

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS	REPOSENSE
<p>How could the Navigator position be funded long term?</p> <hr/> <p>Need stable, long term funding for this.</p> <hr/> <p>The Navigator should have the flexibility and funding to go into different communities to learn about them and how to best help them.</p> <hr/> <p>Yes, funding...</p>	<p>Funding is an area where we still currently have more questions than answers. We've discussed potential funding models. We want navigators to have as much flexibility as they can, so we're in search of what funding models are availble in order to allow that. There have been some conversations with FEMA and how their program funding is distributed., but it all comes down to how the state wants to utilize funding. We've discussed assigning navigators in geographies that they know, so that they are not tasked with learning a new geography upon arrival and are most likely in a region where they already have established relationships. The more navigators you have, the smaller geography, which would then allow them to spend more time with communities. The long-term vision is to establish year-round navigators; working with pre-fire, building community relationships and trust before the fire so that there is a better coordinated effort amongst community members during and after the fire through the navigator(s). There is incentive for organizations to invest in a postion like this in the long term, because then this position will ultimately save on costs in the long run.</p>
<p>Will these navigators be additional funded positions or just asking additional job duties of existing positions?</p>	<p>Hopefully, these will be additional resources for communities!!</p>
<p>Have you thought about having people already doing some of this work (extension, outreach, UPH, etc.) just have additional funding?</p>	<p>We are open to different models and it may be state by state as to what may work best. Our main criteria is to have them as dedicated as possible, so not just a small percentage of time that gets pulled away.</p>
<p>Many State Geological Surveys have people who would be great navigators. Is AASG (Am Assoc State Geologists) involved in their efforts?</p>	<p>Great idea. Would be good to understand this more.</p>

	<p>Is the “Post-Fire Coordinator” the same as the “Navigator?”</p>	<p>No, these are not intended to be viewed as the same position. Even though we don't see these as the same, we are in early development states, so it they could be. A clearer answer to this question will evolve as the program grows; it's dependent on how robust this program may become. We are in the very earlier stages of program development and welcome all input on this program.</p>
	<p>Is the navigator and post-fire coordinator going to be limited to two-week fire assignment timeframes with switching people like we do other fire staffing?</p>	<p>We don't know; something to consider during the navigator buildout. We recognize the value of continuity both for communities, and for navigators' knowledge.</p>
	<p>Boundaries of the navigator position beyond strictly natural resources: hydrology bleeds into water quality/use/flooding response, salvage and replanting/fuels treatments, road improvements and access?</p>	<p>Navigators don't need to be experts on every facet of post-fire response, but do need to be able to tap into specific expertise when needed.</p>
	<p>How do navigators interface with disaster case managers?</p>	<p>Yes, they have to be able to interface with people on-the-ground. We haven't quite figured out how the navigator will interface with the incident commander. We're considering if there are certifications or training requirements in order for navigators to work with these case managers and other crucial personnel. This is all on our radar.</p>
	<p>Would navigators be identified and in place when federal assessments are taking place (pre-fire containment) to allow for coordination with BAER assessment teams? Or would they come in after BAER assessments are in place? How would data be shared?</p>	<p>The hope is that navigators would be up and running before wildfire response is completed. Getting in early can be a great value to post-fire restoration.</p>
	<p>Would Navigators be necessary for Pre-incident, During Incident/Post Fire Planning and Mitigation Implementation phases?</p>	<p>All of the above, most definitely, that is part of the concept. Year-round to build understanding, do mitigation before the fire, then be knowledgeable and in place post-fire.</p>
	<p>Are navigators only post-fire or also pre-fire?</p>	<p>the dream and intent is both</p>
	<p>Look for ways that navigators can be holistic and integrated positions – pre-fire and post-fire and help support local capacity.</p>	<p>Yes.</p>

<p>Is there value in building this capacity on the ground in communities as opposed to in a central/national program?</p>	<p>Yes, our intent is to build capacity on the local level (whether that's state, county, etc. is to be determined). We need to recognize the value of NGOs here as well. How can we integrate work by NGOs into this navigator framework.</p>
<p>How do you plan to find the navigators for communities?</p>	<p>Long term, we are hopeful there will be funding identified that can support a certain number per interested state. We can then outreach through the post-fire community to identify those with energy and interest to serve in the roles and if we are able to secure support for year-round positions, they would be able to work both pre-fire and post-fire in mitigating the impacts that wildfires can cause.</p>
<p>Have you considered reaching out to soil and water conservation districts to be a good place to start with navigators. They are local, often have technical resources, and are generally trusted by the public.</p>	<p>Another great idea; conservation districts have been a critical part of restoration work in many post-fire situations..</p>
<p>COMMENTS</p>	
<p>Navigator needs to be local and understand community.</p>	<p>We recognize the value of local expertise with preexisting community trust; building that in every community is a resource issue.</p>
<p>Many of us live in small towns either impacted by now or soon to be wild fires.... I have been struggling to get on a team that can help the locals, can you assist with this? Seems the only time they care is when a fire happens...</p>	<p>Our hope is the navigator can be both pre and post – and may depend on your state as to what they may offer. We'd love to get your feedback on how to make the navigator idea work effectively for local communities.</p>
<p>Do you see the navigators as government or non-profits?</p>	<p>From the input we have received, we feel they would be best either at the state level or the local/NGO level. It may depend on the actual funding mechanism as to how it is structured, but they must have the ability to be nimble and accepted into the community response structure as the member of the team, not just someone who delivers a report.</p>

<p>NRCS, DOI, USFS and NRCS main players identified in the diagram. Noting that there are much broader agency resources available (HUD, SBA, EPA, USACE, etc.) and the issues are broader than land mgt and fire mgt.</p>	<p>Agreed; this effort has had a heavy emphasis on the land management agencies, but we're attempting to capture the broader range of federal resources in developing the roadmap.</p>
<p>Am I hearing. Navigation taskforce, very small team, multi</p>	<p>It could eventually be a task force, but initially we were thinking a single individual to be able to go in and work with a community. The local community(ies) would have those that can take input from the navigator to implement, apply etc., but the navigator would help provide tailored advice to the local community. Communication between navigators will be important, as tapping into experts on a wide range of matters will be important to achieving integrated results on the ground.</p>
<p>I've seen quasi navigators from the firefighter community try to liaison the post fire response without success</p>	<p>Hopefully the structure of having someone focused with a depth of knowledge about the programs and needs of post fire communities will be more effective than a firefighter who knows more about response.</p>
<p>We have federal interagency liaisons often during Baer as</p>	<p>Yes, they can be helpful but may not have the viewpoint of the local community.</p>
<p>We often have BAER interagency liaisons that fulfill the navigator roll. Even after the assessment is complete. They work with other cooperaters to assist with post fire planning.</p>	<p>Good. We are helpful to get as many folks dedicated to the post fire needs as possible.</p>
<p>Navigators could (should?) be one of the very needed partners that participate in community meetings put on by IMTs during a fire (typically a large fire)</p>	<p>Agreed; important factor to consider in the navigator buildout.</p>
<p>Much of the discussion here over the past two days has focused on landscape impacts. Is there any thought that these navigators may need to cover more integrated post-fire issues?</p>	<p>Yes, the entire range will be important to a community. Infrastructure will be a huge piece as well as landscape.</p>

	<p>I see the navigator working with the commissioners. Mayors etc. as a team with their grant writers. In small communities it is one and the same</p>	<p>Absolutely.</p>
	<p>Bravo on the roadmap and navigator ideas. Small counties simply cannot navigate the maze of state and federal programs. It will take a team for most large fires. The smaller the county, the larger the team that is needed.</p>	<p>Thanks, and that's one of the reasons for these efforts. Wildfire is devastating, and agreed that the smaller the community, the greater the needs.</p>
	<p>Navigator interacting with the IC Commander could be similar as the Red Cross interacts with IC pre-fire</p>	<p>The navigator would definitely be in a liason role and the navigator could be mobilized before the fire is contained. If we have enough navigators, they could be interacting with incident teams.</p>
	<p>What are your suggestions for navigating the issues big liability? How can federal employees balance providing risk information with non-federal players with liability?</p>	<p>That was one of the reasons we have leaned toward having navigators come from state, local or NGO ranks, but we're open to understanding this further and talking with agency/departmental leadership about this hurdle.</p>