

Updated: December 7th, 2023

Charter for the American Meteorological Society's Committee on Wildfire Weather, Technology and Risk

The Committee on Wildfire Weather, Technology, and Risk (CWWTR) is a standing committee within the American Meteorological Society (AMS). The primary objective of the CWWTR is to accelerate the advancement of fire weather-related sciences, technologies, applications, education, and services for the benefit of society. The committee aims to foster collaboration, knowledge sharing, and innovation across sectors to enhance the understanding of wildfire weather dynamics, mitigate risks, and promote community resilience and education. By embracing new technologies, facilitating cross-sector platforms, and encouraging research and funding initiatives, the CWWTR strives to make substantial contributions to wildfire science and its practical applications.

Mission and Goals

Advancement of Fire Weather Sciences and Technologies: The CWWTR will actively promote and support research, development, and innovation in the field of fire weather sciences and technologies. This includes but is not limited to atmospheric dynamics, fuel characterization, fire behavior modeling, remote sensing, data assimilation, and predictive modeling techniques. The committee will strive to identify and address research gaps, encourage interdisciplinary collaborations, and foster the development of novel tools and methodologies to enhance understanding and prediction of wildfire behavior.

Knowledge Sharing and Networking: The CWWTR recognizes the importance of cross-sector collaboration and knowledge sharing. The committee will establish and maintain a platform for scientists, practitioners, policymakers, and stakeholders to exchange information, insights, and best practices related to wildfire/WUI weather, risk assessment, and management. This will involve organizing conferences, workshops, webinars, and other networking events to facilitate dialogue and collaboration among diverse stakeholders.

Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) Funding and Research: The CWWTR acknowledges the increasing risks associated with fires in the wildland-urban interface. The committee will advocate for increased funding for research initiatives focusing on WUI fire behavior, vulnerability assessments, evacuation planning, response training, and resilient community design. By promoting interdisciplinary research and collaboration, the CWWTR aims to provide guidance and support for effective risk mitigation strategies and land-use planning in the WUI.

Community Resilience and Education: Recognizing the critical role of public awareness, education, and effort in mitigating wildfire and WUI risks, the CWWTR will develop educational resources, outreach programs, and public awareness campaigns targeting communities at risk. The committee will collaborate with educational institutions, local agencies, and nonprofit organizations to develop and disseminate educational materials, workshops, and training programs aimed at enhancing public understanding of wildfire weather, preparedness, and response.

Engagement with New Technologies: The CWWTR will actively explore and evaluate emerging technologies with the potential to enhance wildfire/WUI weather monitoring, modeling, and risk assessment. The committee consist of, and will engage with relevant stakeholders, including technology

developers, government agencies, and industry partners, to promote the adoption and integration of innovative tools and platforms. This includes the exploration of machine learning, artificial intelligence, and other cutting-edge technologies that can improve the understanding and management of wildfire risks.

The Committee on Wildfire Weather, Technology, and Risk is committed to advancing the understanding and, prediction of wildfire weather phenomena through scientific research, technological innovation, education, and collaboration. By fostering interdisciplinary approaches, enabling cross-sector platforms, and engaging with new technologies, the CWWTR aims to accelerate progress in the field of fire weather sciences and contribute to the resilience and safety of communities facing wildfire risks. Through its activities, the committee seeks to promote public awareness, informed decision-making, and the adoption of effective strategies to mitigate the impact of wildfires and WUI fires on society.

AMS Governance:

Board on Enterprise Strategic Topics

 news and announcements, Reports and Studies

The primary purpose of the BEST is to help determine and advance collaboration on strategic initiatives of the weather, water, and climate enterprise. The BEST will consider topics for enhanced collaboration derived from CWWCE activities or from suggestions submitted by members of the community. This will be a continuous process of information exchange. Those topics can be addressed through various mechanisms, not limited to, the establishment of committees, the creation of white papers, panel discussions, or town halls in collaboration with the Annual Symposium on the Weather and Climate Enterprise. In addition, the BEST Chair(s) and committees in partnership with the relevant parties across the CWWCE will organize the Symposium on the Weather and Climate Enterprise at the AMS Annual Meeting each year.

BEST Committees

Nationwide Network of Networks Committee

Committee on Ecological Forecasting

Ad Hoc Mind the Gap Committee

Ad Hoc Committee on Wildfire Weather, Technology and Risk

Ad Hoc Committee on Engineering Resilient Communities

Ad Hoc AMS REACH Committee
