



Integrating
science, technology,
and fire management.

Wildland Fire Management RDA

GA LEAD WEBINAR – January 19, 2012 – 1300 MDT

Call # 888-858-2144 Code# 9320471

Agenda Items

Attendance:

Eastern – Mark Hale
NR – Shari Miller, Rich Sterry, Ken Schmid
No CA – Marva Willy
So CA – Larry Hood
RM – Brenda Wilmore, Gwenan Poirier, Linda Kerr, John Barborinas
Southern – no attendee
SW – Linda Kerr
WGB – Mark Grupe
EGB – Amanda McAdams, Mesia Nyman
NW - no attendee
Alaska – Jan Passeck, Marsha Henderson
NIFC – Doug Havlina, Nancy Lee Wilson
WFM RDA - Ben Butler, Kim Ernstrom, Morgan Pence, Rob Seli, Lisa Elenz, Tami Parkinson

House Keeping: Tom Zimmerman retired at the first of the year, Lisa detailed in behind him. Laurie Kurth is now the coordinator for the GA Editor conference calls replacing Lisa as she takes on the additional duties in her detail.

Action Items from GA Editor AAR – (Review the AAR notes for additional information)

- AAR Action Items List –
 - Communication on role of fire managers in WFDSS
 - Waiting on IMT role document to be completed, Amanda will assist Harold with this document.
 - IMT role in WFDSS
 - Lisa presented this to NWCG January 18th, there was some feedback, Amanda will help coordinate the responses and have that completed by January 30th, hoping to have it to the field by February.
 - Organizational Needs Assessment
 - Feedback from field users indicated the ONA was over predicting the organizational needs, a type 3 organization was never the output on fires from 2011.
 - Every fire in R4 was reading too high, (this was also found on fires in other GA's) therefore justification was needed to scale down the organizational needs.
 - There is concern that if the outputs are consistently over predicting that the field will not rely on the outputs of the tool.



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- Amanda took a cursory look at the chart and determined that the “decision concerns” may have been overrated. To help compensate she tried broadening the area between Low to Moderate; and Moderate to High; as well as making the type 3 organization a larger piece of the chart.
 - Had these initial changes reviewed by IC’s and some field representatives but needs additional review.
 - These tweaks provide a little more credibility to the ONA
 - How do we want to go further, or do we need too?
 - A recommendation was to add the T4 and 5 organization, get rid of the differentiation between the long and short teams as roles of teams are changing, we need to be careful to not go too far...
 - We could run with what we have for now (Amanda’s recommendations), and make further changes next year
 - Having the type 4 and 5 organization would allow units to scale down late season fires.
 - There is a concern that we trying to merge too many of the needs assessments into one document, this one in WFDSS was to replace the IMT needs assessment.
 - All of our guidance needs to be linked between Redbook, WFDSS, IRPG etc and since the Redbook revisions are completed we may have to wait till next year.
 - Can we get a small group to test this out through the field season, and then propose for changes into WFDSS, and NWCG next fall?
 - Do we want to spend limited funding in WFDSS for a 1 year change...
 - Run this draft by additional operational folks for review and feedback
 - Amanda will send to GA editors for feedback/concerns including but not limited to the discussion documented above.
 - Provide feedback by COB February 6th.
- State and Local Issues
 - Security issue – Marsha to take to NWCG state reps February deadline
 - Federal systems are complicated, not unique to WFDSS, interagency group is trying to come up with solutions
 - Will state employees take on some of the workload that the GA editors are doing at this time, tracking the security training for those folks.
 - NWCG state reps probably won’t designate a state person to do this, due to time restraints etc.



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- Lisa will take this up with Dan (last name) to see what the options are for State reps...
- Security requirements for tribal/non-fed access
 - None of this will change this year
- Access to fire behavior tools
 - Work with S495 and S590 course
 - We need to provide these students access to the WFDSS training and production so they can go in and view different fires as required in their prework. Viewer access is all they need.
 - These are problematic for some of the GA editors because they don't know who is who from the State.
- WFDSS text notifications – GA editors should have received a test text on Tuesday January 17th, if you didn't receive the text or you didn't give your name to Lisa, let Laurie know and she will work to get you added to the list.
- Fire behavior request button - will stay for this next year
- Decision Support Centers
 - Expectation letter
- Pre-season training
 - Let Marlena know of your preseason trainings that way Marlena can help coordinate the planned WFDSS updates, or communicate to training folks planned outages.

WFDSS Updates –Rob

- New release at end of February, only behind the scene fixes or bugs.
 - Trying to fix the NDFD weather bug by rebuilding the entire NDFD feed into WFDSS tools, some successes
 - There are now multiple levels of undo's within a decision, can go back to previous versions
 - Will demo next call
 - Help icons on decision and content trees
- WFDSS lite is out for iPhone or Droids, this application includes no maps, no editing but can change password, approve decisions, periodic assessments, it is limited functionality but provides some mobility for users.

WFDSS Helpdesk Transition

- Trading water this year, will need to spend time with the help desk training folks during the actual fire season.

WFDSS Training & Help – Marlena

- Help documentation within WFDSS is a lot more robust please use it.
- Marlena/Diane are available to help with Geographic trainings, they can provide this assistance remotely.
- WFDSS Training modules are being created for spring refreshers.



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Geospatial Data – Ben

- 2012 Data refresh plan is posted to the “Data” page on the WFDSS home page
 - January FMU data update cancelled due to lack of submission. April will be the next update, and these updates will occur quarterly in the future.
- Historic fire perimeter data,
 - Each agency lead will build their data set for an update to the fire perimeters to go into WFDSS
 - Review the historical data, make changes as necessary, in addition look at 2010 and 2011 data so it can be added.

GA Editor Feedback - All

- AK – none
- Eastern – some training coming up, fire season may be earlier this year
- Eastern GB -NA
- N CA – NA
- NR – contact information in WFDSS... the link doesn’t work at this time. WFDSS workshop at end of April
- NW – BIA has updated the Red book and Blue book, with dollar thresholds commensurate with the Forest Service for approvals under the \$5 and 10 million thresholds.
- RM – NA
- Southern Area – NA
- S CA – NA
- SW – NA
- W GB - NA

Action Items/ Follow Up

Below lists items added during this call. For full details on outstanding items, please see the 2012 action items document at

- Next Call – GA Editor AAR / Meeting – , Next meeting Feb 16, time change from 1300 to 1200.
- Is your contact information in WFDSS current? Update this within your profile so we can query contact information out of WFDSS.
- Amanda sending out the **ONA feedback** by feb 6 – All
- Keep Marlana posted on any training needs and scheduled training (prevent training during scheduled outages)
- Security issues – Marsha to take to NWCG state reps February deadline
 - Lisa will take this up with Dan (last name) to see what the options are for State reps...
- WFDSS text notifications – Laurie/Rob need to check on the ones that didn’t work.