

Subject: December Geographic Area Editor email

• **General Info/Reminder**

- Next call will be January 16th, REMINDER: this is the annual AAR and is a two hour call. Please send AAR topics and ideas to Jonathan Olsen jonathan.olsen@usda.gov by January 7.
- You can submit topics and thoughts on this Google form: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdKiPceRjfRuCYPRPwKeXoQuKatS8pS_ZESzfeFspXRfLxnVA/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1. Please submit by January 13.
- As your units start to plan and schedule WFDSS refreshers this spring, please send the dates to Morgan Pence (morgan.pence@usda.gov) so we can add them to the GAE Calendar.

• **NEW GAE Welcome**

- No new at this time

• **RDA Staffing**

- Wes Hall completed his detail December 6. Thanks to Wes for all his hard work and help.
- Shawn Kelley is onboard detailed for 120 days in the Vice Mindar position.

• **WFDSS Update - Morgan, Jonathan**

- Oracle License update occurred the weekend of December 13. We've had a few minor issues with the change related to some data layers not displaying correctly on the various map views. We are actively working through these issues and hope to have everything functioning soon.
- FamAuth - On hold for now pending other priority work relating to IRWIN and Windows 2016.
- O&M -
 - Thanksgiving week there was an issue with WFDSS receiving updates from IRWIN. This was addressed the evening of November 28th. We are working on a solution to catch this earlier in the future.
 - Continuing to address reported bugs and issues
- Next O&M Release
 - Potential release date 3rd week of February. This would be bugs primarily with an IRWIN V6 focused release early March.

- **WFDSS Next Gen - Sam Amato, Erin Noonan, Tonja Opperman, Diane Rau**

- Where we are:

As you may know the WFM RD&A has started down the path to build the next generation of WFDSS. A contract for the development of the next version of WFDSS has been issued to EAS Services. This effort will span several years. Right now, we are getting organized by clarifying all the roles and responsibilities in managing this project on both the government and vendor sides, and establishing our communication/tracking systems. This will be finalized at a face-to-face kickoff meeting in early January between the government and the vendor. We are excited to meet the team and move forward.

At the kickoff meeting we will also be developing the strategy for user engagement. Over the next few months we will be reaching out to agency leadership, stakeholders and users to get feedback on requirements and enhancements for the new system. We know you need an avenue to voice your opinions in addition to all the Feedbacks we've received over the years (yes, we are using this information, too). In preparation please give some in-depth thought to what aspects of the system have been useful and what aspects of the system could be improved to help you and others make timely and mindful decisions on your incidents. Please be aware there will be some constraints on what can and can't be changed in the system due to various federal and agency policies. However, every effort will be made to meet the needs and wants of users while complying with policy.

- Other work over the last two months:

Sam Amato, Reggie Goolsby, Erin Noonan-Wright, Diane Rau, and Tonja Opperman have been working with EAS to introduce them to current WFDSS, the business of fire management and the federal fire policy. We've also had help from the rest of the WFM RD&A team to help explain fire modeling, current user roles, current system architecture, weather services, current GIS data, IRWIN, and how IFTDSS works (since that system is much newer and we might be able to re-use parts of it to keep our development costs down). EAS has so far received a lot of current WFDSS demos with the understanding that we definitely want to make the user experience better! It is really great news to know that EAS hired a business analyst and a designer to help us create better user experiences.

Many of the WFM RD&A staff will be involved in some capacity, and when our roles are clarified we will let you know who is doing what so that you are all aware.

- **IRWIN Status - Andrew Bailey**

- IRWIN integration testing for v6 planned for week of January 13th. IRWIN v6 release scheduled for 3/9
- WFDSS will continue to not ingest incident type of “Other” upon creation from IRWIN BUT WFDSS will be changing to now continue to receive updates for Wildfire incidents that get to WFDSS but then later become type “Other”. This is being done to ensure WFDSS stays in sync with IRWIN for those incidents that inadvertently changed to Other and then back again to a Wildfire.
- Additionally three IRWIN related bugs are scheduled to be fixed with the release.

- **Geospatial Data - Judy**

- FMU v56 loaded to WFDSS production and training 12/3