

WEBSITE WORKS TOWARD EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION FOR FIREFIGHTERS AND FIRE MANAGERS

The organizations comprising the wildland firefighting and fire management community are fragmented, and as such do not always work effectively together to achieve common goals (First Annual National Wildland Fire Policy Summit, final report, 2002; available at <http://www.iawfonline.org/pdf/Final_Report_from_2002_Policy_S.pdf>). Intentionally or not, the International Association of Wildland Fire (IAWF) has launched a website that responds to this problem. The website <<http://www.iawfonline.org/>> takes strides toward more effective communication and potentially more effective working relationships within the wildland fire community.

The IAWF website links to the National Park Service's fire and aviation "FireNet" site <<http://www.nps.gov/fire/index.htm>> and many sites of other agencies, associations, fire consortia, and fire crews, as well as sites for kids and sites with photos. It also provides links to publications about fire; documents and reports; trainings, workshops, and conferences; employment; and research sites. Moreover, fire simulation models and reports, detection and remote sensing sites, structural fire and emergency medical system sites, weather forecasts, air quality, and fire danger information are listed and linked.

The International Association of Wildland Fire is a nonprofit, professional association representing members of the global wildland fire community. The purpose of the association is to facilitate communication and provide leadership for the wildland fire community. Working to fulfill their purpose, the IAWF website also provides information about upcoming national and international

events of interest to firefighters and fire managers. The association also distributes two publications: *Wildfire* (general interest articles on topics and issues in wildland fire) and *International Journal of Wildland Fire* (a scientific publication).