
GA Editor WEBINAR – March 17th, 2016 – 1300 MT

1-888-844-9904, 9320471#

Call purpose: to share information between and amongst the GAEs and the RDA to promote coordination and information exchange to and from users

Roll Call:

Mitch Burgard, Diane Rau, Tom St. Clair, Shari Miller, Rick Stratton, Andrew Bailey, Clint Cross, Cody Wienk, Gwenan Poirier, Mark Group, Mark Nelson, Mesia Nieman, Michael Boomer, Peter Butteri, Rocco Snart, Bre Schuller, Morgan Pence

Note taker: Morgan Pence

Attachments:

- WFM RD&A Mentee/CWN flyer
- AA/Line Officer refresher Webinar info
- Action Items

Agenda Items

General- Morgan Pence

- AA/Line Officer Webinars March 24th and April 20th (attached in email)
- Outreach detail for Fire Application Specialist, open to all fed agencies- Morgan will email after the call
- WFM RD&A Mentee/CWN application is out (attached in email)
 - Mentee open to all fed agencies, CWN open to Fed/State/Local
- Send your WFDSS Training dates to Marlana
- Send us your WFDSS and Fire Behavior SOPs (email to Morgan).

RDA Program Manager- Tim Sexton

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Emerging Issues- All Call Participants

- Question about the use/purpose of SOPs and sharing. In the past the RDA has collected areas SOPs for the purpose of sharing in a communal spot for GA to be familiar with their neighbors SOPs and for the RDA so they can assist and help in a manner consistent with area preferences. SOPs have included info on how to obtain modeling support, modeling adjustments, decision preferences, etc.

General- Lisa Elenz

- An Objectives briefing paper with updated findings from the 2015 fire season should be posted by the end of the week to the Line Officer Resources page on the RDA site under the Incident Objectives Project heading

WFDSS Quick Tip – Ben Butler

- None today

WFDSS Updates - Mitch Burgard & Marlena Hovorka

- **Contract status:** Contract is awarded to Criterion. IBM is still overseeing daily WFDSS issues until April 3rd. Criterion will be responsible for the application start April 4th. IBM will shadow Criterion for the month of April. This means they will be available to assist Criterion as needed.
- **WFDSS outage:** April 11th there will be an outage for the fire behavior models. The models run on blade servers that require firmware updates for security. The updates must be done in person. EROS only allows people on site 8-5 CDT. We suspect it will be an all-day outage.
- **GA and Local Training:** due to unexpected outages such as the Blade Server maintenance, please continue to provide local training dates so they can be tracked for coordinating outage information. This information will continue to be tracked on the GAE calendar for coordinating outage, system support, and system issues.
- **GAE Calendar:** Do any of the GAEs use the calendar? Is there anything else the GAEs would like to see on the calendar?
- **WFDSS Release March 31st:** There will be a release of the application to ensure it is compatible with the RIWN release. The IRWIN release is scheduled for March 30th. The plan is to Deploy WFDSS production in the early hours of March 31st. WFDSS Training will be updated later in the day on March 31st as part of the transition of knowledge to Criterion. The application may be unavailable for a short time on the 31st. There will be a system message. The release will have ONLY functionality to changes to support IRWIN due to the contract transition limitations.

IRWIN Status – Andrew Bailey

- IRWIN V3 Status
 - IRWIN V3 will be released to WFDSS early on March 31st
 - The IRWIN observer console will be updated on the 30th and available on the 31st
 - Testing between applications and IRWIN is ongoing
 - IRWIN detailer Gabriella is leading a user group and creating a guide containing notes/directions regarding systems that interact with IRWIN. User can join the group without permissions- its on the Lessons learned site
- Link to current Data Exchange Environment User Guide (will prompt you to log in to Lessons Learned) <http://www.wildfirelessons.net/communities/community-home/librarydocuments/viewdocument?DocumentKey=e2ff97ba-f0b4-4836-8827-20a55d4ecf23>

Geospatial Data – Andrew Bailey/Ben Butler

- FMU/Strategic Objective shapes update
 - Due date was March 16th for April for SO/FMU. Approx. 15 units will be updated. Target date to get data in WFDSS early by Friday March 25th

- Next due date is April 15, its important to get your data to agency leads early, specifically FS asked for it to come in a minimum of a week early (April 8th)
- Next due date May 18th, no update scheduled for June, will be another in July
- Data refresh for March
 - Behind schedule, waiting on data from Feb. to come in.
 - Added two datasets to Production that have been in Training or in the works for a while
 - MTBS data (which had been in training but now also in prod) shows data back to 1984 by year up to 2014. This is a usual dataset in places where fire history is not so great. This is raster data so you will need to trace it if you want to make polygons, it's not selectable on the screen. Currently lacks AK and HI but Andrew will be working to have that added. A potential future enhancement may be the ability to query and select for example the "high" severity or other severities to make polygons for fire behavior modeling
 - Population data, LandScan data, based on population and nighttime lights data. It's under Infrastructure > Facilities > LandScan. Pixels are colored by density of people. This data will be included in Spatial Inventory, Values Inventory as "Estimated Population." This data will display on any of the features in WFDSS that provide a Values Inventory (i.e. FSPRO, origin, planning area, NTFB) AK and HI ARE included. Layer not available at greater Res than 1:54,000 as it's not a layer designed for tactical decision making looking down at the pixel by pixel layer, it is meant for strategic planning. Feedback is welcome on this data layer and its utility and limitations.

Spatial Fire Planning- Mark Hale

- Mark available to answer questions during call or offline as needed

Review Action Items- Morgan Pence

We have a lot of new Action Items, that combined with carry over ones, will be too many to discuss all on every call. I will rotate which ones to hit on each month. If I don't hit on one someone thinks we should for a given month just let me know. Suggested for this month are the following:

- 15-2 About NWCG Memos #005-2013 and #012-2011- See Action Items for Notes
- 15-9 About update to RD&A complexing decisions position paper and future changes to Incident Groups- See Action Items for notes
- 15-10 About Requiring Incident Objectives in Decisions or not- See Action Items for notes
- 15-13 About sharing analyses in Review- See Action Items for notes

Purpose: share coordination opportunities, anticipated fire activity and trainings, share feedback from WFDSS users, etc.

- Alaska: They submitted SO yesterday and is fuzzy on deadline. Andrew did get it and wasn't considering it as an FMU update, he viewed it at separate. Andrew will start working on those, possibly lump and package with some sage grouse data. Not a lot of snow is south side AK range and potential for early season
- Eastern:
- Great Basin: NV has nothing, Mesia nothing

- NoCal:
- SoCal:
- Northern Rockies: They are in progress on SFP for many units, training and refresher trainings are scheduled. They scheduled a regional AA refresher for those that can't make the RDA ones and will have NLOT representation. There will be another Sage Grouse update (last was end of 2014 and kept it through 2015). RDA still waiting on it from BLM via Kristy. The last Andrew heard from L. Barrett that there will not be national direction provided on FS land (units can add for own unit by MR), BLM will be different with possible national language but for now that will clip to BLM boundary.
- Northwest: nothing
- Rocky Mountain: WY has a decision published on a large fire, low moisture. FS still transitioning WFDSS from fuels to planning shop at RO. Has a SFP workshop that Mark Hale attended and was successful with follow up meeting for units. They have had a large number of turnover in AAs coupled with a few slow seasons back to back so will likely provide some additional AA briefings in addition to what the RDA is providing. Co. Springs utilities are asking about integrating their layers into WFDSS with regard to protection. So far have been handling local but they may seek national contacts with RDA. Andrew can be the contact for them from RDA.
- Southwest:
- Southern: Well into spring season, have had a few decisions published, drying will continue in southern Appalachians and coastal FL. May have some good training opportunities for folks

Next Call

- April 21st at 1300 MT

Main WFMRD&A contacts for WFDSS related items:

- WFDSS Enhancements/Releases: Mitch Burgard and Marlena Hovorka mburgard@fs.fed.us, mhovorka@fs.fed.us
- WFDSS Data: Andrew Bailey and Ben Butler Andrew_bailey@nps.gov, bbutler@fs.fed.us
- WFDSS Role Issues: National Editors, Lisa Elenz, Mitch Burgard, and Marlena Hovorka lelenz@fs.fed.us, mburgard@fs.fed.us, mhovorka@fs.fed.us
- IRWIN WFDSS liaison: Andrew Bailey Andrew_bailey@nps.gov
- WFDSS Spatial Fire Planning: Mark Hale, Marlena Hovorka, Diane Rau mahale@fs.fed.us, mhovorka@fs.fed.us, dianerau@fs.fed.us
- WFDSS Help Content and Training Resources: Diane Rau dianerau@fs.fed.us
- Active incident decision and analysis support: All NFDSC personnel, best to contact On Call Coordinator (208) 473-8107
- IFTDSS: Caroline Noble and Kim Ernstrom carolinelnoble@fs.fed.us, kim_ernstrom@nps.gov
- GAE call management: Morgan Pence morganpence@fs.fed.us
- When in doubt contact Lisa Elenz: lelenz@fs.fed.us

References

[Reference and Guidance](#) from www.wfmrda.nwccg.gov page

- Incident Objectives project
 - Briefing paper
 - Past Presentations
- Risk Assessment
 - Strategic Level Risk Assessments for Fire Behavior Specialists - WFDSS YouTube Channel

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- Example Decisions
 - Gold Pan
 - Salt Springs
 - Decision Making for Wildland Fire Incidents
 - GTR
 - WFDSS Related Documents
 - Wildland Fire Management Risk and Complexity Assessment
 - Complexing Fire Decision Documentation
 - Data Sharing Between Incident Tracking and Reporting Systems
 - Wildland Fire Decision Support Tools
 - Other References
 - NWCG Risk and Complexity Assessment
 - NWCG Official Memos

[GA Editor Resources](#) from www.wfmrda.nwcg.gov page

- [GAE Reference Guide](#)

[Line Officer Resources](#) from www.wfmrda.nwcg.gov page

- Line Officer Guide
 - Leaders Intent Documentation
 - Line Officer Guide and Templates
- Forest Service Agency Administrator Coach/Shadow Program
 - AA Certification Guide
 - Pathways Diagram
 - USFS Learning Action Plan
 - USFS AA Hubbard Memo
- Incident Objectives Project
- WFDSS Refresher Training Recommendations for AA's
- Decision Making for Wildland Fire Incidents - GTR
- USFS Fire Response Protocols

“What Fire Behavior Specialists Need to Know About WFDSS” posted under the [Modeling Learning Resources](#) on the “WFDSS Training” page.

- “What You Need to Know About WFDSS” posted under the [Decision Learning Resources](#) on the “WFDSS training” page.