



Integrating
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Wildland Fire Management RD&A

GA EDITOR WEBINAR – July 19, 2012 – 1300 MDT

Call # 888-858-2144 Code# 9320471

Agenda Items

Roll Call – Laurie Kurth, Lisa Elenz, Tami Parkinson, Marlena Hovorka, Ben Butler, Jan Passek, Ken Schmid, Kim Ernstrom, Mitch Burgard, Michael Boomer, Brett Fay, Caroline Noble, Gwenan Poirier, Jason Loomis, Kevin Knauth, Larry Hood, Linda Kerr, Mark Hale, Morgan Pence, Phil Bowden, Reeve Armstrong, Rich Sterry, Shari Miller, Stu Hoyt, Tonja Opperman

Action Items from GA Editor AAR - Lisa

- FS – Memo to implement the 2 WFDSS memos from NWCG, the memos came out on June 21st, Memos include “Timing of Publishing a Decision, and Cover Memo for Line Officer Roles and IMT’s.”
 - R5 received the Memos – The cover letter for the memo provided more emphasis to the field for use. Lisa will send these out to the Editors.

WFDSS Updates Rob/Marlena

- Rob – Analysis available to restart after failure - ability to reassign a failed analysis within WFDSS, you are routed back to a button that will allow you to go back into your failed analysis and fix the issues and rerun the analysis.
- Better messages or feedback associated with the error messages
- Resetting the GIS when shapes aren’t working - Within the upcoming release - GIS saving shapes, upgrading GIS software, trying to upgrade to ARC 10.1 which will help mitigate some of the known issues.
- Relative risk and Organization needs Assessment will automatically upload into the Incident Content tree and can be added to the decision as needed or warranted. This is intended to assist with the FLAME act process/requirements – this is not automatically included in the decision so folks will need to include it their decisions
- Troubles with publishing - Problems with putting a decision into review status, try it twice and if you are still having issues give a call.
- Alaska folks still not getting their maps within their decisions.
- Marlena – continue to work on WFDSS update items with the contracts.
- Predictive Services – National Layer is now available within the map pages, in addition there is also a link within the specific fire information, it provides a 7 day significant fire potential that is pulled directly from predictive services. We will work to update the legends so they match the symbols of predictive services. Trying to make sure our terminology matches that from predictive services
 - The L’s on the map are for lightning



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- Slow internet connection feedback – Typically isn't WFDSS, most likely the server that folks are working from, internet connections are slow.... Be patient
- Geospatial FMP - Interagency Fire Planner Committee (IFPC) is working with DOI agencies to make recommendations regarding Spatial FMP concept, FS - R3 forests are working on a spatial fire management concept to better represent their data spatially. The forests who are updating their forest plans are good candidates to evaluate going to more of a spatial representation of their FMP. The Cibola is one of the forests working on this concept.

WFDSS Training & Help

- Can we have some feedback from the WFDSS 101 lessons? Are they useful? Lesson 18 dealing with decision editor will be posted this week
 - Jason Loomis – PNW finds this information very helpful and is sharing this with the field.
- Videos posted to the YouTube site are also a great reference please provide us feedback.

Geospatial Data Ben

- When will the duplication of historical fires be removed? Currently it is in Fire related and Disturbance History
 - The duplication of these data sets can be controlled from the My Home > System Preferences menu. The wild fire history can appear in the fire related and/or disturbance history (or not at all if you choose).
 - This is not the only layer that can appear in more than one category. Several of the trails layers can appear in more than one category. The same process for eliminating the “duplication” outlined above can be utilized with these layers.
 - The My Home > System Preferences window within the application allows you to customize which of the data sets you would like to see in the layer tree (and in some cases where you would like to see them). This is an under-used tool and can possibly help slim down the long list in the layer tree.
 - The inconsistent naming of these data sets in the layer switcher has caused some confusion and we are in the process of making the names match.
- Will fuels treatments be available this season?
 - about 80% through with cleaning this data, available in training, trying to make sure we have the most authoritative data, should be completed before the end of fire season.
- FMU updates due July 31
 - If you have updates, changes, submissions etc. Please coordinate submissions through your agency's representative on the [WFDSS GIS Team](#)
 - See the [Data Page](#) on the WFDSS Website for the FMU data Standard, update schedule and data downloads.
- Unit ID
 - WFDSS continues to validate against NWCG active list, some of this has stabilized, but this continues to be an issue that requires attention.



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- OIS – new system to house the Unit ID's – We continue to track information surrounding this new system and are working to learn more. If folks have information regarding this new system please share as we are working to determine the changes that will need to be made with regard to ingesting, validating, and maintaining the WFDSS Unit ID Tables.
- Fire fighter evacuation layer
 - Working with NPS, how to display it within the application, 3-4 bands to determine the ground medevac for the entire country, 1-2 hours 2-4 hours, 4-6 hours, greater than 6 hours.

Miscellaneous

- National Significance Status – how is it obtained and does approval authority change when there is nationally significant?
 - Doesn't change how you do business in the field, flagged because we are tracking some of the information and data flow. Doesn't affect how business is being done.
 - Part of this is for the FLAME act
 - Field recommendation is to look at changing the name of the flagging from "Nationally Significant" to something else
 - Need to flag the Flat fire in R5
- Ideas for WFDSS improvements send to Lisa – can items to be completed be highlighted on the information page; rationale should have it's own tab, not be solely with the decision tab
 - These will become part of the AAR in the fall
 - Please look at the notes from last year's AAR to see what items have been carried forward to make sure your recommendations are captured within the past notes, if it isn't captured please forward your feedback to Lisa so it is capture for the fall 2012 AAR
 - Messages that pop up indicating that you need to go back and finish up some key areas within your documentation
 - Users were wanting a roadmap or a checklist of items that need to be covered before finishing up their decision
- Values – Marlana
 - How values are displayed, there were 3 options presented by Marlana
 - Send your feedback to Marlana as to which values display is most appropriate.
 - Need your feedback by July 30th send it directly to Marlana – Marlana will send out the screen capture of the 3 options.
- When you time out, you have to log in twice with log in and password.
 - Refresh your WFDSS page, however one person stated that even though I refresh I still have to log in twice
 - This is a frustration within the field
 - This is a recognized "bug" but the fix is a lower priority than other items.
- Smoke dispersion forecasts



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- We are working on trying to update the tabular data to provide something that is more useable in a narrative form.
- New feature in WFDSS – avoidance layers, would come in as a Management Requirement – would this be something to include within WFDSS
 - Retardant avoidance layer caused issues in R5, this layer doesn't include all of the buffered water ways
 - Would rather insert these layers in spatially from the regional level.
- If your unit is interested in including a national layer of sage grouse you should submit your interest to Doug Havalina.

GA Editor Feedback - All

- Your opportunity to share information
 - Alaska - None
 - Northwest – granting privileges to non-agency personnel, FEMA? Aitor Bidaburu
 - Northern California – started a document to give folks ideas about decision rationale, first decision to an extended fire to help the field include the appropriate amount of information.
 - Southern California
 - Western Great Basin - None
 - Eastern Great Basin – Echo the rationale items, state director is raising some concern about the lack of information in the rationale section, so working on including the appropriate amount of information and documentation.
 - Please share language to BLM in Montana when completed
 - Northern Rockies – took Tom Harbour's message to heart for folks to write a good rationale, and document their decision appreciate assistance from Marlena and Mitch, Ken Schmid – things are going well, have received some great help from Reeve and Ben Butler
 - Rocky Mountain - None
 - Southwest - None
 - Eastern – Echo California and Northern Rockies, more folks looking at WFDSS
 - Southern - None

Action Items/ Follow Up

- Next Call – GA Editor AAR / Meeting – August 16, 2012, 1300 MDT
- Lisa - send out the 2 WFDSS Memos
 - Need to flag the Flat fire in R5
- ALL - Need your feedback on values information by July 30th send it directly to Marlena – Marlena will send out the screen capture of the 3 options.
- ALL – review 2011 AAR notes for items that you feel should be “fixed” within WFDSS, forward new suggestions or concerns to Lisa Elenz as soon as possible. There will be an opportunity to discuss during the 2012 Fall AAR.



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