

GAEs-

Here is the monthly correspondence for February, 2019-

- General Info/Reminder
 - We hold calls on a quarterly basis. Calls are the third Thursday of the month at 1300 Mountain, in April, July, and October. April 18th, July 18th, October 17th. Submit call topics to Morgan Pence.
 - The 2019 Agency Admin Refresher Webinar is scheduled for March 14th at 1100 Mountain Time, see attached flyer.
 - Send in your unit's WFDSS refresher dates to Morgan. We will post to the [GAE & Training Calendar](#).
 - Our AAR was scheduled for our January call which did not occur due to the government shutdown. Due to compressed timeframes the RDA will not be rescheduling the 2 hour AAR in the same format we had planned, though we recognize there is still a need to communicate regarding 2018. Feedback is always welcome (phone, email, submitting feedback).
 - In 2018 Operations and Maintenance (O&M) consisted of regular system reboots and debugging.
 - As a reminder the release notes for Development, Modernization, and Enhancements (DME) from 2018 are available here https://wfdss.usgs.gov/wfdss/WFDSS_whats_new.shtml and include a number of items requested by users for analysts, authors, and GAEs.
 - If there is a specific topic you would like discussed please send it to Morgan and we can either work it into our April call OR find a call time offline from that call to dedicate to the topic.
 - **Keep your contact information current in WFDSS (My Home > Contact Information). This will ensure you receive messages and notifications correctly. FS Users- don't forget you can change your email to your new USDA email. Please help spread the word to all WFDSS users to keep contact information current. Password reset reminders and resets are sent to the email address in WFDSS- it needs to be current/correct.**
- NEW GAE Welcome
 - Trevor Miller (FS PNW)
 - Goodbye to Brenda Wilmore and Robert LaPlant (both Northern Rockies)
- Common Issues and resolution
 - We still have a number of outstanding bugs from the 2018 season. It is our priority to get these addressed in the coming months. Our [Known Issues](#) document is out of date; we are working now to update it to reflect the current status of our known bugs and keep it up to date.
- RDA Staffing

- Detailer Ian Rickert is filling in as Vice Hale for 120 days and started Feb. 4th.
- Detailer Shaniko Cowie is filling in as Vice Rau for 120 days and started Feb. 4th.
- The RDA is continuing to work through the hiring process to permanently fill the Vice Hale and Vice Marlena positions.
- WFDSS Update
 - Operations and Maintenance (O&M)
 - Planned Outages/Downtime
 - **March 1- 4th WFDSS will have limited functionality (Training and Production).** These dates are posted to the [GAE & Training Calendar](#). There is a hardware move scheduled for applications at NITC, which includes the WFDSS interface with WIMS and WIMS itself. WIMS provides the historical weather for fire behavior runs, therefore during this time period fire behavior modeling will be unavailable, AND there may also be periods where WFDSS itself is unavailable or with limited functionality. Please consider this when planning refreshers and help us spread the word.
 - **We also anticipate needing to take WFDSS offline in early/mid April for one weekend day. When the date is finalized we will send an email to this list, post to the calendar, add a broadcast message in WFDSS, and spread through other means.**

Current Operations & Maintenance efforts include:

- Fixing bugs from fire season 2018, next release planned for March 13th
- Returning to our published analysis [clean up cycle](#)
- WFDSS Lite will be decommissioned in the spring of 2019. The full WFDSS application can be accessed on a mobile device using the Chrome app/browser. WFDSS also works well in Safari although it has not been fully tested to ensure functionality.
- Work toward having NFDRS 2016 added to the Development and QA environment for testing. This includes testing the fire behavior models that use fuel moistures and indices derived from NFDRS 2016. Tentatively, we are aiming to have NFDRS 2016 available in Training and Production for the 2020 season.
- Data refresh (see geospatial data bullet below)
- Monthly server reboots: The WFDSS servers are rebooted monthly; it is required and keeps our system healthy. Our contractors try to get the most impactful ones completed first, beginning at 0400 Mountain. The impacts to WFDSS are short, but annoying. As each server is rebooted WFDSS loses that functionality, so for example when the server that provides PDFs is rebooted we lose the ability to create a PDF of a decision for a window of about 15+ minutes until that server is back online, when the server providing LCPs (for fire modeling) is rebooted

that functionality is interrupted, and so on. When reboots are occurring we try to post a system message in WFDSS so that users will know issues they experience are temporary and planned.

- Next reboots: Training and Production: March 6th and March 12th, Production only: March 11th
- We post the reboot schedule when we know it to the [GAE & Training Calendar](#).
- Development, Modernization, and Enhancements (DME)
 - The DOI DME contract was cancelled in mid-November. However, submitting feedback for future enhancements is still highly encouraged. RD&A will use these suggestions for improving the application in the future and for defining business needs. Keep submitting ideas or needs through feedback, they will be used.
- IRWIN Status
 - Discovered an issue where fires with an out date from a CAD system, where the out date is later removed in the CAD, remain out in WFDSS. A solution is being coded and is expected to be ready for a March release.
 - Development is ongoing to meet requirements for IRWIN v5.1, described on the October GAE call:
 - 5 data elements from WFDSS to be added to IRWIN: RR, ONA, Estimated Final Fire Cost, Strategy Slider, current decision published date.
 - Additional data elements to be read into WFDSS for display only:
 - From Sit/209: Estimated Cost To Date, Percent Contained, Percent Perimeter To Be Contained, Fire Strategy Confine Percent, Fire Strategy Full Supp Percent, Fire Strategy Monitor Percent, Fire Strategy Point Zone Percent
 - From IRWIN: make IRWIN ID visible on Incident History page
 - Integrated IRWIN v5.1 testing by all connected applications was rescheduled due to the shutdown and will occur the week of March 4th.
 - I expect to thoroughly test the scenarios in which we've seen duplicates on big, interagency fires in California (Thomas, Carr, Woolsey). If you have specific scenarios that you have seen in the field that you would like tested, please let us know.
- Geospatial Data
 - The WFDSS data refresh plan has been revised post-shutdown and will be posted at https://wfdss.usgs.gov/wfdss/WFDSS_Data.shtml under the WFDSS Data Refresh Plan link.
 - Datasets refreshed for 2019 to date: Critical Habitat (line), Critical Habitat (polygon), TNC Lands, Fire WX Forecast Zones, NPS Buildings, Wilderness Areas

- FMU/Strategic Objective shapes submitted through agency fire GIS representatives by 2/13 will be loaded into WFDSS by 2/27.
- The next FMU/Strategic Objective shapes update opportunity is scheduled for March 20th. The FMU/SO Update schedule can be found at https://wfmrda.nwcg.gov/SpatialData/Docs/FMU_Update_Sched.html