

# Western Regional Partnership (WRP) Charter

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**(AS AFFIRMED AT THE 2024 WRP PRINCIPALS' MEETING)**

**PURPOSE:** This Charter delineates the mission, goals, and responsibilities of the collaborative process convened by the Western Regional Partnership (WRP).

## **1. Vision**

WRP will be a significant resource to proactively identify and address common goals and emerging issues and to develop solutions that support WRP Partners.

## **2. Mission**

WRP provides a proactive and collaborative framework for senior-policy level Federal, State and Tribal leadership to identify common goals and emerging issues in the states of Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico and Utah and to develop solutions that support WRP Partners and protect natural and cultural resources, while promoting sustainability, homeland security and military readiness.

## **3. Goals**

The goals of the WRP are to:

- Serve as a catalyst for improved regional coordination among State, Federal and Tribal agencies
- Address common goals, identify and solve potential conflicts and develop solutions that protect our natural and cultural resources, while promoting sustainability and mission effectiveness
- Provide a forum for information exchange, issue identification, problem solving and recommendations across the WRP region
- At annual Principals' meeting, adopt strategic priorities to complete in the subsequent year
- Leverage existing resources and linking of efforts to better support key projects
- Identify geospatial requirements and leverage existing tools and resources to support WRP priorities.

#### **4. Partnership Structure**

WRP structure consists of Co-Chairs, Principals, Steering Committee, Committees and Partners as defined below.

##### **a. *Co-Chairs***

The WRP is co-chaired by no less than three but no more than four Principals. The Co-Chairs shall be representatives from the Department of Defense, Federal Agencies, Federally Recognized Tribes or States.

The responsibilities of the Co-Chairs are to work with WRP Principals, WRP Steering Committee and WRP Committee Chairs to develop priorities and provide overall leadership and direction on efforts undertaken by WRP. The Co-Chairs work together to host the WRP Principals' meeting and provide opening statements to set the framework for the Principals' meeting.

##### **b. *Principals***

WRP Principals are executive level leaders from Federal and State agencies and Tribal governments in the States of Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico and Utah. The Principal organizations are identified in Appendix A.

Principals are those executives responsible for providing leadership and direction to the efforts undertaken by the WRP. Such efforts would include identifying regional issues or needs which should be addressed and developing strategies to address those issues and/or needs.

Additional principal organizations may be added upon request. A current list of the Principals shall be maintained on the WRP website. Participation in the WRP is voluntary and any Principal can discontinue participation at any time by providing written notice to the Co-Chairpersons.

##### **c. *Steering Committee***

The Steering Committee is responsible for providing leadership to and coordination of Principal meetings, as well as reviewing WRP Committee actions and providing input to WRP Committee Chair(s) as appropriate. The Steering Committee will coordinate with WRP Committee Co-Chairs and assist and support Committee activities as appropriate.

The Steering Committee may establish working groups to address strategic priorities adopted at a Principals' meeting, when those priorities fall outside of the existing committee structure or overlap committee jurisdictions. Working groups will be limited in time and scope, as determined at the time of their

establishment. The Steering Committee will advise the Principals at the annual meeting on working group activities.

The membership of the Steering Committee is composed of senior staff members representing their Principal organization. The Steering Committee Co-Chairs shall represent the same federal agency or agencies as represented by the Principals' Co-Chairs and, if a Principals' Co-Chair represents a State, a Steering Committee Co-Chair shall represent a State or, if a Principals' Co-Chair represents a Tribe, a Steering Committee member shall represent a Tribe. The Co-Chairs are responsible for providing leadership and direction to the Steering Committee's activities, consistent with the priorities set forth at the annual Principals' meeting. The Co-Chairs will serve for a term of one year, which can be extended by the WRP Steering Committee members in attendance. The Co-Chairs will identify a Lead Chair who will serve as in that position for a one-year term.

**d. Committees**

WRP Committees provide a forum for information exchange and issue resolution across the WRP region. Committees are created by the Principals at a WRP Principals' meeting.

Committee members are staff-level subject matter experts from WRP Principal organizations (see Appendix A). As appropriate, non-governmental and other non-WRP Principal organizations will be invited to participate at the WRP Committee level.

Each Committee will identify a Chair(s). The Chair(s) shall be responsible for reporting activities of the Committee to the Principals' and, as requested, participate in Steering Committee calls or meetings to provide informational updates.

When the charge or purpose of a committee has been achieved, the Committee may be dissolved by the Principals at a Principals' meeting.

**e. Partners**

"Partners" is an umbrella term including WRP Co-Chairs, Principals, Steering Committee, Committee members and other representatives from WRP Principal organizations (see Appendix A). WRP strives to work with its Partners across the WRP Region.

## **5. Meetings**

### **a. Principals' Annual Meetings**

Principals' meetings will be held annually. The Steering Committee is responsible for providing leadership to and coordination of the annual meetings including location selection, dates, agenda, meeting logistics, etc. Meeting facilities should facilitate open discussion and delineate Principal members from Partner members.

### **b. Steering Committee Meetings**

Steering Committee meetings will be held at the discretion of the Steering Committee Co-Chairs. Minutes of each meeting will be made available to the WRP Steering Committee members and posted to the Partner side of the WRP website.

### **c. Committee Meetings**

Committee meetings will be held at the discretion of the Committee Chair(s). Minutes of each meeting will be made available to the Chair(s) of the Steering Committee and posted to the Partner side of the WRP website.

### **d. Attendance at Meetings**

A participant in any meeting may participate by electronic means, in which event the participant is considered present at the meeting for all purposes.

## **6. Commencement & Termination**

**a.** The initial WRP Charter was adopted on August 17, 2010 during the Third Principals' meeting. This Charter was amended by the Principals at the WRP Sixth Principals' meeting (2014), WRP Seventh Principals' meeting (2015) and WRP Ninth Principals' meeting (2017). This Charter shall remain in effect until revised or superseded.

**b.** This Charter will be reviewed at each annual Principals' meeting.

## **Appendix A**

### **List of WRP Principal Organizations**

#### **States**

- State of Arizona
- State of Colorado
- State of Nevada
- Western Governors' Association\*
- State of California
- State of New Mexico
- State of Utah

#### **Federal Agencies**

- Air Force
- Army
- Army Corps of Engineers
- Bureau of Land Management
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Customs and Border Protection
- Federal Aviation Administration
- Federal Emergency Management Agency
- Federal Highway Administration
- Marine Corps
- National Park Service
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- Navy
- Office of the Secretary of Defense
- U.S. Department of Energy
- U.S. Department of Interior
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
- U.S. Forest Service
- U.S. Geological Survey

#### **Native American Leadership**

\* Non-voting