



Integrating
science, technology,
and fire management.

Wildland Fire Management RD&A

GA Editor WEBINAR – March 20, 2014 – 1300 MT

Agenda Items

Roll Call **Attendees:** Benjamin Pratt, Brett Fay, Brian Sorbel, Cody Wienk, Gwenan Poirier, J B, James Newman, Janet Passek, Jesse Duhnkrack, Kristi Bulock, Larry Hood, Marsha Henderson, Nancy Lee Wilson, Rick Stratton, Robert LaPlant, Shari Miller, Andrew Bailey, Ben Butler, Diane Rau, Morgan Pence, Mitch Burgard

Note taker: Diane Rau

WFDSS Updates –Marlena/Mitch

- UCD Review update
 - User-centered design review---IBM contractor has interviewed WFDSS users to identify WFDSS likes/dislikes, worked through decisions in WFDSS Training and has recommended changes to WFDSS. Some will be easier to implement than others due to budgets, personnel needs, etc. but all will be considered and/or implemented. Expect changes to be coming later this year.
- New Release highlights
 - release 4.12 released this week. Overall, very few features that the users will see. Most changes occurred under the hood, and in preparation for IRWIN integration. IRWIN should roll out April 2nd, and when it does, some fields in WFDSS will grey out. Those values will require updates be made in appropriate systems.
 - For Super Analysts and Analysts—FSPRO will run much faster since recent improvements. Runs previously ran on one machine, but can now utilize multiple machines at once. 2-2.5 hour analysis now cut in half. Short runs won't see much changes. Longer the run, the more improvement you will see. One caution, if things go faster analysts will find ways to slow it down again. This is fine and to be expected. Overall, expect faster run times.
 - Most models have deep stats in event coverage. User feedback was to pull this stuff forward and require less digging. Daily acre summary is an example; more charts and graphs will be incorporated in the future.
 - After April 2nd, don't create incidents in WFDSS if the unit is using WildCAD 6. These incidents will auto-populate in WFDSS. Adding them manually will result in duplicate incidents. This only applies to the Production environment, NOT training. It also does not apply to units still using WildCAD 5, as these units still upload batches manually into WFDSS.

Training- Morgan

- Please send your training dates to Marlena
- RD&A's Mentee/detailer/CWN program is ready for sign up
 - <http://www.wfmrda.nwcg.gov/detailer-program.php>
 - Signup sheet is ready for distribution- Morgan sent in email with GAE call registration. Our 2013 mentees were: Jon Rieck, Brian Maier, Dana Cohen, Anne Birkholz, Sara Savage, Mark Pater. Detailers were Todd Rankin and Trevor Miller. Post assignment reviews were good. Please utilize these individuals as you can and help them build on their skills and encourage more individuals in your GA's to apply. Distribute the announcement and application widely.
- FB request notes- good job SE NPS

Geospatial Data – Andrew/Ben

- Fire Management Unit/Strategic Objective shapes
 - FMUs submitted in February were loaded to WFDSS
 - March FMUs due 3/21 from Agency fire GIS leads
 - Next FMU Update May (date due from Agency fire GIS leads May 19)
 - Version 26 of the FMU/SO spatial data made it into WFDSS recently, and it is available for download on WFDSS website.
- Terrestrial/Aquatic Avoidance data update in May



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- Fuel Treatments
 - FS, NPS data received
 - FWS, BLM, BIA data on the way
 - Combined data should be in WFDSS test in April
- Other data updates
 - TNC and FWS administrative boundaries updated
 - BLM and USFS campgrounds updated
 - USFS Buildings updated (INFRA)
 - CA Building Cluster data should be loaded early next week
 - 2013 historical fire perimeters to be updated with agency final fire perimeters in April

We updated TNC and FWS admin boundaries and BLM and USFS campground building layers. USFS buildings were updated (INFRA) and CA Building Cluster data should be loaded early next week. 2013 fire perimeters from agencies will be updated in April. If agencies submitted final fire perimeters, they will display in historic fire perimeter layer for 2014. If final perimeter not submitted, then WFDSS will display last known perimeter.
- LandScan update- Ben
 - Working on LANDSCAN update comparative analysis, to compare building cluster data in WFDSS and LANDSCAN data. LANDSCAN data shows population in three datasets; day, night and mean population density. We are keying on nighttime population. Initial run completed. All planning areas until now were pulled from WFDSS, and then we looked at building cluster count for each planning area and compared to population density information from LANDSCAN. We are not looking to replace building clusters in WFDSS, but help fill in gaps and to help with strategic planning. Met with statistician this AM, and will present findings at large fire conference in Missoula in May. Will also present to this group and provide information on WFDSS website as well. Still working through what it means to have this data in WFDSS and how it can be best applied. Hope to have thorough update in May.

Incident Risk Console (RisC)- Morgan

- What it is and who will have access in the initial release
 - RisC is a tool that has been developed and released to its first audience (FS WO) last week. The tool pulls information from WFDSS, 209s and ROSS. Intent was to provide a cursory view of active and emerging fires, and quick evaluation of 8 risk elements:
 - Values Inventory,
 - Jurisdiction,
 - Significant Fire Potential,
 - Relative Risk Rating,
 - Suppression Capability,
 - Aviation Exposure,
 - Modeled Values at Risk and
 - Modeled Suppression Effectiveness).

Each element is assigned a rating of green, yellow or red, based on information that has been pulled from various systems. Ratings will help prioritize fires against others to determine which have greatest potential risk to firefighters, aviation resources, etc. Fires are auto-populated in the system if they meet certain criteria, such as a High Relative Risk Assessment rating, or if a Type 1-2 team is identified in the Organization Assessment. No fires in system yet. We do expect more users in the future but additional testing is needed.

Thresholds for each element are programmed into the system (no humans are assigning risk ratings directly). RD&A will help develop thresholds and determine if they are reasonable. Interface isn't designed to dive into individual fire and gather details; the program is designed to provide 'at a glance' information.

Review Action Items- Morgan

Many items on hold because waiting for UCD review or for next call when RDA reportees are available to provide update. Item 14-9 (NWCG memo for FS regarding RCA) Lisa is still working on and has not received response yet.



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GA Editor Feedback - All

Alaska: Working with Marlena to switch some, but nothing to report.

Eastern

Great Basin

NoCal: Larry Hood mentioned updated “need to know WFDSS 2014” doc , and a second one for FBS as well, very helpful.

Thanks. If you put the link in a message, it still says 2013 in the link but don’t fret, it has been updated. It is very helpful with refreshers. Nancy asked where these documents are located... **Diane:** these documents and updated release notes for 4.11 and 4.2 are available from ‘Latest Information’ on the right hand side of the WFDSS home page.

SoCal

Northern Rockies: Would like to follow up on the WildCad issue talked about earlier—it only applies to Production, not Training.

Northwest

Rocky Mountain: Jesse NPS, cohesive strategy will be important, waiting to see how it might affect/impact current processes

Southwest

Southern

Action Items / Follow Up

- Next call, April 17th at 1300 MT
- Decision Making for Wildland Fire Incidents
<http://www.wfmrda.nwcg.gov/docs/DecisionMakingforWildfireIncidents.pdf>