WORKSHOP SESSION SUMMARY

POST-CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

1. **Session Title and Presenter's Contact Information:**
   Workshop number and title: Something's in the Air: Incorporating Air Quality Monitoring Tools in Training on Wildfire Smoke (workshop #40)
   Presenter (s) Name: Kevin Riley
   Presenter Organization: WRUC/UCLA LOSH
   Presenter Email: kriley@irle.ucla.edu

2. **Workshop Summary:**
   [Workshop abstract]

Wildfires have become a year-round threat in many parts of the country, due largely to changing climate patterns. Smoke from wildfires can travel long distances and can have widespread impacts on populations it reaches. Wildfire smoke contaminates air with a variety of pollutants; concerns have focused on particles less than 2.5 microns in diameter (PM2.5) for the significant health risks they pose when inhaled. In the case of outdoor workers, their exposure to wildfire smoke and their ability to respond to the exposures may be dictated by job requirements and employers. Many Western states have set standards for protecting outdoor workers from PM2.5 in wildfire smoke. These standards trigger employer actions when PM2.5 levels in outdoor air exceed limits. WRUC has developed training to educate workers on the hazards of wildfire smoke, to promote the use of tools that identify air quality hazards, and to inform workers of their rights for protection when indicators of outdoor air quality exceed standards. This presentation will provide an overview of training strategies to equip workers with tools to monitor air quality hazards at their worksites. We'll demonstrate how we incorporate in training widely available tools for monitoring PM2.5 levels, in a hands-on activity.

3. **Methods:**
   [Briefly describe the training method(s) used to deliver the presentation, the advantages and disadvantages of the approach]

Overview of wildfire smoke hazards for workers and the general public and of recent state-level OSHA standards related to wildfire smoke protections. Presentation of tools available to determine current AQI for PM2.5. Scenario-based activity using AQI tools designed to help participants assess how the OSHA standards might apply in specific circumstances.

4. **Main Points/Key Points Raised from Participants:**
   [Lists key points raised during the workshop by the participants resulting from the session discussion, as well as main points raised by presenter.]

Participants appreciated the opportunity to access real-time AQI tools and discussed how they may be useful in their own work contexts

Participants discussed the relative merits of the three existing OSHA standards for wildfire smoke protections and considered the value of such standards in other states

5. **References:**
   [Reference materials (including articles, reports, training materials, links, etc.)]

AQI tool: AirNow.gov

Cal/OSHA Wildfire Smoke Standard: https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/doshreg/Protection-from-Wildfire-Smoke/Wildfire-smoke-emergency-standard.html

Oregon OSHA Wildfire Smoke Standard: https://osha.oregon.gov/OSHAPubs/factsheets/fs92.pdf

Washington Dept. of Labor & Industries: https://lni.wa.gov/

6. **Workshop Handouts/Resources:**
   [can be attached separately]

UCLA LOSH wildfire smoke factsheet (English): https://losh.ucla.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/37/2022/07/LOSH_Wildfire_Inforgraphic_English_07182022.pdf

UCLA LOSH wildfire smoke factsheet (Spanish): https://losh.ucla.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/37/2022/07/LOSH_Wildfire_Inforgraphic_Spanish_07182022.pdf

UC Davis Center for Agricultural Health & Safety wildfire smoke educational materials (English and Spanish): https://aghealth.ucdavis.edu/wildfires