
RISK MODELING ADVISORY WORKGROUP

Meeting Minutes – Wednesday, July 26, 2023, 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM

Posted 8/4/23



Video link to meeting held on 7/26/23: https://youtu.be/0q4FGQmS_Oo

Committee Members Present

Jim McDougald, Staff Chief, Office of the State Fire Marshal
Dave Winnacker, Fire California Fire Chiefs Association and the Fire Districts Association of California
Deborah Halsberstadt, The Insurance Commissioner
Nancy Watkins, Milliman
Dore Bietz, local government
Melissa Semcer, Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety
Yana Valachovic California Fire Science Consortium Association
Nick Cammarota in lieu of Chris Ochoa, California Building Industry
Robert Marshall, Fire California Fire Chiefs Association and the Fire Districts Association of California
Joe Irvin, Local Government
Terry Woodrow, local government

Committee Members Not Present

Neil Matouka, State Planning and Research
Carlos Camarena, Emergency Services
Paul Glushku, Housing and Community Development
Max Moritz, Milliman
Anthony Powers, California Professional Firefighters

CAL FIRE – Office of the State Fire Marshal

Mark Rosenburg, Research Data Manager
Chris Ramey, Division Chief
Scott Witt, Deputy Chief

1. CALL TO ORDER

Jim McDougald

- A. Welcome
 - i. Meeting was called to order at 1:02 PM
- B. Roll Call/Quorum Established
 - i. Celeste Jovanovic took roll call, Neil Matouka, Carlos Camarena, Paul Glushku, Anthony Powers and Max Mortiz were not present.
- C. Agenda Review (**Motion Required/Adoption**)

Motion:	N. Cammarota moved to accept the meeting agenda; D. Halsberstadt seconded the motion.
----------------	---

Action:	All members voted to unanimously approve the motion.
----------------	--

- D. Approval of Past Meeting Minutes (**Motion Required**)

Motion:	M. Semcer moved to accept the meeting minutes; R. Marshall seconded the motion.
----------------	---

Action:	All members voted to unanimously approve the motion.
----------------	--

2. OLD BUSINESS

Jim McDougald

- A. Discussion and Review of Draft Risk Modeling Report
- B. Discussion around current draft of report.
 - i. Lessons Learned for Other Perils
 - 1. Topic stays but discuss what parts are to stay in the document.
 - 2. Flooding is related to fire.
 - 3. Leave in but make edits and bring back to the committee for consensus.
 - ii. Page 42 – limitation of CAT models put back and move to “Lessons Learned from other Perils” as that will make it easier to read for the reader.
 - iii. 8.2 Barrier: Inconsistent – temper the sentence.
 - iv. 8.3 Barrier: Data Availability and Consistency – the need for data must be collected, this can be very expensive, this is discussed in the Executive Summary.
 - v. OPR comments have been resolved.
 - vi. Work on climate paragraph
 - vii. 8.4 Barrier: Ability to understand...
 - 1. Utility risk is when we have extreme weather conditions.
 - 2. Calling out a barrier – we don’t know how to model the impact of a utility on the edge of community. Benefit to show that d-space and home hardening is mitigating risk of wildland to structure transfer, this is a long-term period and recommending that this work starts now. Yana to work on this, to ensure that we are stating this in the right context.
 - 3. Consider Creating a new header to call out and separate utility from other mitigations and calling out utility reduction in its own spot in the paper.
 - viii. Conclusion: how are we laying out this paper?
 - 1. Framework, integrated approach, policy, action, recommendation.
 - a. Approach and key considerations to solving the problem and here are the elements to it.
 - ix. Work on Executive Summary and cleaning up the document with words and ensuring that this is a readable document.

3. ROUNDTABLE

Jim McDougald

None.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

5. UPCOMING MEETING DATES FOR 2023

- 1. August 8, 2023, at 2:00 – 4:00 PM (Virtual)
- 2. August 23, 2023, at 1:30 – 3:30 PM (Virtual)
- 3. August 29, 2023, at 11:00 – 1:00 PM (Virtual)

6. MEETING ADJOURNMENT (Motion Required)

Jim McDougald

Motion:	R. Marshall moved to accept the Meeting Adjournment; Y. Valachovic seconded the motion.
Action:	All members voted to unanimously approve the motion.

Meeting adjournment: 2:30PM