
GA Editor WEBINAR – Dec. 18th, 2014 – 1300 MT

Call purpose: to share information between and amongst the GAEs and the RDA to promote coordination and information exchange to and from users

Roll Call: Diane Rau, Mitch Burgard, Tonja Opperman, Morgan Pence, Andrew Bailey, Brian Sorbel, Cody Wienk, Gwenan Poirer, Liz Struhar, Mark Nelson, Mark Pater, Peter Butteri, Reginald Goolsby, Sam Amato, Shari Miller, Mark Grupe, John Barborinas, Kristy Swartz, Rick Stratton

Agenda Items

General- Morgan Pence

- Monthly call time- review survey feedback—not a lot of feedback but preference was to switch to 1100 Mountain Time; will keep call same for January and then re-evaluate. If you have “standing” calls please let Morgan know.
- RD&A response time to fire behavior requests- review survey feedback—currently the response time is 30 minutes but some feedback suggests RD&A responded sooner than that at times. Will keep at 30 minutes and do better at sticking to that response time this summer.
- AAR call feedback regarding new GAE resources—Please keep information updated in WFDSS in regards to your contact information as a GA Editor so the current list of GAEs can be pulled directly from WFDSS.
- Follow up on item not covered on AAR
 - Interagency Line Officer Guide—we have one available for USFS. Dick Bahr (DOI) was looking into need for DOI, but status unknown at this time.

Program Manager- Tim Sexton

- Standing agenda item, but Tim is on A/L today.

Emerging Issues- All Call Participants

- New agenda item for GAEs to share a topic that is not already on the Agenda; in response to desire to move issues to top of agenda rather than in round robin at the end.

General- Lisa Elenz

- Decision content order status – Morgan – Decision Content from subgroup of GAE/Elenz was sent to contractors, no changes due to no feedback in December. Lisa will give another update on next GAE Call.
- Risk and Complexity Analysis adjustment options- Tonja – Reviewed paper version of Relative Risk and Organizational Needs and verbiage to help the user decide which organization is best based on majority. The WFDSS version of the RCA was not giving the same “answer” as the paper version; we investigated and noted that the “coding” behind the scenes in WFDSS sometimes elevated the recommended Organization compared to the paper version. This issue is

undergoing a fix, but we'd like feedback about whether WFDSS should auto-generate an answer for ON.

No Auto-Generated "Answer": Alignment with paper version that doesn't give an "answer", only verbiage to help user select based on majority. Promote engagement of decision-maker by requiring input and /or debate prior to selection. No need to justify a selection that differs from an auto-generated WFDSS determination.

Auto-Generated "Answer": At times the answers may be slightly different between paper and electronic copies due to nature of "coding" the charts. Cannot alter the RR (but can alter the ON and justify). WFDSS gives user a recommendation to start from, but user must be willing to justify a different choice if warranted.

Poll Question: Based on user inputs should the WFDSS RCA automatically recommend an Organization or should users be required to select it? Results were as follows:

- WFDSS should auto-recommend an ON: 20%
- User should select ON based on verbiage: 60%
- I don't know: 20%
- I don't care: 0%

WFDSS Quick Tip – Ben Butler

- Incident Notes and Data Management Notes—this topic was cancelled due to Ben on A/L.

WFDSS Updates - Mitch Burgard & Diane Rau

- WFDSS 5.1 Release Info
 - Training page is now Orange for login to avoid confusion.
 - Situation map is now available as a popup icon on other tabs—easier reference; can only be open in one place at a time so close it when you're done.
 - Get used to a new workflow with "refreshing" the Situation map.
 - "Skip to Content" is new link at top of page; this is for 508 Compliance for accessibility. This is coded for a screen reader to go to the primary field for that page. If you don't use screen readers, this won't be something you use.
 - Validation tab is gone, "Cost" tab is added and includes Stratified Cost Index (no longer a menu option on the left). There was a question about adding a text box for use by those who do not use SCI—to describe on this page rather than in the Decision. Administrators who do not use SCI don't like having it show up when it's not used. Mitch made a note.
 - There are Incident Notes available on the left to be used to document what is happening on the Incident if it's not being put in the Decision or no Decision is needed/started. Feedback welcome.
 - KBDI SE Dynamic layer added; needs testing. Only implemented for the SE GA and is a Proof of Concept that may have potential for future GAs.
 - Course of Action tab has a Strategy Slider—we welcome feedback, this is not set in stone and is not required. The idea is to get people ready for writing the COA by wrapping their heads around the overall strategy. Also a way to query fire type afterwards so we

- can test how the fire behavior models work on suppression vs. monitored fires. Question from group—a write-up about this feature would help people provide good feedback.
 - o Results from Risk tab survey—most want it behind Situation tab.
 - o RRA—some changes coming; Tonja already covered this above.
 - o Simple Decision Editor will come in the February 5.2 release.
- Next Release Info
- Frequently received helpdesk questions

IRWIN Status – Andrew Bailey

- There is an “IRWIN Project” community on the Lessons Learned Center. You just need an account at www.wildfirelessons.net and then anyone can join the community. Members can post questions and see informational bulletins.
- Reviewed the “0001-15” Information Bulletin regarding further integration of applications and contact information for the IRWIN team.
 - o New read/write systems for 2015 are Texas Forest Service CAD and Alaska Fire Service CAD (FireBeans).
 - o Read-write systems include Inciweb, e-ISuite, GeoMac, ROSS (incident data only), and numerous other systems. “READ” is when IRWIN can read it, “WRITE” is when an application can push to IRWIN.
- WFDSS is being modified to work with second release of IRWIN, most of these changes are background items and will not affect the user experience.

Geospatial Data – Andrew Bailey & Ben Butler

- Geospatial Data refresh plan is available See www.wfmrda.nwcg.gov/SpatialData/Docs/WFDSS_DataRefreshPlan.pdf
- MTBS/burn severity, population/Landsat and VIRHS data will be added by June.
- FMU/Strategic Objective Shape is available. Six updates this year due to conversion in USFS to Spatial FMPs. Schedule is at: www.wfmrda.nwcg.gov/SpatialData/Docs/FMU_Update_Sched.html for submit-data-by-date info (when GIS Lead needs to get data to WFDSS team); earlier dates may apply locally.

Review Action Items- Morgan Pence

- Notes are in the GAE AAR document for this section.

GA Editor Feedback

Purpose: share coordination opportunities, anticipated fire activity and trainings, share feedback from WFDSS users, etc.

- Alaska: Welcome to Peter Buttery in AK
- Eastern: n/a
- Great Basin: n/a
- NoCal: n/a
- SoCal: n/a
- Northern Rockies: no report

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- Northwest: Beginning spatial fire planning conversion with a few “easy” units. Q: is there a document available to help GAEs understand who is tracking which major RD&A projects so that questions can be directed to the proper person? Or just send to Lisa? A: our roles change a lot, so Feedback is a good option. Morgan will talk to Lisa about this.
 - Rocky Mountain: no report
 - Southwest: no report
 - Southern: no report

Next Call

- January 15th, time 1300 Mountain Time with potential for February to have a NEW TIME.
- Decision Making for Wildland Fire Incidents
<http://www.wfmrda.nwcg.gov/docs/DecisionMakingforWildfireIncidents.pdf>