

GA Editor After Action Review – January 2015

Action Item #13-1	Status: Continue to track on monthly calls	Assigned: WFM RD&A
<p>Security requirements and access for non-fed users. There is an interest in not only streamlining how folks get access to WFDSS but also maintaining that or can the systems be separated so people can access only the fire behavior tools.</p> <p><i>Note 5/16/13 – Continue to monitor this and address it through FAM IT.</i></p> <p><i>Note 9/19/13 – They discovered that NAP only works in internet explorer. The FAM IT folks are at the drawing board looking at how to deal with non-federal users as they come up the next version. At this point the soonest we could implement would be winter of 2014. New contract for this won't start until the spring. ROSS figured out a way to put the security training on line in ROSS so it can be recorded and tracked in ROSS.</i></p> <p><i>Note 11/2/131—Marlena will follow up with Dorothy.</i></p> <p><i>Note 12/10/13—Follow-up is continuing.</i></p> <p><i>Note 1/16/14- in the 4.11 release non gov users will receive an email with instructions on how to gain access to the system- and expanded functions for Gas to manage. Marlena noted there is another effort afoot to support a common user authentication system between other fire systems that seeks to address non fed users as well- this issue is larger than WFDSS and it would be a duplication of efforts for us to work on this at this time.</i></p> <p><i>Side note- Tribe partners can take DOI training.</i></p> <p><i>11/17/14- update from Dorothy (via Marlena). An authentication software system has been chosen and will roll out with re-engineering of ROSS. An interagency group from WFIT may also be working on this. We (Marlena/Lisa) will continue track it and update GAEs on monthly calls.</i></p> <p><i>12/18/14- no update</i></p>		
Action Item #13-14	Status: 13-14.2 on-going, 13-14.3 possible solution in works	Assigned: WFM RD&A -
<p>Ongoing Issues to monitor and assign accordingly.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 13-14.2 Text box when approving – the WFM RD&A still has concerns with this because if it is worth noting it should be in the decision. Or you open the door to each line officer changing the intent of the decision as they approve it. <p><i>11/21- there is no place in WFDSS to note why a new decision is being created (we might know why, but it's not transparent to others). For example when you 'copy' a fire behavior run there is a pop up box in which analysts can enter notes. Perhaps we can have a similar box for when decisions are copied or new decisions are being made? Mitch added this to the list of potential changes.</i></p> <p><i>12/18/14- there is New feature "Incident Notes" which may be able to fit this need.</i></p> 13-14.3 Rationale – Still concern with it being hidden. The group is interested in making it easier to find where to enter it. <i>(The WFM RD&A still stands that it is important that the Rationale is entered when the decision is written and reviewed because it should be a synthesis and synopsis of the decision. Please be patient with a few of the changes this year that should help folks get to the right place. Continue to evaluate and provide feedback.)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>11/17/14- new changes coming to the decision content order and decision editor, which may alleviate this concern.</i> <i>12/18/14- waiting on new changes to determine if this is still a need</i> 		
Action Item #14-1	Status: Possible solution being investigated	Assigned: Andrew Bailey

<p>Issue: Changing Font/Text on WFDSS Maps: Andrew will report back to the group regarding investigating alteration of fonts on WFDSS maps. Users have trouble making map readable/usable when there are many MAPs for an Incident. It is potentially an expensive fix to be able to drag/drop text boxes but Andrew will investigate alternatives.</p> <p>11/17/14- Depending on the layer, WFDSS labels are of two types; some layers are generated by ESRI and labels are embedded in the map “tiles” for the layers for which they’re relevant. Examples of these kinds of labels include Jurisdictional Agency, Management Requirement Shapes, and Wilderness. Other labels, such as those for Fire Perimeters, MAPs, and Other Unit Shapes, are created “on-the-fly” when the map draws. The tiled (first) layers and labels are the fastest to draw, and the more of those kinds of labels we have, the snappier the performance for a user. The “on the fly” (second) labels are the only ones that could be dynamically sized, and they are also the ones that take longest to draw. If we add many of those labels, and add features to them such as resize or move on the fly, they will drag performance of the system down. We are investigating adding the option to turn labels off, which could potentially be done with either style of label.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would being able to turn off a label be of help/meet need? From poll 69% felt that this would assist with the need. <p>12/18/14- no update at this time</p>		
Action Item #14-2	Status: In progress	Assigned: Ben Butler
<p>Issue: Improve population presence for Risk assessments in WFDSS—Ben is working on investigating a way to improve this in WFDSS, potentially using a product called “night lights” (its not just nighttime lights in the data- so it will pick up more than that based on an algorithm). He will report back to the group by March 30 on his progress.</p> <p>2/20- its called LandScan data, have results still digesting and will give further update on next call with goal of having this data in WFDSS at some point</p> <p>3/20 Ben gave an update on the main portion of the call- see call notes from 3/20 for details. Will be providing info at the May fire conference.</p> <p>11/21- still working on. It’s a raster layer which we don’t display on the maps so is still being weighed for pros/cons. On plan for 2015.</p> <p>12/18/14- planning to get in by June</p>		
Action Item #14-3	Status: In progress	Assigned: Marlena Hovorka
<p>Issue: Make ONA easier in WFDSS. ONA Button is desired, but the placement is not clear. It might be best placed at the Course of Action so that this information from the Decision can be used to populate the ONA. On hold until the UCD review is complete and new ONA/RR is implemented to determine if need still exists.</p> <p>11/17/14- ONA will be simplified in new release as a result of UCD and GAE AAR</p> <p>12/18/14- changes coming in Feb. release</p>		
Action Item #14-5	Status: on-going	Assigned: Marlena Hovorka/Lisa Elenz
<p>Issue: Investigate ways to help users understand the DOA template. The DOA template was rolled out a little too late in the 2013 fire season for users to know how to utilize it; Marlena will look into other ways to publicize its use and potentially create a YouTube video for instructions.</p> <p>2/20-will update next month, busy with release this last month</p> <p>3/20- will get update next month</p> <p>4/17- this will be deferred as there is an effort to improve the decision format and other things that might help improve utility of this function. Nothing specific will be on DOA at this time. Revisit later if needed.</p> <p>11/21/14- ideas for improvement were discussed on AAR Call. Multiple GAEs expressed concern over use due to Aas not having time/ space/energy to engage it within WFDSS. The RD&A has some possible ideas on how it could be utilized better and will share those on monthly calls as appropriate given feedback.</p> <p>12/18/14- no update</p>		
Action Item #14-6	Status: On-going	Assigned: Marlena Hovorka/Lisa Elenz

<p>Issue: Investigate ways to export the DOA template. The GAEs recommended that the DOA template should be populated with relevant Incident information and then exported as a Word document so that users can edit as they wish.</p> <p>1/16/14- this must be approved by the change control board, Marlena will make note to discuss at their next meeting.</p> <p>11/17/14- ideas for improvement were discussed on AAR. Multiple GAEs expressed concern over use due to Aas not having time/space/energy to engage it within WFDSS. The RDA has some possible ideas on how it could be utilized better and will share those on monthly calls as appropriate given feedback and will report out on possibility of exporting for edit outside of WFDSS.</p> <p>12/18/14- no update</p>		
Action Item #14-12	Status: working on it	Assigned: Marlena Hovorka/all RDA
<p>Issue: RDA to provide information on the WFDSS homepage to highlight changes/updates that resulted from GAE/field feedback</p> <p>6/19: GAE asked for status of this effort</p> <p>7/17: We will begin reporting this info for new release items not for past, so look for it in the future.</p> <p>11/21: We produce a spring document highlighting new WFDSS things each year and will continue to do so as well as post release notes and share info on regular monthly calls. If GAEs have specific suggestions on how items you would like to see let us know.</p> <p>12/18/14: Diane will be creating videos (with captions) that will show/demonstrate changes to WFDSS during releases so users can visually see changes to WFDSS. Plan is to post on the Login page.</p>		
Action Item #14-16	Status: In progress	Assigned: Tim/Lisa
<p>Issue: Some of the GAEs put together a letter requesting a different process for a WFDSS change board and other suggestions (Morgan will send out letter so all can read). On the Fall AAR Tim addressed some concerns with the letter and indicated he would follow up with the suggested items on our next few monthly calls.</p> <p>12/18/14- no update (Tim/Lisa not on)</p>		
Action Item #14-17	Status: under Consideration	Assigned: Lisa and/or Lead
<p>Issue: GAE do not know who in the RDA does what (example, Diane is the main contact for Help documentation, Mark is the main contact for Spatial Fire Planning)- therefore they do not know who to contact if they have an email with info they think would be worth sharing/want to communicate with the RDA on the topic. Request to have a document put together that indicates who is main contacts for projects/programs pertinent to the GAEs- Or should they just go with what they know and what they don't sent to Lisa as a default?</p> <p>12/18/14- Lisa not on call, Morgan will visit with her and determine if this is worth effort providing.</p>		
Complete items below this line		
Action Item #14-9	Status: Closed out	Assigned: Lisa Elenz
<p>Issue: The NWCG memo regarding the new RCA is not widely distributed (at least to the FS). Field folks (type 5 and some 4 ICs) don't about changes that only appear in Redbook. The BLM and NPS did produce a cover letter for their agencies explaining the change.</p> <p>2/20: Will look to post those cover letters (BLM and NPS) to the RDA site and to get the FS to produce a similar cover letter for their employees</p> <p>3/20: Lisa is still pursuing this and will update next call</p> <p>4/17- Lisa is not getting traction on this in commo with Steve Gage and Tim Sexton. R2 would like info to clarify. Noted this issue is larger than RDA, but trying to determine if RDA can help facilitate.</p> <p>6/19: no memo will be coming out from national level- regions may be sending their own.</p>		
Action Item #13-6	Status: became item #14-1	Assigned: WFM RD&A – Andrew / Ben

Changing color layers in ArcMap – this would be very helpful.

Note 5/16 – Update from Ben – this will be a difficult task to accomplish but we will look at it.

11/21- Very expensive change relative to the amount of benefit they will get, it is not something that is built into the current software so they would have to write custom software. If something changes with software that didn't require custom programming we would re-evaluate. On hold for now

Note 12/10/13—GAE group was updated that the status continues to be On Hold; there was discussion about adding the ability to manage font sizes and backgrounds in order to make maps more legible. Two new background layers are being added (USGS Topos, plain white). Users would like to be able to drag text boxes to reposition them; this would also be an expensive alteration, but Andrew will investigate this or alternatives. This was added as a 2014 (new) action item.

Action Item #13-13

Status: **became #14-7**

Assigned: **WFM RD&A**

Renaming / organizing MAPs – There is interest from the group and others in having more flexibility with MAPs. There is also a need to address how MAPs are being used tactically versus long term planning as they were originally intended.

- Whitepaper – MAP use

Note 5/16 – Additional ability to renumber MAPs until a decision is published has been added. A white paper about MAP has not been completed given the ongoing discussion about MAPs (strategic/tactical).

Note 6/20 – feedback is that the map produced for the MAPs with all of the MAPs isn't useful. There will be a map image for each MAP so you can print a report and have a product that will be more useful. Trying to complete this for the August release.

Note 11/21/13- this is a topic items for the fall 2013 AAR

12/10/13- on the AAR there was a lot of discussion regarding this topic, and resulted in the action item 14-7

Action Item #14-7

Status: **Complete**

Assigned: **Stu Hoyt**

Issue: Obtain S-482 (new SOPL class) Lesson Plan information from Ingrid Sather to share with the group. Stu was involved with developing this class, which is geared toward SOPLs. If we think it would be useful, the RD&A could add it to the WFDSS website or RD&A website to share with others as a guide.

Action Item #14-8

Status: **Complete**

Assigned: **Andrew Bailey/Ben Butler**

Issue: Can the Situation map be projected in Albers for AK? Andrew/Ben will report back to group at January meeting regarding if/why the Situation Map can be projected in Albers. The distortion in AK negatively affects the products when used in briefing line officers, etc.

1/16/14- This should be taken care of with the new maps that will come in the next WFDSS release

Action Item #13-2

Status: **Complete**

Assigned: **WFM RD&A - Lisa**

Organizational needs assessment update.

Note 3/8 – The proposed ONA/Complexity analysis used a combination of the current complexity analysis, RRA and ONA to work through three steps depending upon the complexity of the incident. The preliminary draft was taken to NWCG in January. OWDC has been working on it as well. The intent is to have something to test this summer. If you know units that would follow through on testing let Lisa know.

Note 5/16 – Currently waiting NWCG approval to move forward with testing a draft version this summer.

Note 6/20 – A copy will be sent to the GAE with the latest information provided to the field. Please do not distribute widely as the OWDC is trying to keep it somewhat under wraps so the field does not get confused about which version to use. If you have a few units that will provide good feedback and use it please work with them but let Lisa know so she can notify OWDC.

Note 9/19 – OWDC is still working on this. Feedback from the field is being considered. Paul heard a little feedback from the operations/risk folks They were concerned with some of the initial language in the firefighter safety assessment in the section A which was sent back to Larry Sutton. Goes in front of OWDC on October 9th. Roger Statts looked at it on the Clear Nez – not sure where the feedback was provided.

Note 11/15 – OWDC is moving forward with the combination of the two documents and hoping to have it in the red book this year. WFDSS will make modifications to utilize the same process. Look for update from RDA in Spring regarding release date.

Note 12/10/13—Should be implemented in WFDSS in its new format by May or sooner and we will advise the GAEs when it is functional

1/16/14- developers are working on incorporating the changes now

2/20/14- incorporated and will be shown in demo on GAE call

Action Item #14-10	Status: Not feasible at this time	Assigned: Marlena Hovorka
<p>Issue: There is a KMZ available for Spot Weather Forecasts- can we get this incorporated into WFDSS? 2/20: Marlena will look into if we can do this. 3/20: Marlena will update next call 4/17- WFDSS won't ingest a KMZ, and it would take some rebuilding to do this.</p>		
Action Item #13-13.1	Status: complete	Assigned: Mitch/Marlena
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 13-14.1 Validation Tab – there is still interest in this tab being removed from the system. Although we thought it was fixed last year so people didn't have to double validate, we aren't sure it was. The WFM RD&A is asking folks to give it a bit more time with some of the new changes in initiating a decision coming with this winter's updates. Additionally there is concern with removing it because the Alaska folks use it regularly for fires that are following their preplanned response but don't need a decision made on them. <i>WFM RD&A doesn't see it going away for 2013 but we will continue to look at it. Please provide your feedback.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11/17/14 -Will be removed in December 		
Action Item #13-13.2	Status: complete	Assigned: Mitch/Marlena
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 13-14.4 Preplanned Response in COA – remove it <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11/17/14 it's gone 		
Action Item #14-4	Status: addressed issue for 2015 offering	Assigned: Tonja Opperman/Mitch Burgard
<p>Issue: Investigate ways to inform Fire Behavior users that their actions can affect the WFDSS Decision. Larry Hood brought up that he has seen non-federal S495 graduates make errors when dealing with perimeters, shapefiles, masks, etc and they negatively impact the Decision documentation (accidentally update incident acreage, delete data); would like to see some emphasis for students to impress upon them that the work they do in WFDSS is not done in isolation from the Decision. Tonja will report back on how this will be incorporated into S495. 3/20- S495 not taught until spring 2015, will work to build guidance in for that offering 11/21- the S495 steering committee is addressing this issue in an online lesson (lesson 8) in which they will learn more about communicating and working with SOPL/FBAN etc. and will also be covered in class (April 2015). Additionally a new feature is in the works to change the default shape type in the shape upload box to try to prevent users from uploading a perimeter instead of an ignition file if that is what they meant to do.</p>		
Action Item #14-11	Status: Complete	Assigned: Marlena Hovorka
<p>Issue: Old Relative Risk guidance is gone from WFDSS website, would like new guidance that is similar in nature for the RCA 5/15: noted that we removed the RR guidance and will work to have similar info available for RCA and let GAEs know when it is posted. Larry Hood offered to help if needed. 6/19: This is drafted and being reviewed 7/17: in draft and working to get it in the Help 8/21: will be done soon and Lisa will email it out and post to wfdss site/help 11/21- it was posted to the site and sent to GAEs in late August. We will be making updates to the RR in WFDSS to ensure it functions the same way as the paper copy.</p>		
Action Item #14-13	Status: complete	Assigned: RD&A and GAEs

<p>Issue: GAEs would like to discuss changing the response time the RDA On-Call Coordinators have for fire behavior requests: The current response time is 30 minutes. Some GAEs feel this doesn't give enough time for them to locate an analyst before being contacted. On the 2014 Fall AAR it was decided to spend more time discussing this on a monthly call and through a survey to come to a common decision on response time. 12/18/14: Per the survey distributed after the 2014 AAR the majority was to keep the current response to 30 minutes. RDA will double their efforts to ensure that we still to the 30 minutes and don't rush the situation.</p>		
Action Item #14-14	Status: complete	Assigned: RD&A and GAEs
<p>Issue: The RR and ONA sub menu items will now become a tab across the top in WFDSS. The proposed location will be before the objectives tab. GAEs requested time to think about placement and provide feedback. This will be discussed on the next GAE monthly call. 12/18/14: based on the survey to the GAE and additional queries the tab will be placed initially after the situation tab.</p>		
Action Item #14-15	Status: complete	Assigned: Morgan Pence/ Diane Rau
<p>Issue: The RDA would like to hear from GAEs on what audience(s) need targeted for training and what materials we should focus our training on. Send out a survey to GAEs asking for specific feedback on the audience and the training the RD&A should target. 12/18/14- a survey was distributed, thanks for the feedback.</p>		
Action Item #14-17	Status: Complete	Assigned: Ben/Morgan
<p>Issue: With SFP being adopted by many units in the next 2 years extra communication on this topic is needed. Ben will send out the strategic shape update dates (there will be 6), and it will be added as an on-going topic to our monthly calls in the short term. 12/18/14- ben sent out after AAR Call</p>		
Action Item #14-18	Status: Complete	Assigned: Andrew Bailey/Morgan Pence
<p>Issue: Send out IRWIN data precedent doc to all GAES and/or link to where it is posted. 12/18/14- was emailed out post the Fall AAR.</p>		