



Integrating
science, technology,
and fire management.

Wildland Fire Management RDA

GA LEAD WEBINAR – February 16, 2012 – 1200 MDT

Call # 888-858-2144 Code# 9320471

Agenda Items

Roll Call – Amanda McAdams, Brett Fay, Dan Mindar, Jason Loomis, Mitch Burgard, Morgan Pence, Rich Sterry, Marlana Hovorka, Ryan Whiteaker, Russ Babiak, Jessica Wade, Michael Boomer, Brenda Wilmore, Laurie Kurth, Shari Miller, Caroline Noble, Mesia Nyman, Ben Butler, Larry Hood, Linda Kerr, Marsha Henderson, Nancy Lee Wilson, Marva Willey, Ann RysSikora, Rob Seli, Janis Hancock, Kevin Knauth, Harold Riggs

Action Items from GA Editor AAR

- AAR Action Items List –
 - IMT role in WFDSS – Harold
 - Lisa will take document to NWCG in January
Lisa took to NWCG and had broad level support and a couple minor concerns that it was diminishing the line officer reach. They will clean up and make sure intent is clear and keep it moving forward. 50/50 chance of it approving today.
 - ONA - Amanda/Lisa
Thanks for the feedback. No one had issues with the minor changes for this year. Broad consensus that difference between short and long T2 should be combined to just T2, mixed feedback on adding T4 and T5. Lot of concern as to if and how larger changes were vetted. Lisa and Amanda will do some more data gathering on who looked at it. Concerns over perceptions as to why 'WFDSS' people are driving it and not Ops. Not sure on status of it moving forward at this point.
 - Communication on role of fire managers in WFDSS – Harold
 - Waiting on IMT role document
No update
 - Security issues – Marsha/Lisa
We left it with Lisa going to talk to Dan and get his take on it.

WFDSS Updates –Rob/Marlana

- WFDSS demo – new deployment
 - *Release new version of WFDSS yesterday and today*
 - *Have changed the availability of RAWs stations. Instead of waiting for SOW to be entered by dispatch offices, it will now use an automated SOW so will increase RAWs access when it used to drop off after 3 days of no SOW entry.*
 - *A map is now automatically added to the MAP under COA in a decision.*
 - *Wind vectors are now available for STFB in a KMZ so you can download them and put in Google Earth.*
 - *Versioning- in an effort to improve the decision editor it now saves versions of decision every time you hit the save button, so that you could go backward is data got corrupted.*



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Under a content page you can select the different versions of a page. It could get complicated with multiple users and over a long period of time. Once a decision is published the versions are removed and can no longer be accessed. If you are interested in playing with it call Rob, Marlena, or Mitch, as it is 'hidden' right now from users and will evaluate it to see if it should be made common knowledge to users or wait until issues arise.

- *WFDSS Lite- html based version of WFDSS designed for mobile devices. The Navigation is very different; it just includes the main big buttons and functions. No maps or analysis outputs are accessible, just the basics. Should be ready by end of month for full use. You can't create a decision from the Lite, you already have to have the pieces built to view from the lite program. Approvers can approve a decision in Lite, and the email approvers receive will contain two links, one for Approving in the full version of WFDSS and one in Lite.*
- **Status of spatial FMP**
 - *We have been working with the Payette to spatially represent their spatial FMP. Ryan (NPS) has been working on this for his area too. Park Service is testing a few more units and FS has some interest in a few more places. On the Payette we used their MPCs for the FMUs in WFDSS to avoid redundancy and utilized unit wide FMUs where necessary, utilized different shapes for strategic direction and allowed restrictive shapes to overlap (no dip streams/squirrel habitat restrictions, etc). DOI is doing their's a little different with different shapes for Objectives and Requirement (constraints).*

WFDSS Roles

- **Fire Behavior Specialist/Super Analyst Roles (450 FB analysts which is 5% of users and 63 Super Analysts)**
 - **Issue – WFDSS system issues resulting from SA**

Issue is that SA have a lot of power/authority. Large/complex runs can be completed, and now that we have hundreds of SAs and they don't all understand the ramifications of creating large complex runs that a couple times a year crash the system. Regular Analysts are limited to the size of the landscape they can run so it is avoided with those individuals. Options: 1) Make all analysts able to view each others work, 2) prohibit SA from doing large complex runs, 3) give training to SA so they understand the issue

How many times are SA role granted just so someone can see someone else's run as it is cumbersome to give them viewer access to each run?

Linda and others R1, 4, 5- can't grant those priv. and no one has asked through her- once users understand roles usually fine

Do you frequently get requests to view runs that aren't complete? Yes, and are dealt with by granting viewer priv. to the runs they want to see.

If we made it possible for a regular analyst to look (not edit) a run regardless of status would that help? Concern that some analysts would be looking at runs that they maybe aren't assigned to get involved where not needed.

Has this developed because runs stay in the system forever?

Identify which users are crashing system and work to solve problem at that point and not allow regular analysts to view all runs regardless of status. Ability to grant analysis



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viewer priv. would not change. This would include not granting SA role 'on a whim.'
RDA will review who has the role and evaluate revoking and/or training as needed.

- Is the ability to see others' analyses the main reason for SA
- If that ability is granted, then would there be fewer SA
- Other reasons for SA role

WFDSS Training & Help – Marlena

- Website changes – Marlena
 - Website/Help was just updated. Updated the training page. It is organized in a different manner. New section called WFDSS 101 with lessons that begins at creating a incidents and covers a variety of topics. Each lesson is a quick pdf. And a time estimate is provided about how long each section takes. Question marks throughout application link to help topic related to section of the application. There is not a help topic for the decision versions section- going to wait for feedback and see how it is used before writing the Help.
- Training needs or scheduled training? – group
 - Let Marlena know if you are having training in WFDSS so she can make sure there won't be a conflict.

Miscellaneous

- NWCG committees – Executive Assistants needed – submit names to Lisa
- If you know of people that are interested in getting involved on a committee in this capacity let Lisa know.

GA Editor Feedback - All

- Your opportunity to share information
 - AK- FB workshop first week in March
 - Eastern-
 - Eastern GB- nothing
 - Nor/SoCal- nothing
 - Northern Rockies- WFDSS workshop/101 April 24th/25th
 - Pac Northwest- nothing
 - Rocky Mt- WFDSS line officer training April 25th (webinar)
 - Southern- WFDSS training May 14th/15th in Atlanta
 - Southwest- 1- We are in the process of gleaning down the FBS on the production side and the current list will probably go down about 5-8 more people. 2- The WFDSS committee almost has an AOP done for this year and will show to SWCG soon for comments/approval.
 - Western GB- will send training dates to Marlena
 - BIA (nationally) will be doing a decision webinar, no dates identified yet

Action Items/ Follow Up

- Next Call – GA Editor AAR / Meeting – March 15, 2012 Call will be at **1300 Mountain Time**