

GREAT BASIN IMT PRE-SEASON TRAINING AGENDA

March 30 – April 2, 2026

Silver Legacy Resort Casino
407 N Virginia St
Reno, NV

[Overflow Parking Map](#)



LinkTree

[MSTeams Meeting Link](#)

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[Return to Agenda Link](#) [↑](#)

Monday March 30, 2026		
1300-1500	GB Operations Committee Meeting	Silver Baron C
	GB IC Council Meeting	Silver Baron E
	GB Coordinating Group Meeting	Silver Baron D
1500-1700	GBICC, GBOC, GBCG Joint Meeting	Silver Baron D
1600-1700	RT-130 Fire Shelter and Entrapment Avoidance	Silver Baron E
1700-1800	Team 4 Meeting Prep	Silver Baron E
1300-1800	Vendor setup	Royal Salon

Tuesday March 31, 2026		
0800-0845	Team Breakout Meetings	Room Assignment Link
0900-1700	Drop off Auction Items	Expo C
0900-1330 General Session Silver Legacy Expo A/B Lower Level	Welcome (10 min) – <i>Shaw</i> GBCG, GBOC Leader’s Intent, update (20 min) - <i>Uhlig</i> GBICC update (10 min) - <i>Johnston</i>	
	0940-1010 Break – coffee and visit with vendors	Royal Salon
	Agency Direction, Leader’s Intent (90min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sarah Fisher, Deputy Chief, USDA Forest Service Fire and Aviation Management • Chief Brian Fennessy, Director, U.S. Wildland Fire Service • Greg Smith, Fire Director, National Association of State Foresters 	
	Wrap Up/Instructions (5 min) - <i>Shaw</i>	
	1145-1245 Lunch	
	GBCC Update, Seasonal Outlook (20 min) - <i>Newmerzhycky</i> GBTU GATR (15 min) - <i>Burkhammer</i> Procurement updates (10 min) - <i>Phillips</i>	
	1330-1400 Break – coffee and visit with vendors	Royal Salon
1400-1450 Concurrent Session #1	Transmission Lines and Wildfire	Silver Baron A
	Procurement Updates	Silver Baron C
	2026 GB Incident Prioritization Worksheet	Silver Baron D
	RT-130 Fire Shelter and Entrapment Avoidance	Silver Baron E
1500-1550 Concurrent Session #2	Wellness and Performance in Wildland Firefighting	Silver Baron A
	VIPR/Contract Administration	Silver Baron C
	Medivac Options and Procedures	Silver Baron D
	RT-130 Fire Shelter and Entrapment Avoidance	Silver Baron E

1600-1650 <u>Concurrent Session #3</u>	Cumulative Stress and Grief	Silver Baron A
	Resources for Mitigating Camp Smoke Exposure	Silver Baron C
	Mapping and Communicating Suppression Strategies	Silver Baron D
	RT-130 Fire Shelter and Entrapment Avoidance	Silver Baron E
1700-1730	AAR - ICs	Silver Baron D
1700-1730	AAR – Team 4	Silver Baron E
1730-2200	WFF Foundation Fundraising Event/Auction	Expo C

Wednesday April 1, 2026		
0800-1030 <u>Functional Breakouts</u>	Operations and Aviation, (ICs: Sawyer, Delaney, Rushing)	Silver Baron A
	Safety and Medical, (ICs: McFarland, Hecht)	Silver Baron B
	Logistics, (ICs: Kiesling, Stephens)	Silver Baron C
	Finance, (ICs: Ingram, Rohrer, Monroe)	Silver Baron D
	Planning, (ICs: Sanchez, Knudson, Ostler)	Silver Baron E
	Liaison, (ICs: Demasters, Murray)	Silver
	Information, (ICs: Johnston, Minton)	Gold
1030-1100	Break - coffee and visit with vendors	Royal Salon
1100-1230 <u>General Session</u> Expo A/B Lower Level	Trauma Doesn't Affect Me and Other Lies that First Responders Tell Themselves <i>Captain Layne Hilton, M.S. Educational Psychology</i> <i>Behavioral Health and Wellness Officer, Unified Fire Authority</i> How first responders' neurological traits shape the way trauma and PTSD appear, key symptoms, and effective treatments and wellness strategies tailored to the wildland fire community.	
1230-1400	Lunch	
1400-1700	Team Breakout Meetings, Type 3/CIMT sister team meetup	Room Assignment Link
	1500-1530 Break - coffee and visit with vendors	Royal Salon
	Team Breakout Meetings, Type 3/CIMT sister team meetup	Room Assignment Link
1700-1730	AAR - ICs	Silver Baron D
1700-1800	AAR – Team 4	Silver Baron E

Thursday April 2, 2026		
0800-1630	GB MAC Group Training	Silver Baron E
0800-0900	RT-130 Fire Shelter and Entrapment Avoidance	Silver Baron C
0800-1000	Type 3 IMTs / IRIS and AIMS - <i>Phillips</i> IT Tips and Tricks - <i>Jaquez</i> CIMT/T3 Integration - <i>Kitchen</i>	Silver Baron A
1000-1200	Type 3 Teams Meet & Greet	Silver Baron A
1200-1300	Nevada Fire Board Meeting	Silver Baron A
1300-1400	Lunch	
1400-1600	Type 3 Team Breakouts	Room Assignment Link

Thursday April 2, 2026 - MAC Training 		
0800	Welcome / Introduction	
	GB Coordinating Group Chair	Brock Uhlig
	NMAC Overview	NMAC Rep
	GBCC Overview and Roles	Gina Dingman
	GBCC / MAC Delegation of Authority	Gina Dingman
Break		
	GBCC Pre MAC	Gina Dingman
	Activation of GB MAC	MAC members
	Incident Prioritization Worksheet	Jeremy Sisneros / Matt Ginder
Lunch		
	Group Activity (Sand table input #1)	
	Group Activity (Sand Table input #2)	
	Other considerations: Politics, Duty Officer, FAST, ASAT	
1630	Wrap up	

Team Breakout Room Assignments 		
Day, Time	Team	Room
Tuesday, March 31 0800-0845	Team 2 – DeMasters, Teams Meeting Link	Silver Baron D
	Team 3 – Murray	Silver Baron C
	Team 4 – Shaw	Silver Baron E
Wednesday, April 1 1400-1700	Team 5 – Ingram, Teams Meeting Link	Silver Baron B
	Team 6 – McFarland, Teams Meeting Link	Silver (Lower Level)
Type 3 Teams Thursday, April 2 1400-1600	Team 7 – Johnston, Teams Meeting Link	Gold (Lower Level)
	Nevada Team 1	Silver Baron 1
	Nevada Team 2	Silver Baron 2
	Nevada Team 3	Silver Baron 3
	Nevada Team 4	Silver Baron 4
	Nevada Team 5	Silver Baron 5
	UT, WY, ID Type 3 Teams	Silver Baron A
	GBIBC	Silver Baron A
Dispatch	Silver Baron 6	

Concurrent Sessions 1400-1450		↑
<p>Transmission Lines and Wildfire - This presentation offers a practical look at how wildland fire operations interact with the electrical systems that support communities across the West. It explains the basics of transmission and distribution lines, outlines key safety considerations for personnel working around electrical infrastructure, and addresses common misconceptions that can create confusion on incidents. The session also highlights communication pathways that support effective coordination with utility providers.</p> <p><i>(E Lynn Burkett, Vice President of Natural Resources, Western Area Power Administration)</i></p>		
<p>Procurement Updates - Provide national direction on procurement operations for wildland fire incident management, presented by DOI/FS National and GB Incident Business, Procurement, AIMS, and IRIS SMEs.</p>		
<p>2026 GB Incident Prioritization Worksheet – Review the new GB incident prioritization worksheet and process for 2026.</p>		
<p>RT-130 Fire shelter and entrapment avoidance – required training if requesting a completion letter for RT-130.</p>		
Concurrent Sessions 1500-1550		↑
<p>Wellness and Performance in Wildland Firefighting - Understanding our current state of wellness and performance gives us power to take meaningful, strategic action in our lives and with those around us. This presentation will provide an overview of the Wildland Firefighter Pulse Check findings with next steps and best practices for wellbeing and performance. <i>(Alexis Waldron, Human Performance Specialist and Micah Woodward, LICSW, BCD, CPHQ, Behavioral Health Officer- FS-S&P-WO-Fire & Aviation Mgmt-Aviation, Ops & Risk Mgmt)</i></p>		
<p>VIPR/Contract Administration - Provide national updates and direction on VIPR equipment resources, presented by National and GB Contract Specialists.</p>		
<p>Medivac Options and Procedures - This session provides a focused overview of how IMTs plan for and respond to IWIs. Participants will discuss key elements of an IWI response including pre-planning, ICP coordination, and field tools and methods. This will be followed by insights gathered from participants input. The session concludes with an open discussion on extraction options (air and ground), including REMS, Med Mods, and fireline EMT/Paramedic roles, as well as common dispatch ordering challenges that affect air medevac effectiveness.</p>		
<p>RT-130 Fire shelter and entrapment avoidance</p>		
Concurrent Sessions 1600-1650		↑
<p>Cumulative Stress and Grief - This interactive session will combine clinician and IMT member perspectives to discuss cumulative stress and loss and their potential impacts to members of the wildland fire community. We will discuss proactive strategies to take care of ourselves and others and the importance of staying connected to the values that drive us. <i>(Patricia O'Brien, PhD, Clinical Advisor, US Wildland Fire Service)</i></p>		
<p>Resources for Mitigating Camp Smoke Exposure - This session introduces voluntary tools and strategic resources designed to reduce employee smoke exposure at camp sites. Incident teams will learn to utilize a comprehensive system—including AQI graphs, air scrubbers, and PurpleAir sensors—to monitor and reduce employee exposure to hazardous air quality. Additionally, the presentation outlines how to engage Air Resource Advisors for expert smoke outlooks, technical support, and guidance for leadership.</p>		
<p>Mapping and Communicating Suppression Strategies - Review the current state of policy regarding suppression strategies and facilitate conversation on how to consistently and effectively communicate strategy to the public, operations personnel, and land managers using existing mapping tools.</p>		
<p>RT-130 Fire shelter and entrapment avoidance</p>		

Functional Area Primary Topics	
Operations and Aviation (Lead: Coates, Norton) ↑ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GB IHC Report Out • Operations Toolkit • Team Reports on Successes and Challenges • Aerial Supervision Update (Kurt Atkins) • IR & Incident Awareness and Assessment (IAA) Update (Kat Sorenson) • UAS Topics (Nathan Wilger) 	Safety and Medical (Lead: Houston) ↑ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EMS (Dr. Jennifer Curry) • Joint Program Exposure Assessment Teams (Persephone Whelan/Kat Navarro) • New SafeNet (McFarland/Phelps) • Wildland Firefighter Mental Health (Greg Mason) • Risk Management (Joe Harris) • Tips and Tricks from every team, success stories • Utilization and placement of medical resources • OSHA reporting
Logistics (Lead: Dettori) ↑ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GB cache update (Ivan Gallardo) • National contract, kitchen and shower, update (Kevin Toombs or Dana Price) • Rental vehicle (NERV) update (Sarah Petroff or Tonya Campbell) • Communication (NIICD) update (Albert Karnowski) • NWCG Logistics Subcommittee update (Travis Bailey or alternate) 	Plans (Lead: Brown) ↑ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IR & Incident Awareness and Assessment (IAA) Update (Kat Sorenson) • elsuite update (Ruth Kohler) • FTP update • FireNet update • FMB memo – status of SIT 209 reporting • Recap: 2026 GB IPW process • Crew swap/extensions • Incident technology • 2025 Successes and challenges, lessons learned
Information (Lead: Bender) ↑ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National updates • PIO Subcommittee updates • Media engagement • Standardized Great Basin Daily Update Template • Recap: map symbology 	Finance (Lead: Palma, Phillips) ↑ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USWFS Incident Business Updates (Kelin Crill) • USFS Incident Business Updates (Phillip Won) • GBIBC Updates (Robyn Post, Christina Phillips) • AD Program Updates (Julie Bennett, Billie Hopkins, Kelin Crill) • Payment Centers (Kelin Crill) • Q&A
Liaison (Lead: Blankenship) ↑ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IMRR LOFR Update (Chris Barth, NIMO, ~45 min) • State notification/evacuation processes, ideas for future training • State suppression repair standards for private land • LOFR Products by IMT • LUA catchup/ prior to transitions • Re-entry planning best practices and tools 	

Speaker Bios
<p>Sarah Fisher ↑ Deputy Chief, USDA Forest Service Fire and Aviation Management</p> <p>Sarah Fisher, Deputy Chief of the USDA Forest Service Fire and Aviation Management program, leads interagency coordination with her colleagues across the Department of the Interior and Tribal, state and local governments partners and industry stakeholders.</p> <p>Sarah is a servant leader who strives for excellence and believes strongly in the agency value of interdependence. A policy leader in the world’s largest wildland fire organization, she also collaborates with international partners on solutions to manage the global wildfire crisis.</p>

Sarah's passion for service has contributed to significant improvements in wildland fire and aviation management. She has also been an integral part of formulating corporate changes that are improving the health and wellbeing of the wildland firefighting community.

Her 32-year career has spanned all aspects of wildfire management with both the Department of the Interior and USDA Forest Service. Raised at the Grand Canyon, she began her career in 1989 with the National Park Service as a seasonal park ranger. In her National Park Service career, she played a significant role in wildland fire, all-hazard emergencies, and search and rescue operations. In 2002 she joined the USDA Forest Service at the National Interagency Fire Center in Incident Business Management, and she has served on incident management teams for over 20 years. In February of 2026, Sarah accepted the position of Deputy Chief, Fire and Aviation Management after serving as both the Director and Deputy Director of Fire and Aviation Management for the last four years.

Sarah earned her bachelor's degree in history at Arizona State University. She and her husband Chad currently live in Idaho with their two sons, Beckett and Asa, and their goldendoodle Charlie.

Chief Brian Fennessy

Director, U.S. Wildland Fire Service



Brian Fennessy is the inaugural Director of the U.S. Wildland Fire Service (USWFS), a newly established agency within the Department of the Interior tasked with unifying and modernizing federal wildland fire management programs.

With nearly five decades of experience in fire service leadership, Fennessy began his career in the late 1970s on elite federal hotshot crews under the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management as a crew superintendent before joining the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department in 1990, where he became Fire Chief in 2015.

In 2018, Fennessy assumed leadership of the Orange County Fire Authority, one of California's largest fire departments, where he championed aviation programs, technology integration, and mission-driven culture initiatives.

Since 2019, Fennessy served as Chair of the FIRESCOPE Board of Directors. In 2023, he was named the International Fire Chiefs Association (IAFC) 2023 Career Fire Chief of the Year and California Fire Chiefs Association (CalChiefs) Fire Chief of the year. Prior to accepting the DOI USWFS/Fire Chief position, he served as the President of the California Fire Chiefs Association.

As Director of USWFS, Fennessy oversees efforts to streamline decision-making, strengthen interagency coordination, and enhance wildfire response capabilities nationwide. His appointment reflects a commitment to operational excellence, firefighter safety, and community resilience during an era of increasingly severe wildfire seasons.

Greg Smith ("Smitty")

Fire Director, National Association of State Foresters (NASF)



Greg Smith, known by many as "Smitty," has served as the Fire Director for the National Association of State Foresters (NASF) since September 2023. He brings three decades of leadership and operational experience in wildland fire and emergency management to the role.

Prior to joining NASF, Greg dedicated 27½ years to the North Carolina Forest Service, where he most recently held the position of Mountain Division Director / Regional Forester. He also served as Incident Commander for the NC Forest Service Red Complex Incident Management Team, guiding responses to complex wildfire incidents and all-hazard emergencies.

Greg holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Forest Management from North Carolina State University. Before entering public service, he worked as a consulting forester in the private sector. Throughout his career with the NC Forest Service, he served in a wide range of wildland fire and forestry roles, including Agency Administrator and multiple Incident Command System (ICS) Operations and Planning positions.

With 30 years of experience in wildland fire and all-hazard incident response across the country, Greg has worked alongside both state and federal agencies on initial attack, extended attack, and large complex incidents. In his

current role, he represents the 50 State Forestry Agencies and U.S. Territories on the National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group (NMAC) and the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) Executive Board.

E Lynn Burkett



Vice President of Natural Resources, Western Area Power Administration

(Transmission Lines and Wildfire session)

E. Lynn Burkett brings extensive experience in natural resource management and public service. Prior to her current role, she dedicated 13 years to the U.S. Forest Service and 19 years to the Bureau of Land Management. Her most recent leadership roles included serving as the Director of Recreation, Lands, Minerals, and Cultural Resources for Region 2, and as the Lakeview District Manager.

A seasoned wildland firefighter since 1988, Ms. Burkett's field experience includes service on PNW II, Type I PIO, Type I LOFR, and as a National EMT.

Based in Lakewood, Colorado, Ms. Burkett enjoys skiing, hiking, hunting, culinary arts, and reading.

Alexis Waldron, PhD



Human Performance Specialist, FS-S&P-WO-Fire & Aviation Mgmt-Aviation, Ops & Risk Mgmt

(Wellness and Performance in Wildland Firefighting session)

Alexis is currently the Forest Service Health and Wellbeing Coordinator for wildland firefighters for the Forest Service. Prior to that she was a health and wellness program manager at the Washington Office and was a human performance specialist with the U.S. Forest Service for 7 years. Prior to that she was a seasonal wildland firefighter for 10 seasons on hand crews, helitack crews, and heli-rappel crews, and was on a trails crew for her first federal position in 2003. During her firefighting career she worked for the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and National Park Service, and was intricately involved in emergency management services. Alexis is skilled at facilitation, teaching, coaching and research. Based on research she has conducted with wildland firefighters on near misses/accidents, leadership, and employee well-being in land management agencies she has developed a drive to build and enhance trainings and tools based on what firefighters have expressed is important and needed. She has worked with employees across the Forest Service, DOI agencies, the private sector and elite level athletes on leadership, stress, compassion, mindfulness and performance. She has served as a human factors specialist and sensemaking team member on firefighting fatality incidents and also serves as an advisor to the NWCG Leadership Committee. Alexis holds a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Southern Utah University, a Master's of Science in Resource, Recreation, and Tourism from the University of Idaho, and a PhD from Oregon State University in Exercise and Sport Science - Psychology with minors in Forest Resources and Public Health - Occupational Health and Safety. She is also a level one nutrition coach, and certified master health coach. In her down time Alexis enjoys spending time outside, and with her husband and two daughters.

Micah Woodard, LICSW, BCD, CPHQ Commander, U.S. Public Health Service



Behavioral Health Officer- Great Basin/Northern Rockies Region

(Wellness and Performance in Wildland Firefighting session)

Micah Woodard is a licensed clinical social worker and senior behavioral health and quality improvement leader with extensive experience supporting high-risk, operational workforces. He specializes in stress regulation, resilience, and performance under pressure, translating behavioral science into practical, non-clinical tools that reduce stigma and strengthen individual, crew, and leadership readiness. He currently serves as the Great Basin and Northern Rockies Behavioral Health Officer as part of the Joint Agency Health and Well-Being Program.

Patricia O'Brien, PhD



Clinical Advisor, US Wildland Fire Service

(Cumulative Stress and Grief session)

Dr. O'Brien is a clinical psychologist and former career wildland firefighter. She currently serves as a clinical advisor for the US Wildland Fire Service in The Department of Interior. Prior to her work with DOI, she served as a clinician and

researcher in a variety of academic and healthcare settings, most recently with Veteran's Affairs PTSD Clinical Team in Portland, OR. Her work as a psychologist is informed by her 15+ years of service as a career wildland firefighter with the US Forest Service. She holds a PhD in Clinical Psychology and an MS in Health Promotion from the University of Montana.

Captain Layne Hilton, M.S. Educational Psychology
Behavioral Health and Wellness Officer, Unified Fire Authority



(Trauma Doesn't Affect Me and Other Lies that First Responders Tell Themselves)

Layne Hilton is a captain for the Unified Fire Authority. His educational background consists of his undergraduate degree in psychology from Weber State University and his master's degree from the University of Utah in Educational Psychology. He is a Clinical Mental Health Counselor specializing in trauma therapy.

Captain Hilton has been involved with public safety for over 30 years. He has served in several capacities for different agencies as a paramedic, hazardous materials technician, tactical medic, fire, haz-mat and EMS instructor and trainer, corrections counselor, law enforcement officer and as a therapist.

He is a former member of the Salt Lake County Sheriff's S.W.A.T. team. He has served on the Unified Fire Authority's Hazardous Materials Team, as the department's Medical Training Officer and his current assignment is as the Behavioral Health and Wellness Officer.

How to Get Credit for RT-130 Wildland Fire Safety Training Annual Refresher



Please review the qualification requirements for your position(s) to ensure RT-130 is required. Position qualifications can be found at: <https://www.nwccg.gov/positions/position-catalog>.

To receive a completion letter for RT-130, you must attend the following sessions AND document it in this [FORM](#) by April 3rd.

- General Session on Tuesday, March 31 from 0900–1330
- One Fire Shelter and Entrapment Avoidance session ([register here](#))
- Three additional sessions (Concurrent Sessions, Functional Breakouts, or General Session on Wed)

Federal employees and ADs will receive IQCS credit and a completion letter. Non-federal attendees will receive a completion letter via email. A Work Capacity Test will NOT be facilitated. Please coordinate that with your home unit.

Core component/Session list

Here is a list of how sessions will be counted toward the 5 Core Components required for RT-130:

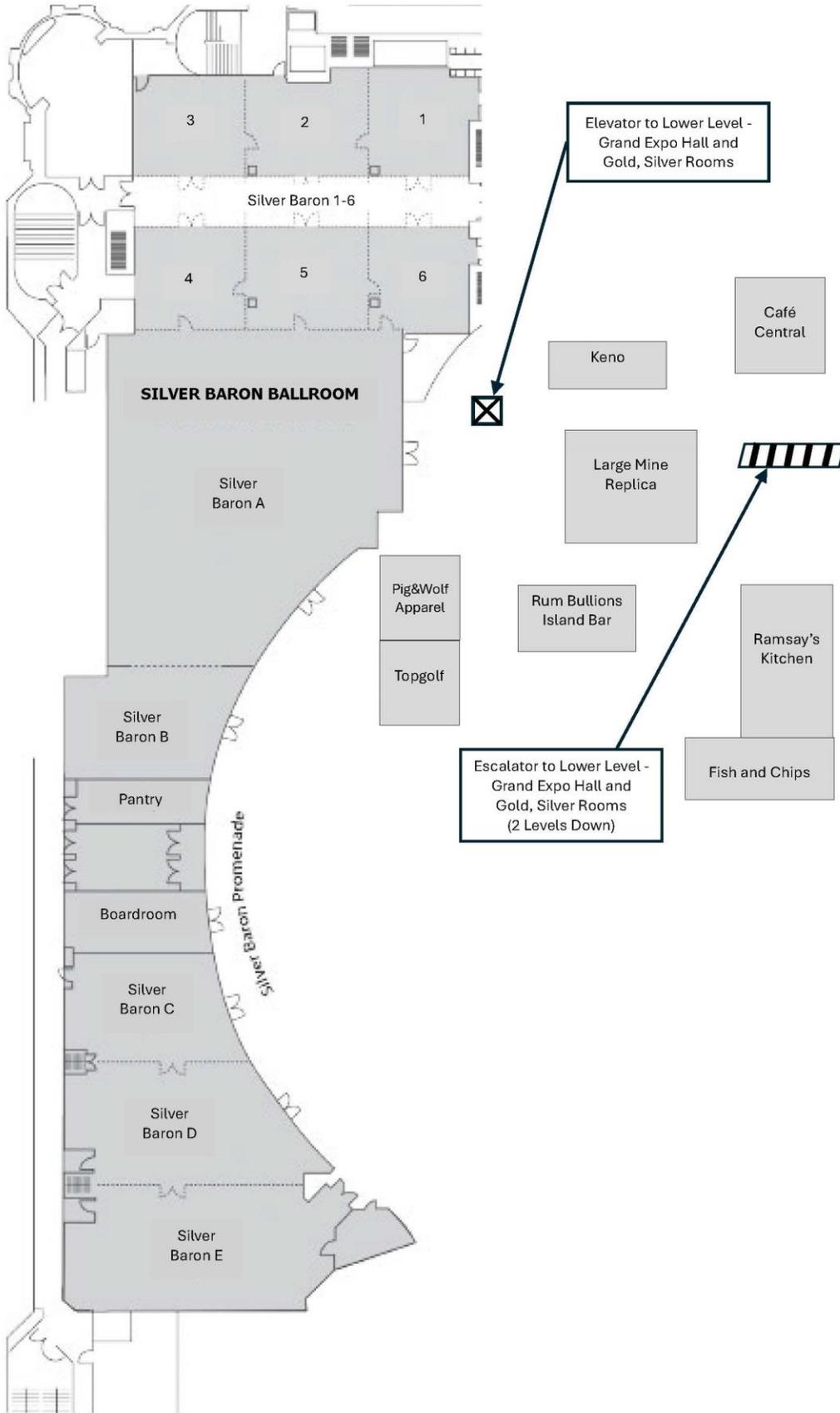
1. Local Topics
 - a. General Session on Tuesday, March 31 from 0900–1330
2. Incident Review/Lessons Learned
 - a. Any Functional Area Breakout
 - b. Any Concurrent Session
3. Fire and Aviation Operational Safety
 - a. Any Functional Area Breakout
 - b. Any Concurrent Session
4. Human Factors, Communications, Decision Making
 - a. Any Functional Area Breakout
 - b. Any Concurrent Session
5. Fire Shelter and Entrapment Avoidance
 - a. Attend one of the 5 sessions offered

Please direct any questions to Monica Morrison, monica.morrison@usda.gov.

SILVER LEGACY OVERFLOW/OUTDOOR PARKING CORNER OF SIERRA & 6TH ST



**SILVER LEGACY MEZZANINE LEVEL
SILVER BARON ROOMS A-E & 1-6**



SILVER LEGACY LOWER LEVEL
GRANDE EXPOSITION HALL, SILVER & GOLD ROOMS

