

2026 Pacific Islands Forestry Committee Executive Committee Meeting

October 20-22, 2026 | Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry | Hilo, HI

Tuesday, October 20, 2026	
8:30 - 9:00 a.m.	Welcome, Introductions, and Agenda Overview <i>Jenny Grimm (HI), Chair</i> Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry Welcome (5 minutes) <i>Flint Hughes (Forest Service)</i> Welina (15 minutes) <i>Hālau 'Ōhi'a</i>
9:00 - 10:15 a.m.	Island Dialogue - Disaster Preparedness and Response (Prework) <i>Facilitator: Miranda Hutten (Forest Service)</i> Each Island Forester to come prepared with a short PowerPoint presentation to address the following: • What happened, and what were the impacts? (Tell us about the disaster - forest health, natural disasters, etc. Focus on one. Case study approach.) • What challenges did you face? • What did you learn? (What did you need that you didn't have?) • Additional thoughts Please use the following PowerPoint template, which includes four questions to address for your island. Please bring your completed presentation with you or send it to Sara Goodwin in advance.
10:15 - 10:30 a.m.	Break
10:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Federal Resources for Disaster Response and Preparedness <i>Barb Geringer (Forest Service) and Miranda Hutten (Forest Service)</i> Resources, funding, response, and reporting.
11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Fire Program Updates <i>Barb Geringer (Forest Service)</i> Barb will provide updates on the fire program and her upcoming transition.
12:00 - 1:00 p.m.	Lunch (provided to paid registrants)*



1:00 - 2:00 p.m.	National and Regional Updates - USDA Forest Service Update (<i>Miranda Hutten</i>) - Council of Western State Foresters/Western Forestry Leadership Coalition Update (<i>Facilitator: Danielle Okst</i>)
2:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Grant Template and Changes <i>Katie Friday (Forest Service)</i> Katie will discuss key components and best practices of an effective grant template for the upcoming year, addressing how to navigate increased scrutiny.
3:00 - 3:20 p.m.	Break
3:20 - 3:50 p.m.	Sharing Upcoming Training Opportunities (Prewrite) <i>Miranda Hutten (Forest Service)</i> What trainings or major events are coming to your island? Are there opportunities to cross-train? Come prepared with a list of major events and trainings on your island.
3:50 - 4:20 p.m.	Hawai'i Wildfire Management Organization Updates and Resources <i>Amanda Uowolo (HWMO)</i>
4:20 - 4:30 p.m.	Closing and Group Photo <i>Kiyara-Mae Eluil Swanson (Palau), Secretary</i>

Wednesday, October 21, 2026	
8:30 - 8:45 a.m.	Welcome and Agenda Overview <i>Jenny Grimm (HI), Chair</i>
8:45 - 10:00 a.m.	PIFC Business Meeting <i>Jenny Grimm (HI), Chair</i> 2026-2027 PIFC Leadership Team 2025-2029 PIFC Strategic Plan - Discuss and Prioritize Remaining 2026 Work Plan Items 2026 Report and 2027 Work Plan 2027 PIFC Executive Committee Meeting
10:00 - 10:30 a.m.	Break



10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	PIFC Business Meeting Continued
12:00 - 1:00 p.m.	Lunch (provided to paid registrants)*
1:00 - 2:00 p.m.	Research Priorities in the Pacific (Group Exercise) <i>Flint Hughes (Forest Service) and Susan Cordell (Forest Service)</i> Updates and future research priorities in the Pacific.
2:00 - 2:30 p.m.	Smart Trees Pacific IRA Grant <i>Wai Lee (Smart Trees Pacific)</i>
2:30 - 3:00 p.m.	Break
3:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Biosecurity Challenges (Prewrite) <i>Kiyara-Mae Eluil Swanson (Palau), Kylle Roy (Forest Service), and Leyla Kaufman (USFWS)</i> Please complete this brief survey to help identify shared biosecurity challenges, priorities, and capacity needs across Pacific Islands and inform discussion at the meeting.
4:00 - 4:10 p.m.	Closing <i>Kiyara-Mae Eluil Swanson (Palau), Secretary</i>
4:10 p.m.	Tour of the Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry

Thursday, October 22, 2026	
8:30 - 8:45 a.m.	Welcome and Agenda Overview <i>Kiyara-Mae Eluil Swanson (Palau), Secretary</i>
8:45 - 10:00 a.m.	PIFC Office Hours and Connection Time Dedicated time for PIFC members and meeting participants to connect through individual and small-group conversations, follow up on meeting topics, and address specific questions or needs.
10:00 - 10:30 a.m.	Break
10:30- 11:00 a.m.	Policy Update and Report-out from the National Association of State Foresters Annual Meeting



	<i>Neil Simpson (CWSF/WFLC) and Danielle Okst (CWSF/WFLC)</i>
11:00 - 11:30 a.m.	UH Extension Agents <i>Ashley McGuigan and Christian Colo</i>
11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Meeting Close-out <i>Kiyara-Mae Eluil Swanson (Palau), Secretary</i> Discuss parking lot items, review action items, and complete feedback forms.
12:00 - 1:00 p.m.	UH Extension Agents - Continued Conversation and Snack Lunch <i>Ashley McGuigan and Christian Colo</i>

**Lunch is provided on October 20 and 21, so please deduct from per diem for individual grants/reimbursements.*