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November 17, 2025

To:	Commissioners, Operations Committee, Working Teams, Cooperators and Guests
From:	Tom Brady & Eric Earle
Subject:	2026 Winter Training / Awareness Meeting

The annual Winter Training/Awareness Meeting of the Northeastern Forest Fire Protection Compact will be held at the Best Western Merry Manor Inn in South Portland, ME, on January 27-29, 2026. The meeting will be two full days preceded by Working Team meetings on Tuesday Jan 27th. An awards banquet is scheduled for the last evening, on Thursday January 29th.

All Working Teams will have rooms available to start their meetings at 0800 on Tuesday Jan 27th. Anyone attending meetings, including Working Team meetings, needs to register.

The Winter Meeting this year will be in-person only. There is NO virtual/Zoom attendance being offered this year, except that remote presentations will be available for remote presenters.

Please use the following link to register:

<https://forms.gle/irD8agMyQjRBTeu9A>

The meeting registration deadline is January 19th.

Registration for this year's meeting may be limited due to the use of tables in the room layout. We encourage participants to register early to secure their spot at the event. Once your registration and payment have been received, we will provide additional meeting details.

Working Team chairs and vice chairs will also be invited to meet with the Operations Committee on Tuesday afternoon to review work plans and discuss budget requests.

The general session will begin at 8:30 AM on Wednesday, January 28th and continue through Thursday, January 29th. Please see the attached agenda for specific programmed events. We have some excellent topics and speakers for the general session once again this year. We strongly encourage member attendance to make best use of the information for local programs.

The general registration fee for all participants is \$50 per person per day. A casual evening awards banquet will be held on Thursday January 29th at a cost of \$45/person.

COMPACT MEMBERS....Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland & Labrador, Prince Edward Island, US Forest Service, US Fish & Wildlife Service, US National Park Service, US Bureau of Indian Affairs, Fire Department New York

11-17-2025

Meeting Rooms will be provided for meetings of the Operations Committee and all Working Teams on January 27th. The Wildwood Ballroom will be set up classroom style for January 28-29. The Vendor room, adjacent to the Wildwood Ballroom, will be available for setup starting at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, January 27th.

A social hour along with equipment displays will take place Wednesday, January 28th, starting at 6:00 PM in the vendor display area. This room will also be used for all breaks. We will be in the general meeting room for the banquet on Thursday January 29th.

Registration and lodging costs for Working Team members for Tuesday January 27th will be paid by the Compact.

The Thursday evening banquet will be a dinner buffet with a three-item selection at a cost of \$45.00, including tax and gratuity. Dress will be casual.

The Karl Kenyon Gadget Hour is also scheduled for Thursday evening.

Accommodations Information

Best Western Merry Manor Inn, 700 Main Street, South Portland, ME 04106

Tel.: (207) 774-6151 Fax: (207) 871-0537

Room rate - \$104.00 per room per night, plus tax (single or double occupancy)

Tax Rate - 9%

Reservation Method - Individual Reservations (Reference Northeast Compact Group)

Important ! Deadline for hotel reservations is January 15th.

Payment Arrangements

The Compact will pay for any unpaid Compact members' hotel, banquet, and registration costs at the conclusion of the session. These charges, minus any authorized Working Team costs, will later be invoiced to the member agencies and/or charged to member grant/reserve funds. All others are responsible for payment of their own registration fees and lodging costs. Unless other arrangements have been made, registration fees are due by the registration deadline.

Enclosed you will find a copy of the proposed agenda. Please forward this memo to anyone that you would like to invite. If you have any questions regarding the 2026 NFFPC Winter Awareness Meeting, feel free to contact Eric Earle or myself. (see letterhead for contact info).

Looking forward to seeing you all again in the New Year!



Executive Director