



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> Welina (10-15 minutes) <i>TBD</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 (7-10 minutes) 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 A PowerPoint template will be shared in advance for completion.
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) - Confirmed</i> Resources, funding, response, and reporting.
11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Fire Program Updates <i>Barb Geringer (Forest Service) - Confirmed</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) - Confirmed</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) 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.	Hawaii Wildfire Management Organization Updates and Resources <i>Amanda Uowolo (HWMO) (Invited)</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 • Discuss and Prioritize Remaining 2026 Work Plan Items • 2026 Report and 2027 Work Plan • 2027 PIFC Executive Committee Meeting • 2025-2029 PIFC Strategic Plan
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 Findings and Updates <i>Flint Hughes, Susan Cordell, Christian Giardina (Forest Service) - Confirmed</i> Updates and future research priorities in the Pacific.



2:00 - 2:30 p.m.	Smart Trees Pacific IRA Grant <i>Wai Lee and Kevin Eckert (Invited)</i>
2:30 - 3:00 p.m.	Break
3:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Biosecurity Challenges <i>Kiyara-Mae Eluil Swanson (Palau), Kylene Roy (Forest Service), and Lela Kaufmann (USFWS) - TBD</i>
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 (TBD)

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 - 10:45 a.m.	Policy Update <i>Neil Simpson (CWSF/WFLC)</i>
10:45 - 11:30 a.m.	Report-out from the National Association of State Foresters Annual Meeting <i>Danielle Okst (CWSF/WFLC) and DJ Sene (American Samoa) - Tentative, Virtual</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.

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