WHAT IS WESTON?
WestON is the Western States Occupational Network, which includes participants from 19 western states who are working in occupational safety and health (OSH). WestON was established in 2008 to help build state-based OSH capacity in the West. Western states share common priority OSH areas, such as mining, construction, wildland firefighting, oil and gas extraction, fishing and agriculture. Participants work in health departments, academic institutions, NIOSH-funded agricultural centers and Education and Research Centers (ERCs), state and federal government agencies, and other organizations. We have an annual face-to-face meeting that provides a unique opportunity to discuss common OSH issues and further develop collaborations and partnerships to enhance state-based epidemiology, surveillance, and prevention of work-related injuries and illnesses.

WHAT ARE WESTON ACTIVITIES?
• Providing program planning tools for establishing and building OSH epidemiology and surveillance capacity at both the state and regional levels
• Promoting multi-state scientific research collaborations among interdisciplinary colleagues in the West
• Developing and prioritizing research ideas for OSH risk assessment, applied epidemiology and worksite interventions
• Translating OSH research into practice
• Maintaining a WestON Listserv to inform members about ongoing OSH activities

HOW DO WESTON PARTNERS BENEFIT?
• Establish strategic relationships
• Obtain user-friendly tools to perform OSH surveillance activities
• Learn about ideas to develop interventions and inform policy change
• Address OSH issues through collaboration with new and existing partners
• Gain access to current OSH research, grant funding opportunities, travel and training resources, meeting announcements, and OSH intern programs

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?
If you would like to join the WestON Listserv to learn about OSH-related news and announcements, please email Nikka Sorrells at nsorrells@cste.org. For more information about our annual meetings, please contact Yvonne Boudreau at yboudreau@cdc.gov.

WestON Website: www.cste.org/WestON