

February 2020

- **Reminders**
 - Our next call is April 16th, 1300-1400 Mountain Time
 - Send your area's WFDSS Refresher dates to Morgan morgan.pence@usda.gov or Diane diane.rau@usda.gov. We add these to the [WFDSS GA and Training Calendar](#). We will try to avoid impacts to WFDSS during training and reach out if we become aware of a planned impact.
 - We post the reboot schedule to the GAE Calendar. Reboots impact Training and Production once every 4 weeks in which they go down for approx. 1 hour. Prod is done at 0400 and Training usually at 2200 Mountain Time. Additionally, WIMS and IRWIN connections are impacted once a month for approx. 1 hour.
 - The RDA and NLOT will host an **Agency Administrator Refresher April 9th at 1200 Mountain Time**. Flyer with registration is attached, please distribute.

- **NEW GAE Welcome:** Goodbye to Doug Alexander, Lucas Minton, Jason Dollard, and Ken Schmid (retired/changed agency/job). Welcome Lisa Saperstein FWS for AK and Shawn Kelley BIA for Eastern.

- **RDA Staffing**
 - RDA has filled two fire technology transfer specialist vacancies: Trevor Miller and Rick Mowery. Welcome to the RDA team!
 - RDA is working through the hiring process for a GIS/Data specialist vacancy

- **Common Issues and Resolution**
 - We try to keep the Known Issues current (WFDSS Homepage on the Top of the page AND right hand menu under Hot Picks).
 - As bugs are reported we add them to Known Issues and list any known work arounds. As we fix bugs we remove from the list.

- **WFDSS O&M Update/Status**
 - The next WFDSS release is March 4th, 0400-0600 Mountain. WFDSS will be unavailable during this time (this is posted to the GA and Training calendar)
 - This release addresses a few high priority and many medium and low priority bugs AND ensures WFDSS is on track to work with IRWIN Version 6 (which will be released March 9th).
 - Ensures WFDSS will read/exchange incidents with relationship types other than conflict.
 - Adds the ability for WFDSS National Editors to clear incidents from quarantine and remove associated conflict relationships for WFDSS created incidents.

- **IRWIN Updates**
 - IRWIN Version 6 release planned for March 9th, it incorporates IROC, IQCS, and INFORM
 - WFDSS changes are minimal, but there are a few:
 - Incidents will continue to stay in synch with IRWIN, even if the type changes to a non-Wildfire type (Rx or "Other:").

- In previous versions, if a wildfire incident in WFDSS changed type, whether that change occurred in WFDSS or in another application connected to IRWIN, WFDSS would cease exchanging data until the incident became a wildfire again.
 - If an incident is created in WFDSS as an “Other” or “Rx” type, it will not be sent to IRWIN unless its type is changed in WFDSS to a Wildfire. This remains the same as earlier versions.
 - Tools for National Editors have been enhanced to improve our ability to resolve duplicates and other data issues.
 - If an incident is “Certified” in the INFORM final fire reporting application, a message will appear to users at the top of the incident information screen. Most data elements will be greyed out when an incident is certified, as the INFORM app becomes most authoritative for data associated with final fire reports. If needed, records can be “Un-Certified” in INFORM Inspector by appropriate fire reporting officials, such as an FMO.
- **Geospatial Data**
 - 2020 Data Refresh is underway
 - Updated layers in Production: Administrative boundaries for NPS, USFS, FWS
 - Updated layers queued to be loaded: County boundaries, FWS Critical Habitat
 - Layers on deck for late February and March: Wilderness Boundaries, Mines, USFS Buildings, NPS Buildings, Communication Towers, National Scenic Byways, National Historic Trails, National Recreation Trails, National Scenic Trails, BLM Oil/Gas Leases, BLM Range Allotments, BLM Horse and Burro Areas, Jurisdictional Agencies and Units (sans Alaska), Fire Weather Zones, GACC boundaries.
 - FMU/Strategic Objective shapes
 - February update (v57) to be loaded by 2/26: Bureau of Reclamation - Pacific Northwest Region, BLM Nevada, Yosemite National Park, Olympic National Park.
 - Next FMU update schedule to be loaded on 4/1. Data should be delivered to your Agency Fire GIS lead by 3/11 to ensure that data are loaded on time.
 - Full 2020 schedule
here: https://wfmrda.nwccg.gov/SpatialData/Docs/FMU_Update_Sched.html
- **WFDSS Next Gen Update/Status**
 - We hoped to have the website up and running to post frequent updates, but are still waiting on some red tape to make that happen. Thanks for your patience.
 - Sam, Erin, and Tonja met with the EAS Team (the software developers) in early February to draft how current WFDSS works from start to finish. This is not because we are re-inventing the “old” WFDSS, but because the current contract was written to build the same *functionality* in NextGen and we have to get the

processes down on paper so we can see where to improve the workflow, the user interface, and the way NextGen will “talk” to outside services (weather, landscapes, LRMPs, etc). Reeve Armstrong joined us to represent DOI in the absence of a dedicated DOI Product Owner.

- We are looking forward to receiving some “[wireframes](#)” from developers soon. When we have those, they will be shared with you for feedback.
- Staffing: We have finalized an Organization Chart for NextGen development oversight. Some that are of interest to GAEs might be
 - System Owners (high-level business case funding) Tim Sexton (USFS) and Kim VanHemelryck (DOI);
 - Product Owners (dedicated to daily oversight and approval of all product deliverables) Sam Amato, Erin Noonan-Wright, and Tonja Opperman ; DOI-specific Product Owner--unstaffed at this time;
 - User Groups are being assembled now based on responses to the form sent two weeks ago and areas/bureaus that are not well-represented will be highlighted to seek more involvement;
 - Subject Matter Experts who will work on the NextGen Team as the needs arise are:
 - Tami Parkinson: Cohesive Strategy
 - Diane Rau: Documentation
 - Morgan Pence: WFDSS Administration
 - Erin Noonan-Wright, Sam Amato: Analysis
 - Erin Noonan-Wright, Nicole Vaillant: Relative/Quantitative Risk
 - Mitch Burgard, Reggie Goolsby: Fire Modeling Services Framework
 - Tonja Opperman: Decision Process
 - Bre Scheuller: IFTDSS components for re-use in WFDSS
 - Andrew Bailey, Ben Butler: GIS and Data Management