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Wildland Fire Management RD&A

GA Editor WEBINAR – April 21th, 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:

Ben Butler, Bre Schueller, Harold Riggs, Jason Fallon, Jennifer Anderson, Jeremy Sisneros, Mark Nelson, Peter Butteri, Rich Sterry, Rick Stratton, Thomas St. Clair, Tonja Opperman, Morgan Pence, Marlana Hovorka, Andrew Bailey, Brian Sorbel, Phil Bowden, Michael Boomer, Diane Rau, Mark Hale

Note taker: Tonja Opperman

Attachments:

- Updated Objectives Project document
- Action Items

Agenda Items

General- Morgan Pence

- Welcome new FS Region 9 GAEs: Steve Goldman and Raymond Parrish
- GAE transitions—let us know if there are such transitions in your area so the RD&A can help get people oriented to mailing lists, user roles/privileges (email Lisa Elenz, lelenz@fs.fed.us). The RD&A removes GAE role for those no longer operating as GAEs because we have to pass random security audits. If you need a backup GAE for your area, contact Lisa/Marlana/Morgan so we can assess the situation in your area; we encourage GAEs from the same area to work together regardless of agency.
- Incident Objectives Project Briefing paper updated with 2015 findings, included as attachment and posted to WFM RD&A website along with power point presentation. This was included to the email attachment for this call, but is also on the RD&A website.
http://www.wfmrda.nwcg.gov/docs/BriefingPaperFindings04_08_2016.pdf
- Paper WFDSS update—this will be posted soon to both the WFDSS and RD&A sites as a “fillable” form. Marlana is working on this and we will keep you posted on progress.
- NFDRS changes—Dan Mindar (RD&A) is also a member of the Fire Danger Subcommittee, so if there are impacts to WFDSS we hope to know about them ahead of time. We will add agenda items as needed and have Dan on this call if needed. We may not see changes to NFDRS until next fall/winter.
- GAE Calendar—from the WFDSS home page, see link on the Right side of the screen. Yes, we do use this calendar and it is functional again. It is a place to share info relevant to GAE editors (send info to Morgan Pence and/or Marlana Hovorka). It is helpful for RD&A to know when planned WFDSS refreshers are taking place so an update is not pushed at that time. GAEs cannot post directly due to the way it is set up through Firenet.
- Send your WFDSS Training dates to Marlana and/or Morgan.



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- Send us your WFDSS and Fire Behavior SOPs (email to Morgan)—FYI, Mark Hale is gathering the ones that the RD&A has, and we will get them posted for all GAEs to see.

RDA Program Manager- Tim Sexton

- n/a

Emerging Issues- All Call Participants

- n/a

General- Lisa Elenz

- Summary of AA/Line Officer Webinars—there were two (March 24 and April 20), the first was generic (130, 127 registrants). They were shorter (30 minutes). How did they go for your line officer? Lisa Elenz is seeking feedback on the format, content, timing, etc.
- The sessions were recorded and will soon be posted to the RD&A website.

WFDSS Quick Tip – Ben Butler

- n/a

WFDSS Updates - Mitch Burgard & Marlana Hovorka

- Contract status—new vendor is Criterion. Daily transition calls are occurring between Criterion and IBM. Starting May 4, Criterion will be on their own w/no IBM backup. Some software upgrades may still be done by IBM so that we can move forward with bugs and fixes that could not be accomplished with the outdated software.
- Frequently received Helpdesk questions—password resets are the most common right now. Cleaning up 2015 incidents is still occurring. Fire activity in the Southern Region is picking up. Reminder that Owners can delete Approvers no longer needed on a Decision.

IRWIN Status – Andrew Bailey

- IRWIN Status—Integrated data exchange applications (IDEAs)—a group of SMEs for IRWIN to build capacity in diagnosing problems or opportunities in data exchange. Gwenan Poirier and Paul Gellerstead will be the WFDSS representatives. They will have calls once per month.
- Version 3 was pushed and will better handle duplicate incidents.
- Wildcads are moving over, so there have been a few duplicates as overlap in systems occurs.
- Andrew is primary contact for IRWIN, but Morgan and Reggie are also helping diagnose IRWIN-related issues.
- WFDSS Feedback is the fastest way to get the right help for an IRWIN-related issue.

Geospatial Data – Andrew Bailey/Ben Butler

- Fire Wx Zones, TNC, Land ownership, and BLM range allotments were updated recently.
- Data sent to Criterion for loading includes: campgrounds, USFS buildings, BLM Admin Boundaries, BLM horse/burro, AK jurisdictional boundary, and AK Fire mgmt. options, and AK Statewide mgmt. requirements.



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- Data on the way for the next round: BLM sage-grouse habitat, fire retardant avoidance for aquatic and terrestrial, responsible agency, predictive service areas, fuel treatments, historic fire perimeters, NPS buildings.
- FMU/Strategic Objective shapes update—we got the data last week; should be loaded by early next week. Andrew read off several national forests with pending updates. The next update is due to your agency lead by May 11 and to WFDSS by May 18 and loaded by June 1. We have been doing 1 upload/mo since January. There will be a summer break in the data upload schedule, which is posted online.

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:

- 14-2 About Landscan data, marked complete
- 14-5 and 14-6, About DOA template
- 15-6 About Line Officer webinar, marked complete
- 15-10 About requiring Incident Objectives

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

- Alaska: it's human-start grass fire season in the south; snow continuing in north.
- Eastern: n/a
- Great Basin: n/a
- NoCal: Larry retired; Phil Bowden and Jennifer Anderson will fill in for now.
- SoCal: n/a
- Northern Rockies: n/a
- Northwest: no update.
- Rocky Mountain: Q Will there be a 2016 Line Officer Reference Guide? Yes, it is in progress, and close to final—should be out soon. Q Some people applied for CWN/Mentee program—will they be notified? Mentees will be notified at end of May. CWN people are just called when we need help. Working on SOPs and getting internal regional processes updated for FS. Nebraska NFs will do spatial fire management training. Arapaho Roosevelt will be doing WFDSS training. Hands-on WFDSS demo for a grant program on the Pike SI.
- Southwest: no update.
- Southern: Lots of activity, have a decision support center (DSC); Mark Hale has been on-call for the RD&A/NFDSC and has helped them find people to staff the DSC.

Next Call

- May 19th at 1300 MT



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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.nwcg.gov page

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



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- 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.