

WFDSS GAE July 2025 Call Agenda

Call Number: [Microsoft Teams](#)

If you don't have the TEAMS invite reach out to TJ Boyer, Rick Mowery or Morgan Pence

Call purpose:

To share information between and among the GAEs and the RDA to promote coordination and information exchange to and from users.

Roll Call:

BIA	BLM	FS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shawn Kelley, EA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wendy McCartney, AK	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Matthew Malesic, EA
<input type="checkbox"/> Tom St. Clair, AK	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Williams, GB	<input type="checkbox"/> Raymond Parrish, EA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kim Kelly, NW, GB	<input type="checkbox"/> Casey Boespflug, AK	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Matt Ginder, GB
<input type="checkbox"/> Richard Gustafson, RM, SW	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dylan Rader, GB	<input type="checkbox"/> Tonja Opperman, GB
<input type="checkbox"/> Cheryl Bright, National	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Hrobak, AK	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bill Gardunio (inter-agency), ON, OS
<input type="checkbox"/> Valdis Neha, RM, SW	<input type="checkbox"/> James Newman, ON, OS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patrick Doyle, ON, OS
<input type="checkbox"/> Reeve Armstrong, National	<input type="checkbox"/> Karly DeMars, NR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Erin Noonan, NR
NPS	<input type="checkbox"/> Gwenan Poirier, RM	<input type="checkbox"/> Eric Morgan, AK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brian Sorbel, AK	<input type="checkbox"/> Robert Saavedra, SW	<input type="checkbox"/> Amy Ham (Russell), RM
<input type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Barnes, AK	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rance Marquez, SW	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brett Smith (Detailed), NW
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Anderson, ON, OS, NW, GB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Justin Boeck, National	<input type="checkbox"/> Kelly Cagle (Primary), SA
<input type="checkbox"/> Eamon Engber, GB, OS, ON, NW	<input type="checkbox"/> Jeremy Sisneros, GB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ian Rickert (BLM OR/WA), NW, AK
<input type="checkbox"/> Casey Teske, National	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barry Klecker, NW	<input type="checkbox"/> Trevor Miller (BLM OR/WA), NW, AK
<input type="checkbox"/> Patty Johnson, OS, ON, NW, GB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rebecca Hird, RM	<input type="checkbox"/> Shawn Burt, ON, OS backup
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nathan Williamson, NR, RM, GB, SW, SA	<input type="checkbox"/> James Dickinson, NW (backup)	<input type="checkbox"/> Ben Curtis (BLM OR/WA), NW, AK

<input type="checkbox"/> Cody Wienk, NR, RM, EA, SA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nathan Perrine, AK	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kip Van de Water (BLM OR/WA), NW, AK
<input type="checkbox"/> Sarah Hayes, AK	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jamie Ellington, RM	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ben Seifert, AK	
<input type="checkbox"/> Windy Bunn, NR, RM, GB, SW, SA	FWS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brian Maier (BLM OR/WA), NW, AK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Missy Forder, National	<input type="checkbox"/> Lisa Saperstein, AK	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Sinkovitz, SW
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Travis Neppl, SA	<input type="checkbox"/> James Roberts, ON, OS, NW, GB	<input type="checkbox"/> Michael Caggiano, RM
<input type="checkbox"/> Calvin Farris, ON, OS, NW, GB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tate Fischer, RM, NR, GB	<input type="checkbox"/> Alison Richards, RM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Diane Abendroth, NR, RM, GB, SW, SA	<input type="checkbox"/> Josh O'Connor, ON, OS, NW, GB	<input type="checkbox"/> Francisco Salazar, SW
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Kevin Conn (non GAE)	<input type="checkbox"/> Abie Carabajal, SW
<input type="checkbox"/> Casey O'connor, AK	<input type="checkbox"/> Jeffrey Adams, SW	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Raechel Compton, RM
<input type="checkbox"/> Morgan Voss, RM, NR, EA, SA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maija Corliss, NW	<input type="checkbox"/> Allan Hepworth, EA
<input type="checkbox"/> Christopher Moore, NW	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chris Mursu, EA	<input type="checkbox"/> Wyatt Palin, ON, OS
<input type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Neppl, EA, SA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Pagoaga, EA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Daniel Michael, ON, OS (backup)
State, County	<input type="checkbox"/> Andrew Bailey, National	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joe Alyea, EA
<input type="checkbox"/> Jeff Shelton, OCFA	<input type="checkbox"/> Ryan Aeby, N. ops	<input type="checkbox"/> Kevin Osborne ON, OS
<input type="checkbox"/> Rocco Snart, CO	<input type="checkbox"/> Jenner Harsha, GB	<input type="checkbox"/> Kristen Allison, ON, OS
<input type="checkbox"/> Darren Finley, AK		<input type="checkbox"/> Michael Caggiano, RM

<input type="checkbox"/> Stephen Nickel, AK	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leta Douglas, SA	<input type="checkbox"/> Clint Cross, area None
BOR	<input type="checkbox"/> Benjamin Hornsby, SA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jonathan Olsen, NR (primary)
<input type="checkbox"/> Laura Harger, National		<input type="checkbox"/> Rick Stratton, area None
		<input type="checkbox"/> Steve Teeter EA
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dan O'Connor, ON, OS
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carol Ewell, ON, OS
		<input type="checkbox"/> Ryan Foote, SA
		<input type="checkbox"/> Brett Williams (backup), SA

Note taker: TJ **Notes are posted** [here](#)

Attachments:

Reminders/General Awareness: TJ

- Send us (Rick Mowery or Morgan Pence) your units WFDSS Training dates as you become aware of them. We will add them to the [GAE & Training Calendar](#).
- Current Known Issues (aka Bugs) and workarounds list is located here: <https://wfdss.firenet.gov/help/Content/00-General/Known-Issues.htm>.
- The Wildland Fire Decision Support Center contact number has been added to the WFDSS Production and EDU homepages. Users should see this when we nationally reach PL 4 & 5.
- (Relative Risk) The narrative from the Infrastructure/Natural/Cultural Resource Concerns box is not appearing in the decision PDF. Instead, it is replaced with a copy of the narrative from Fuel Conditions.
- For landscapes, submit multiple submissions if experiencing issues such as receiving an error that LFPS is unavailable when creating a landscape.
- Continuing having issues with barriers being sent to FMSF. If you are using a barrier, double check your results to make sure it actually uses it.

- Please check the FAMAuth Admin pending requests. There are still outstanding requests.
- The best way to request roles in SFPS:
 - Data Managers -
<https://nifc.maps.arcgis.com/home/group.html?id=1002df3ef04a4e11b3a23c2dbb0a535f#overview>
 - Shape editor -
<https://nifc.maps.arcgis.com/home/group.html?id=cb3f8a75c87040e48cf8de3c5826a1f6#overview>

WFDSS Pulse check-

- Patrick Doyle-
 - In the Fire History Layer few fires not showing up. Have been adding them as layers. If wasn't in an incident some would show up. If were in an incident, some of the fires for the last 3 years would not show that were adjacent.
- Ian Rickert-
 - A lot of the things that have come up on this call for months now have proven to be even bigger challenges just with the more users in the system.
 - Now that more users are in the system, having all the map layers on seems like it's cluttering the system.
 - For FS PRO, not having a copy button is absolutely having a significant impact on our analysts workforce.
 - Will send a list of other issues, but the number of planners in the region reached out with issues.
- Dan O'Connor-
 - Ideally the map shows up with everything off and an FS Pro copy run button would be huge.
 - If the Fire Behavior request doesn't go anywhere, I recommend taking the button away so folks go through other channels to get what they need.
- Dylan Rader-
 - Have feedback from number of editors working on decisions in NV, but when people are working in the same tab, it seems that there's some issues with saving in the order that people save. Have been telling editors if they've got multiple people working and editing in a decision to try to stay out of the same tab at the same time.
 - Lack of notifications. Some sort of notifications to do periodic assessments is important.
 - Multiple approvers for multijurisdictional agency fires is needed.
 - The latency in when WFDSS saves the decision edits from the time you hit save and slide over the Ready To Publish button causes a lot of confusion when it kicks out the error message.
- Marquez Rance-
 - Having the ability for multiple approvers is needed.

- Been able to print a unpublished decisions would go a long way in keeping folks out of the system and messing up.
- Wendy McCartney-
 - Dealt with similar issues mentioned. Have been consolidating known issue bugs.
 - Have been assigning a driver to WFDSS to create decisions and as part of a meeting with the approvers to provide their input to that, that person will then go in and approve and publish it so that we can create a PDF.
 - Since WFDSS is treated as a living document—decisions are edited over time, not recreated from scratch.
 - Updates are made collaboratively, and each publication captures the current version.
 - Decisions need to be labeled clearly as DRAFT to signify they're not final.
 - Approvers review drafts and give feedback.
 - The WFDSS driver makes edits and publishes a new version.
 - Once edits are finalized, the jurisdictional approver hits the official “approve” button.
 - If no edits are needed, approvers are asked to reply with “I approve” via email.
 - These email approvals are clipped and pasted into the rationale section to document consensus before the final approval.
 - This workaround ensures the approval is traceable and embedded into the decision, even though only one person officially approves it in WFDSS.
- Ian Rickert-
 - When will deterministic models be available?
 - Wes Hall- Currently working on getting some of the front end inputs into the application on the FARSITE side and we've been starting to have conversations and some requirements and grooming sessions in terms of getting all the back end inputs coordinated and stories built. So we're still a little ways off, Ian, but we are definitely moving that direction. We kind of got to get everything else that folks brought up before that wrapped up, but that is in the works, at least on the FARSITE side of things. After FARSITE is completed MTT and FLAMMAP should be much faster.
- Erin Noonan- Have had issues with either FEMS or Landfire Services not really working. Loved the notifications from classic when there were system issues. There was always a quick notification when you logged in that lets you know something was not working so you wouldn't have to go to known issues and try to go through an Excel spreadsheet. If there's a way to do that kind of easy communication for the services, that would be great.
- Brian Maier- Is it possible to get a button that doesn't highlight the missing erc stream cells but just interpolated between missing values if n missing is less than n. that's what most of us are going to do anyway.

- No new updates since last call. Please communicate GAE changes with Rick Mowery, Morgan Pence, or TJ Boyer to ensure you get the proper user roles and invites to the calls.

RDA Staffing – TJ

- No new updates

WFDSS Next Gen Update – Sam/Wes/Sarah/Rick/Morgan/TJ

- WFDSS v1.0.2.2 hotfix was released early this month to fix an issue with users receiving an error from the Landscape Product Service if an LCP did not have an edit rule.
- A hot fix will be released today that turns off the analysis layer in the layer list. Hopefully fixes some of the loading issues.
- The next version release v1.03 anticipated to be released next week and is targeted to include:
 - General analysis improvements
 - Unsaved changes message/guard
 - Canopy cover multipliers can be less than 1
 - Various Bug fixes
 - FMSF v2 updates
- Office hours for Nextgen WFDSS are every other Wednesday at 1300 Mountain Time.
- July WFDSS newsletter was sent out to users early this month. The newsletter is also posted here: [July 2025](#)
- Recordings on the YouTube Channel: <https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLQOp517UPvtBAq-YyUvWwPil8RaNo8rmJ&si=5E61kGXxLEaJQBmS>

Spatial Fire Planning Updates – Wes/Amanda/Jonah/Susan

- Bad HTML cleanup. The issue there is if you have a bad HTML tag, the shape will fail to be brought into your COA SA in the strategy process.
- We have a 10,000-character limit for all of your language per shape.
 - If you have a unit boundary that has ten language entries, and each one of them has 1100 characters, it's fine for that field when you're entering that in special fire planning application, but when that shape is trying to get brought into WFDSS, it concatenates all that language together and you will hit that 10,000-character limit.
 - What happens here is the shape will come in, but your language will be blank. If you see an issue where your shape comes in zero language the current short term solution is to try editing that language down to make it shorter or break it out into multiple shapes.

- Office hours for Spatial Fire Planning Service are now every other Wednesday at 1400 Mountain Time.

IFTDSS Update – Wendy/Kim/Patrick/Bre

- Using IFTDSS for wildfire support presentation sent to GAEs.
- We are working to get VIIRS and FireGuard Heat data services in to IFTDSS in the next few weeks.
- FlamMap:
 - https://firenet365.sharepoint.com/:f:/r/sites/National_Fire_Decision_Support_Center/Shared%20Documents/Fire%20Analyst%20and%20SOPL%20Community/Analyst%20references%202025/FlamMap?csf=1&web=1&e=HrOtWM
- Help Center
 - <https://iftdss.firenet.gov/firenetHelp/help/pageHelp/content/home.htm>
- Create a Landscape
 - https://iftdss.firenet.gov/firenetHelp/help/pageHelp/content/20-landscapes/lcpcreate.htm?tocpath=Map%20Studio%7CLandscapes%7CCreate%20a%20Landscape%7C____1
- Edit a Landscape
 - https://iftdss.firenet.gov/firenetHelp/help/pageHelp/content/10-cycle/lnscdpedit/landscapeeditabout.htm?tocpath=Map%20Studio%7CLandscape%7CEdit%20a%20Landscape%7C____0
- MTT Model Runs
 - [https://iftdss.firenet.gov/firenetHelp/help/pageHelp/content/20-models/mtt/aboutmtt.htm?tocpath=Modeling%20and%20Playground%7CMinimum%20Travel%20Time%20Fire%20Spread%20\(MTT\)%7C____1](https://iftdss.firenet.gov/firenetHelp/help/pageHelp/content/20-models/mtt/aboutmtt.htm?tocpath=Modeling%20and%20Playground%7CMinimum%20Travel%20Time%20Fire%20Spread%20(MTT)%7C____1)
- Compare Weather
 - <https://iftdss.firenet.gov/firenetHelp/help/pageHelp/content/10-cycle/compareweather/aboutcmprwthr.htm?Highlight=compare>

Round Robin:

Share coordination opportunities, anticipated fire activity and training, share feedback from WFDSS users, etc.

- Alaska:
 - Nathan Perrine- Things are slowing down. Got some precip already had and it looks like we're going to get quite a bit more here. That should probably end us for the season. We did a lot of analysis that we needed and obviously lots of issues. In Alaska we use FS Pro heavily to prioritize our fires especially early on where we're just getting pummeled with new starts and emerging incidents. WFDSS system issues did have a big effect on us this year with the fails and runs taking two or three times longer than it used to take to get these things out. We were down for an entire weekend and it just seemed like there was just really no urgency there to get that running back up, which you know, it sounds like it would have been a pretty simple

fix. Thanks to all the analysts that came up and helped a lot of them on this call right now and Rick Mallory.

- Eastern:
 - Matthew Malesic- Fire conditions on National Forest have moderated pretty steadily. A lot of areas in Greenup. We came out a spring dip in the northern pier, so pretty quiet on the home front. As for WFDSS still plugging away with some odds and ends trainings with some forests haven't been running through any decisions lately as we've been pretty quiet.
- Great Basin:
 - Dylan Rader- We've done 7 decisions in WFDSS. We're currently still working the Gothic fire, which is Southern Nevada district on the NTTR site. Appreciation to Wes and the RDA folks. We've got FS Pro support through the RIST request form for four out of those seven fires, and that's pretty good usage for Nevada BLM and far as FS Pro goes, our AAs are starting to understand how to utilize that information and their decision support. So outside of that, we continue to have our ERCs are all above the 90th percentile. There may be a few stations across the state that are still hovered in that 80th percentile and with fine fuel loading across Western and northern part of the state. Likely to have a fairly busy July and August so we'll see how many of those fires last more than three days. We'll be prepared for doing multiple decisions here over the next few months
- N. ops/S. ops:
 - Patrick Doyle- had pretty slow seasons starting. We had a pretty wet winter, so otherwise everything's pretty moderated up north. We had quite a bit of lightning. Some came with precip. Heavy response really helped keep a lot of the fire in check. We have a handful of fires up there still currently going with a handful of decisions. Same challenges with complexes in Nextgen as always before with classic, we had pretty much a pattern that we could work with and identifying which fires were under which complex. Will be providing on that. Overall it seems to be the biggest challenge is just folks on the forest having WFDSS drivers. Secessional planning has really been challenging because of the effects so far with a change in administration and folks leaving the agency or transferring to other positions. So that's, that's one other thing that we've been working through, and I think that's, you know, my hope is that we continue to do more in person. I did a workshop with Tahoe the week before last. At the beginning of last week with Lassen, and then next week we're have another one with San Bernardino National Forest just for drivers just getting them into the system and getting familiar where everything's at.
- Northern Rockies:
 - Jonathon Olsen- Still fairly quiet within the Northern Rockies, we've had a handful of incidents with handful of Decisions. No trainings planned. Most of the GACC has received fair bit of moisture this week. Earlier this week, however, the western portion, western Montana and northern Idaho stayed dry. Their indices

are picking up and a good chance for activity to pick up on that part of the GACC, but otherwise we're we're doing all right and keeping quiet at the moment.

- Northwest:

- Barry Kleckler- Busy enough in the NW. Half of the BLM districts have been able to work through decisions. It has taken a lot of hand holding. The ability to copy analysis would be handy.
- Ian Rickert- At PL3. We do have a handful of incidents that are going to be with us, more than likely for the duration of the summer. They are in some tight spots. We're going to hit a slight lull in the weather next week, so hopefully that allows us a chance to catch some incidents that are, at least in good places and see what the rest of the summer brings.

- Rocky Mountain:

- Jamie Ellington- Consistent fire activity, especially on the Western Slope and southwest Colorado. 2 CIMTs are committed South Rim and Turner Gulch. Expected to be that way for a bit. Rocky Mountain area is currently in PL3. Worked through several WFDSS decisions. Nothing really new to add than what we've already discussed. Just getting folks familiar with the system. I think our decisions will improve as we push more of them out. For BLM Wyoming no large fires, but consistent initial attack activity. Red flags for at least the southwest part of the state today. Northwest Wyoming received a shot of moisture but expected to dry out and had a lot of lightning in the storm system that moved through.

- Southwest:

- Richard Sinkovitz- Couple of fires that have CIMTs on them. The White Sage started on Great Basin and moved on to the north Kaibab. Laguna Fire on the Santa Fe National Forest has a CIMT on it and then a couple of fires on the Gila and the Tonto. Everybody is handling their decision support and fire modeling between the teams and locally getting pretty good support. There's been some monsoonal moisture that's come through. It hasn't hit the northern tier of Arizona very well. Hence the Dragon Bravo and Whitesage being as active as they have been. There is some moisture coming through. Unfortunately, it looks like in the 6 to 10, 8 to 12 that Arizona's going to be on the drier side coming up.

- Southern:

- Kelly Cagle- The biggest update from the southern area would be some personnel changes. David Quisenberry has moved on to a new position. Kelly Cagle is covering behind. Currently a FBAN, but may reach out if any modeling support. As far as southern far weather at the moment, most of the region is either green, wet, or both and fire danger is low. We had a couple of Type 3 incidents in Florida over the weekend that required some modeling support. Other than that, all is quiet.

- Brett Williams and Kelly Cagle co assist the fire analyst, fire planner duties here for the interim.

Next Call:

- Thursday, August 21st, 1300, Mountain Time.

Main WFMRD&A contacts for WFDSS related items:

- WFDSS Operations and Maintenance: TJ Boyer tederell.boyer@usda.gov , Rick Mowery rick.mowery@usda.gov, Morgan Pence morgan.pence@usda.gov, KC Shedden kenneth.shedden@usda.gov
- WFDSS Data: Amanda Rumsey amanda_rumsey@NPS.gov
- WFDSS Role Issues: Contact the On Call Coordinator: 208-387-5253
- IRWIN WFDSS liaison: Morgan Pence morgan.pence@usda.gov, Rick Mowery rick.mowery@usda.gov
- Active incident decision and analysis support: All NFDSC personnel, best to contact On Call Coordinator (208) 387-5253
- WFDSS NextGen Sam Amato sam.amato@usda.gov, Wes Hall Wesley.hall@usda.gov , and Sarah Synowiec sarah.synowiec@usda.gov
- IFTDSS: Bre Schueller, Wendy Detwiler, and Kim Ernststrom, Brianna.schueller@usda.gov, wendy.detwiler@usda.gov, kim_ernstrom@nps.gov
- GAE call management: Tederell Boyer tederell.boyer@usda.gov
- When in doubt contact the On-Call Coordinator and they will route you: (208) 387-5253

References

- Agency Administrator Toolbox: <https://wfmrda.nwcg.gov/index.php/interagency-agency-administrator-toolbox>
- GAE Resources: <https://wfmrda.nwcg.gov/index.php/decision-support-toolbox/ga-editor-resources>
- LANDFIRE Data Alerts: [LANDFIRE Alerts | LandFire](#)