive Council reviewed the initial draft of the Phase II Report during their October 11-13 face to face meeting.
2. The Draft report was revised based on those comments.
3. The revised draft report was sent to the Cohesive Strategy Subcommittee, the Regional Strategy Committees, the Regional Work Groups and the National Science

and Analysis Team for their review and comment focusing on the identification of any fatal flaws.

4. The WFEC reviewed all comments received and considered each of them in their final review and update of the National Cohesive Strategy Phase II report.
5. The report was updated for submission to WFLC recognizing that there would be another opportunity to improve upon the report once comments were received from WFLC.

Rationale for Recommendation(s):

WFLC members must have the opportunity to review and comment on the Cohesive Strategy Phase II Report before it is accepted and forwarded to the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture. Therefore, WFEC is making the following recommendation.

Recommendation(s):

WFEC recommends the following process to finalize the Cohesive Strategy Phase II report:

1. WFLC review the draft report and provide comments to Roy Johnson by COB Monday, November 21, 2011
2. The WFLC comments along with the general comments and additional editing that were not incorporated into this initial draft will be compiled and reviewed by WFEC at their December 2, 2011 meeting.
3. WFEC will task the CSSC along with the writer editors to update the Phase II report by COB Monday, December 12, 2011
4. WFEC will review the final Phase II report and transmit to the WFLC members by December 30, 2011
5. Final WFLC review
6. Submit Phase II report to OMB (45 days minimum)
7. Submit Phase II report to the Secretaries
8. Send final Phase II report to congress

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Proposal

WFLC Decision:

- WFLC Approves
- WFLC Approves with Modifications (not required to resubmit for WFLC approval)
- Need More Information (required to come back to WFLC for approval)
- WFLC Does Not Approve

WFLC Chair

Date

Notes regarding decision: