

Establishing Health Research Priorities for Wildland Firefighters and Related Personnel - Phase 2

What is your current age?

With which gender do you most identify?

- Female
- Male
- Gender non-conforming
- Prefer not to answer
- A gender not listed here:

* Are you a current BCWS employee, or auxiliary employee that worked in the 2019 wildfire season?

- Yes
- No

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How would you best classify your current role?

- Researcher or research trainee
- Employed in occupational health and safety management or regulations
- Union (e.g., BCGEU) employee
- Other (please specify)

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Out of which fire centre were/are you most recently working?

- Cariboo
- Coastal
- Kamloops
- Northwest
- Prince George
- Southeast
- Other (please specify)

What was your primary role with BCWS this past wildfire season (2019)?

- Wildland firefighter
- BCWS PWCC/Fire Centre Staff
- BCWS Zone Staff
- Aviation (i.e. Pilot, Air Attack Officer, etc.)
- Other (please specify)

What other roles, if any, have you participated in previous wildfire seasons, including 2019 (or currently are doing in 2020) (select all that apply)?

- Wildland firefighter
- BCWS PWCC/Fire Centre Staff
- BCWS Zone Staff
- Aviation (i.e. Pilot, Air Attack Officer, etc.)
- Incident Team Management
- Other (please specify)

How many years/seasons have you been an employee of BCWS (not counting 2020)?

How many of these years/seasons worked were spent participating in direct fire suppression on the fireline (for example, as a crew member/leader)?

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For the following questions focus the research topics, each with a list of subtopics or example research projects. Please indicate how important each topic is based on relevance to you personally and the BCWS, and urgency (eg, what topic should we give priority to?)

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Topic: Understanding and mitigating effects of smoke inhalation on respiratory/lung health

This may include as projects or sub-topics such as:

- Ability to estimate exposure in field (CO, PM)
- Exposure based on different fireline tasks
- Air quality at fire camp
- PPE/mask development and validation

Extremely important

Very important

Somewhat important

A little important

Not at all important

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Topic: Long-term risk and prevalence of disease other than respiratory (cardiovascular, cancer)

This may include as projects or sub-topics such as:

- Understanding exposure through skin and clothing
- Extremely important
- Very important
- Somewhat important
- A little important
- Not at all important

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Topic: Physical fitness & testing

This may include as projects or sub-topics such as:

- Time for exercise during shift and maintaining fitness through season
- Effective fitness programs
- Testing fitness protocol development/optimization

Extremely important

Very important

Somewhat important

A little important

Not at all important

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Topic: Fire camp conditions

This may include as projects or sub-topics such as:

- Hygiene and spread of disease
- Safety

Extremely important

Very important

Somewhat important

A little important

Not at all important

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Topic: Nutrition, diet, & hydration

This may include as projects or sub-topics such as:

- Understanding optimal nutrition for performance
- Access to foods that meet personal preference and dietary needs

Extremely important

Very important

Somewhat important

A little important

Not at all important

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Topic: Acute injuries & conditions

This may include as projects or sub-topics such as:

- Soft tissue injuries
- Musculoskeletal injuries
- Repetitive strain and ergonomics
- Heat stress

Extremely important

Very important

Somewhat important

A little important

Not at all important

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Topic: Fatigue & Sleep

This may include as projects or sub-topics such as:

- Cognitive fatigue and decision making
- Fatigue management
- Cumulative fatigue
- Burnout
- Compassion fatigue
- Sleep hygiene

Extremely important

Very important

Somewhat important

A little important

Not at all important

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Topic: Stress

This may include as projects or sub-topics such as:

- Elevated stress hormones
- Stress management
- Understanding impact of chronic stress

Extremely important

Very important

Somewhat important

A little important

Not at all important

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Topic: Mental health

This may include as projects or sub-topics such as:

- Depression
- Social/emotional health
- PTSD
- Exposure to trauma
- Impact of public pressure and dealing with the public
- Supporting resilience

Extremely important

Very important

Somewhat important

A little important

Not at all important

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Topic: Work structure & organizational culture

This may include as projects or sub-topics such as:

- Work/life balance
- Shift hours/length and on/off time
- Distance from families
- Gender bias
- Stigma
- Racial discrimination
- Harassment/discrimination
- Experiences of minority personnel (female, Indigenous peoples, non-cis, non-white)

Extremely important

Very important

Somewhat important

A little important

Not at all important

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Please rank the research topics from most (1) to least important (10). Consider that while each of these topics are important, if you had to choose, where do you think we should start? What is the most relevant to you personally and the BCWS? And what is the most urgent?



Understanding and mitigating effects of smoke inhalation on respiratory/lung health



Long-term risk and prevalence of disease other than respiratory (cardiovascular, cancer)



Physical fitness & testing



Fire camp conditions



Nutrition, diet, & hydration



Acute injuries & conditions



Fatigue & Sleep



Stress



Mental health & resilience



Work structure & organizational culture

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Please use this space to list more topic areas or make any additional comments.

Would you like to be entered into a draw for one of five \$50 Amazon gift cards?

Yes

No

email address

If you would like to contact the research team please email us at: wildfirestudy@unbc.ca