



The Western Federation of Professional Surveyors (WFPS) held a Board of Directors meeting on June 25, 2022 in South San Francisco, CA.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE WESTERN STATES

ALASKA (ASPLS) Gary Gervelis – ASPLS is revising their logo as it has not been updated since 1960. Terms for Officers has been changed to two-year terms. All meetings are now being held virtually which provides better opportunity for members in remote areas. This change has helped to engage more members. ASPLS held a successful virtual conference in conjunction with HLSA and is discussing holding a joint in-person conference in Hawaii in 2023. ASPLS has made their NGS Advisor and Professor from UAA ex-officio members of their Board of Directors. More information about APLS can be found on their website AlaskaPLS.org

ARIZONA (APLS) Mike Fondren – Current membership is 308. The Land Surveyor member of the Board of Technical Registration (BTR) has resigned and the position remains vacant. APLS has sent multiple letters to the Governor encouraging him to appoint a replacement and endorsing three specific candidates that have completed the application paperwork. APLS will hold a fall seminar in Tucson at the University of Arizona on October 14th. Featured speakers will be Michael Dennis, Lynda Bell, and Brian Fisher. APLS opposed a bill that would have eliminated the requirement for a survey for minor land divisions and the bill was successfully defeated. The 2023 Conference will be held April 20-22 at the Prescott Resort. More information about APLS can be found on their website AzPLS.org

CALIFORNIA (CLSA) Warren Smith & Kevin Nehring – CLSA has signed the MOU to join NSPS with 100% membership. California has established a Young Surveyors Network that recently held a campout at the Mt. Diablo Initial Point. CLSA participated in the Western Regional Survey Conference which was a great success. The CLSA-NALS Conference will be held March 25-28, 2023 at the Silver Legacy in Reno, Nevada. More information about CLSA can be found on their website CaliforniaSurveyors.org

COLORADO (PLSC) Todd Beers – Current membership is 408. PLSC continues to actively participate in Quality Based Selection (QBS) meetings. PLSC successfully defeated a bill that would have eliminated the requirement for the state specific exam for reciprocity. The legislative committee will be working on language to address the 2022 datum change. PLSC is working with the Realtors and Land Title Associations to revise real estate closing forms to include a line item for Improvement Location Certificate. Colorado Mesa University/Colorado Community College continues to increase enrollment. GIS in the Rockies will be held September 28-29, 2022. PLSC is working with the NSPS Foundation to establish a scholarship fund. More information about PLSC can be found on their website PLSC.net

HAWAII (HLSA) Cliff Yim – Current membership is 115. HLSA joint virtual conference with ASPLS was successful and helped to increase HLSA membership. HLSA strongly opposed House Bill 2332 as it granted exemptions for formal subdivision requirements for various easements and public lands. The language was vague and had potential broad overreach. A compromise was reached limiting the exemption to non-agricultural park lands. HLSA is working on outreach with the Hawaii School Counselors Association. More information about HLSA can be found on their website HLSA.hawaii.org

MONTANA (MARLS) Russ Kluesner and Dick Smith – Current membership 420. MARLS 2023 Conference will be held February 15-17 in Great Falls, Montana. MARLS will be hiring a lobbyist for the next legislative session to help track bills that affect the profession. MARLS continues to work on updating their standards of practice and has recently published the 3rd edition of the Montana Subdivision and Surveying Laws Digest. More information can be found on their website MARLS.com

NEVADA (NALS) Trent Keenan & Greg Phillips – Current membership is 292. NALS membership continues to increase. NALS participated in the Western Regional Survey Conference with Arizona, California, Nevada, Utah and WestFed. The conference was held in Las Vegas and was a great success. The 2023 Conference will be held March 25-28 at the Silver Legacy in Reno, Nevada. NALS sponsored the first ever Living Final Point Dedication when Steve Parrish set his own final point at Great Basin College. The NV Young Surveyors will host a campout in the Sierra Nevada Mountains where they will learn polaris and solar observations. Great Basin College continues to see good enrollment numbers and the College of Southern Nevada (CSN) is one step closer to receiving authorization for a new land surveying 4 year degree program. NALS continues to publish, print, and mail four issues a year of the

Nevada Traverse. The last issue of the Traverse focused on public outreach and provided a synopsis of some of the roundtable discussions that were held at the Western Regional Survey Conference. NALS is currently considering potential amendments to NRS 278.5692 & 278.5693 to address boundary line adjustments. NALS will host a fall seminar and golf tournament October 21-22 in Mesquite. More information about NALS can be found on their website NvLandSurveyors.org

NEW MEXICO (NMPS) Allen Grace & Roxanne Nimmer – Current membership is 135. NMPS will be holding their conference in the fall for the first time. The conference will be held October 21-22 at the Isleta Resort and Casino. NMDOT CORS Station RTK network is being extended. The Board of Registration will go through sunset review process in 2023. More information about NMPS can be found on their website NMPS.org

UTAH (UCLS) Mike Nadeau – Current membership is 335. UCLS 2023 Conference is being planned for St. George, more details coming soon. SB 184 passed allowing recorders to digitally record and accept electronic plats. Membership dues and Conference registration fees will increase next year to help offset rising costs. UCLS continues to provide outreach through the scouting merit badge program, CST, and Trigstar. A Young Surveyor Network has been established in Utah. More information about UCLS can be found on their website UCLS.org

WASHINGTON (LSAW) Ben Petersen and Amanda Askren – Current membership is 718. A fall seminar will be held November 4-5 at Renton Technical College and will feature a track for Survey Technicians as well as a CFedS workshop. The 2023 Conference is scheduled for February 15-17 in Spokane, Washington. A Celebration of Life in honor of Jim Coan will be held August 13th at Renton Tech. LSAW is interested in sponsoring a team to participate in the NSPS Student Competition. LSAW continues to participate in a lobbying coalition with engineers and architects. LSAW will reintroduce their monument preservation bill next year. All past issues of the Evergreen State Surveyor magazine have been scanned and are now available on the LSAW website. More information about LSAW can be found on their website LSAW.org

WYOMING (PLSW) John Lee – Current membership is 131. PLSW has authored legislation to address the 2022 datum which removes the date reference. The University of Wyoming continues to offer a minor in land surveying and a land surveying certificate program. Information about PLSW can be found on their website PLSW.org

WFPS FUNDAMENTAL OF SURVEYING (FS) EXAM STUDY COURSE

WFPS is excited to announce the release of the FS Exam Study Course which includes approximately 16 hours of videos and a manual. Topics included are based on the current NCEES Fundamentals of Surveying (FS) exam specifications and recommended knowledge. <https://ncees.org/wp-content/uploads/FS-CBT-specs.pdf> Presenters: Dane Courville, PLS and Knud Hermansen, PLS, PE, Ph.D.

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RIGHT OF ENTRY

Right of entry continues to be a hot topic. Some states still do not have right of entry laws and are interested in learning more from the other western states. Directors distributed right of entry/trespass information from their state. Several states have developed best practice guides and resources for their membership. WFPS will continue to collect information and a directory of resources will be made available to state association members.

WESTFED EDITOR'S FORUM

WFPS was pleased to host a virtual Editor's Forum in April and June. Editors for each of the WestFed state associations were invited to attend and share information and exchange ideas for building better magazines. The meetings have been well received and all in attendance indicated that it was a great benefit that WestFed can provide to the state associations. The next meeting will be held August 17, 2022. For information, please email the WFPS Executive Office at admin@wfps.org