

WFDSS GAE August 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 type="checkbox"/> Shawn Kelley, EA	<input type="checkbox"/> Wendy McCartney, AK	<input type="checkbox"/> Matthew Malesic, EA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom St. Clair, AK	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Williams, GB	<input type="checkbox"/> Raymond Parrish, EA
<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tonja Opperman, GB
<input type="checkbox"/> Cheryl Bright, National	<input type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Hrobak, AK	<input type="checkbox"/> Bill Gardunio (inter-agency), ON, OS
<input checked="" 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 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 type="checkbox"/> Brett Smith (Detailed), NW
<input type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Anderson, ON, OS, NW, GB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Justin Boeck, National	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kelly Cagle (Primary), SA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eamon Engber, GB, OS, ON, NW	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Rebecca Hird, RM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shawn Burt, ON, OS backup
<input type="checkbox"/> Nathan Williamson, NR, RM, GB, SW, SA	<input type="checkbox"/> James Dickinson, NW (backup)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ben Curtis (BLM OR/WA), NW, AK

<input type="checkbox"/> Cody Wienk, NR, RM, EA, SA	<input type="checkbox"/> Nathan Perrine, AK	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kip Van de Water (BLM OR/WA), NW, AK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sarah Hayes, AK	<input type="checkbox"/> Jamie Ellington, RM	
	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> Missy Forder, National	<input type="checkbox"/> Lisa Saperstein, AK	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Sinkovitz, SW
<input type="checkbox"/> Travis Neppl, SA	<input type="checkbox"/> James Roberts, ON, OS, NW, GB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Caggiano, RM
<input type="checkbox"/> Calvin Farris, ON, OS, NW, GB	<input type="checkbox"/> Tate Fischer, RM, NR, GB	<input type="checkbox"/>
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Abie Carabajal, SW
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Maija Corliss, NW	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Allan Hepworth, EA
<input type="checkbox"/> Christopher Moore, NW	<input type="checkbox"/> Chris Mursu, EA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wyatt Palin, ON, OS
<input type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Neppl, EA, SA	<input type="checkbox"/> Michael Pagoaga, EA	<input type="checkbox"/> Daniel Michael, ON, OS (backup)
State, County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Andrew Bailey, National	<input type="checkbox"/> Joe Alyea, EA
<input type="checkbox"/> Jeff Shelton, OCFA	<input type="checkbox"/> Ryan Aeby, N. ops	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rocco Snart, CO	<input type="checkbox"/> Jenner Harsha, GB	<input checked="" 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laura Harger, National		<input type="checkbox"/> Rick Stratton, area None
		<input type="checkbox"/> Steve Teeter EA
		<input type="checkbox"/> Dan O'Connor, ON, OS
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carol Ewell, ON, OS
		<input type="checkbox"/> Ryan Foote, SA
		<input checked="" 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](#).
- Please remember that you can find all WFDSS alerts on the [WFDSS homepage](#) for your convenience. Make sure to check there regularly for any important updates or notifications!
- If you are experiencing weird issues, such as receiving a blank screen when logging into WFDSS, we recommend clearing your web browser cache periodically. This can help improve performance and resolve any loading or display problems.
- Using Safari or Firefox browsers are not able to put in a FSPRO analysis because both browsers scramble some of the calls to FEMS.
- Incidents created in NextGen EDU are still not searchable, start a decision, or analysis.
 - Reach out to us if you need assistance finding or getting an incident to practice with in Nextgen WFDSS.

- Please remember to check the [WFDSS FAQ](#) section of the WFDSS homepage for answers to common questions and helpful information. It's a great resource that can assist you quickly!
 - [I am working on a decision where there are multiple Approvers. What is one example of a workflow to include concurrence of multiple approvers?](#)
 - [I'm trying to add a user as a Collaborator or Approver on my incident, and I can't find them using the User Search or the Edit Collaborators list.](#)
 - Dylan Rader- Are you guys really endorsing points of contact, self certifying as an approver even though there's language that we're clicking on in those boxes that we're not meeting?
 - Rick Mowery- We are not endorsing. In the application it states: "By checking this box, you certify that you meet your agency policy to act as the Agency Administrator. In WFDSS, you are responsible for reviewing the Decision, writing the Rationale, and approving a Decision prior to publication. Approval Authority for each agency is described in chapter 11 of the Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations (Red Book)."

WFDSS Pulse check- All (open floor)

- Ben Curtis- Noticed in analysis that the ERC bins and weather stream are frequently not available in analysis that have already been completed or run until. Is this a common issue or if there's a fix?
 - Morgan Pence- It is a common issue and there is a fix for it on the upcoming release. It happens for runs when the status change is marked from anything other than review. Then when you go back and look, you can't see what you use.
- Dylan Rader- Issue was resolved for Cottonwood peak decision where approvers name not being included in published decision. There were some large images in the decisions that were doing something to the text, but it didn't print the approver name on the initial WFDSS decision. Figured out that you need to really shrink those attachments if you're not seeing an approver name in the WFDSS decision. You've got a large attachment in there somewhere that needs to be resized.
 - Rick Mowery- It is a known issue. It's not the file size of the image, but the actual size of the image.
- Tonja Opperman- When you run FS Pro polygons would only burn outward, but now when you get your results back, the interior of the ignition is red. Is the model actually burning inward or is it just counting all the interior of the ignition as burned from the start?
 - Rick Mowery- We believe it's a symbology thing. It looks like the model is not burning inward, but we're counting that zero percent burn probability kind of lumped in with the first band. Speaking with the GIS team, we're thinking maybe that is what is going on there.

- Dylan Rader- Why we still don't have the 2024 historical fire perimeter disturbance history?
 - Rick Mowery- The layer is there. We have not updated the name in the layer, but if you turn on the 2023 layer, your 2024 fires are in there. If there's anything that's missing, it's missing out of the agency official record for the year. Let us know if you see any of those.
- Jeremy Sisneros- Folks on our end are adapting and getting faster working around the system.

New GAE Welcome – TJ

- 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

- Kim Ernstrom's last week should be next week. RDA is currently working on a 120 detail to fill behind.

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

- v1.0.3 release included:
 - Various bug fixes from analysis actions, decision general sections, and map layers and performance.
 - Ensuring subtabs clearly identify active tabs and provide warnings when navigating away from unsaved changes.
 - Resolved issues related to ERC class data visibility after FSPRO run submissions and ensured consistency in fuel moisture values across analysis.
- For v1.0.4 release we updated WFDSS to connect to the Fire Modeling Service Framework (FMSF) Version 2.0 and ensured all the FSPro outputs (burn probability, average flame length, average arrival time) properly display on the map with FMFS V2.
- Experienced issues last week when upgrading ArcGIS Server on the PROD environment to 11.5. The upgrade was rolled back and is now stable.
- The next version release v1.05 anticipated to be released next week for the lower environments and following Tuesday for PROD is targeted to include:
 - URL updates for various layers including Disturbance History - Fire Perimeters.
 - Backend work to include user interface to create and request a Minimum Travel Time and FARSITE analysis; only visible to Support Role until the feature is complete.

- More backend work to include required decision elements to confirm that a decision is ready to approve/update in the 'Required Decision Elements' accordion of the 'Decision Approval & Assessment' tab
- Bug Fixes:
 - Apply a fix to latency issue in Organizational Assessment (OA) and issue with Relative Risk (RR) not populated in OA if user doesn't view RR first.
 - FSPRO shows a status "Failed" even when run completed; error message is unreadable to user.
 - After submitting FSPRO run, ERC Class and Stream data not retained on Weather tab when the run status is changed from Review.
 - Various other bug fixes.
- Office hours for Nextgen WFDSS are first and third Wednesday at 1300 Mountain Time through September. We will re-evaluate for October – could transition to once a month or on an As Needed basis (after a deployment).
 - Barry Kleckler- For office hours, is there always somebody staffed in that meeting or is the protocol to join it and wait until somebody else joined?
 - Rick Mowery- Office hours are every 2 weeks. Anytime if you are needing something, just put it in the chat there. Folks will respond.
- Recordings on the YouTube Channel: <https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLQOp517UPvtBAq-YyUvWwPIL8RaNo8rmJ&si=5E61kGXxLEaJQBmS>

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

- SFP updates and Q&A will now be included in WFDSS Office Hours. The SFP Office Hours Chat will remain active to pass along any updates and answer any questions folks have at any time. Please reach out to wfmrda.datasupport@firenet.gov if you would like to be added to the SFP Office Hours Chat.
- Susan McClendon- No new updates. No reports of outstanding problems.

IRWIN- TJ

- IRWIN transitioned their environments in preparation for their next release, v11. WFDSS will be ok for the v1.0.5 release.

IFTDSS Update – Wendy/Kim/Patrick/Bre

- IFTDSS contract was awarded last week to IBM. It is a 9.5 year contract.
- IFTDSS is routinely updated to keep the application running smoothly. Visit the [maintenance schedule](#) to see when IFTDSS may be down for updates.
- Heat detection (VIIRS) layers have been added to IFTDSS Reference Layers.
- Fixed a bug that prevented the "Save" button from becoming active until all model input fields had been populated.

- Fixed a bug in MTT Fire Spread that unselected the "Do Not Use a Barrier" option upon clicking the "Save" button.
- Help Center
 - <https://iftdss.firenet.gov/firenetHelp/help/pageHelp/content/home.htm>

Round Robin:

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

- Alaska:
 - Casey O'Connor- Things are quiet. Only 4 new starts this week less than an acre. Fall review in the week of the 20th of October and looking for someone to just give a pulse of where things are at with regards to WFDSS looking forward.
 - Thomas St. Clair- Wet in the forecast the next 4 days. There are people still in the field. No Decisions needed to be updated.
- Eastern:
 - Allen Hepworth- Thinking about the uptick in activity possibly over the next few months.
- Great Basin:
 - Dylan Rader- For the last month, we've had 149 fires for 152,000 acres currently got Cottonwood Pete going on Elko District, which is about 110,000 acres and change as of today, expect to see additional growth on that. Monitoring several decisions across NV including Cottonwood Peak. We've had pretty good luck with WFDSS so far. Folks are starting to figure it out and are able to work through decisions and it's just kind of the buggy stuff that seems to be more frustrating than anything else. For IFTDSS we have done several MTT models in IFTDSS and that's been very helpful. Thank you for improving that. Maybe one suggestion is if there's any way we could get a KML export out of IFTDSS. It would be super helpful.
 - Bre Schueller- KML is on our list.
 - Diane Abendroth- It would be nice to have a FSPRO KML export form WFDSS that is symbolized.
- N. ops/S. ops:
 - Patrick Doyle- We don't have too many fires going still. We have some of the campaign fires hanging in there. We have a couple of new starts. Red Flag only in Southern CA over the Transverse Mtns and southern portion of the Los Padres NF from Thu-Sat. We have a new condition that's similar to pre red flag that's being used. It's burn environment version of the red flag so it's hot and dry here. New starts have been at a minimum but coming up over the next weekend. We're looking at Northern California being able to get some potential lightning coming in,

sweeping through the top. The conditions are primed for it. If the ground's receptive, there is potential that there's going to be much more activity down here. From the WFDSS side we've overall worked our way through a number of the issues that have come up. There's still that adaptive piece happening from people working in classic moving into Nextgen. Appreciate definitely both tools of FLAMMAP and IFTDSS being available to be able to use and informing operations and planning, that's been huge. No trainings planned as far as I know at this point.

- Eamon Engber- Nothing of significance currently. Lot of lightning in the forecast and indices increase in a lot of areas. Overall, it's been relatively quiet in the parks this season. Not a lot of good training opportunities in WFDSS.
- Northern Rockies:
 - Jonathon Oslen- Fire season finally arrived here in the NR. Had a big uptick in fire activity over the last week. Have a number of CIMTS in the GA and more on their way. Generally folks are working through WFDSS troubleshooting and getting their decisions published. No trainings planned.
 - Ian Rickert- R6 is pretty slow but in a warming/drying trend through the weekend with lightning coming early next week. No trainings planned.
- Northwest:
 - Barry Kleckler- Seeing an issue with a decision currently in process in the Coos Bay district. Not sure if its Spatial fire planning or an application issue. Waiting for them to finish the decision and will reach out. Just some spatial fire planning data not showing up in the incident data, but it's in the spatial inventory. The fire is Doerner fir. It's the unit boundary for the Coos district in the spatial inventory, just not getting clipped to the planning area and showing up in the incident data. Not looking to use it in the incident, but just curious if the language is going to be there.
 - Susan McClendon- Check your language and see if there any invalid HTML.
 - Eamon Engber- We will have some additional decisions for incidents in Olympic Park area.
- Rocky Mountain:
 - Raechel Compton- Pretty busy in RM region. A lot of teams are out. Forecast next week to be cool enough. Higher Precip, higher RHs, lower temps, some lightning in a couple of days. No trainings planned or other WFDSS feedback.
- Southwest:
 - Abie Carabajal- Things have slowed down significantly in the SW. Received some light rain last few days and couple of large fires still burning. There is some isolated rain event forecasted followed by some drying. No trainings planned.
- Southern:

- Kelly Cagle- Fire danger in the Southern Region are pretty low. We did have 2 T3 fires Brett Williams and I worked with local units to a decision and were able to get it from start to finish mostly smoothly. We had a couple of hiccups, but were able to get through them. The hang up was to get our suppression pie chart getting those percentages to populate. We had to work through that a couple of times and we got it to work.
- Brett Williams- Folks we worked with like the new interface and catching on pretty quick and seem happy with the process. Notice some of the small updates and fixes and things are getting less buggy. We did also use IFTDSS and an MTT run on the fire in LA.

Next Call:

- Thursday, September 18th, 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](#)