

WFDSS GAE September 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 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 type="checkbox"/> Matt Ginder, GB
<input type="checkbox"/> Richard Gustafson, RM, SW	<input type="checkbox"/> Dylan Rader, GB	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patty Johnson, OS, ON, NW, GB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rebecca Hird, RM	<input 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 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 type="checkbox"/> Kip Van de Water (BLM OR/WA), NW, AK
<input 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 type="checkbox"/> Brian Maier (BLM OR/WA), NW, AK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Missy Forder, National	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Diane Abendroth, NR, RM, GB, SW, SA	<input checked="" 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 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 type="checkbox"/> Wyatt Palin, ON, OS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Neppl, EA, SA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Pagoaga, EA	<input type="checkbox"/> Daniel Michael, ON, OS (backup)
State, County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Andrew Bailey, National	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joe Alyea, EA
<input type="checkbox"/> Jeff Shelton, OCFA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ryan Aeby, N. ops	<input type="checkbox"/>
<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 checked="" 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 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 type="checkbox"/> Brett Williams (backup), SA

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

Attachments:

Reminders/General Awareness: TJ

- 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!
- WFDSS Office hours are scheduled for the first and third Wednesday at 1300 Mountain Time. We will re-evaluate for October the upcoming WFDSS Office hours sessions. Anticipating transition to once a month or on an as Needed basis (after a deployment).
- If you are experiencing weird issues, such as receiving a blank screen when logging into WFDSS, we recommend clearing your web browser cache and a hard reload. This can help improve performance and resolve any loading or display problems.
 - To perform an "Empty Cache and Hard Reload" in Chrome or Edge, open the Developer Tools by pressing F12, then right-click the Reload icon button in the browser toolbar and select Empty Cache and Hard Reload from the dropdown menu.
- For users looking to display FSPro outputs on analyses marked "Completed for Strategic Use" or "Completed for Operational Use" - there is a feature service for that! Use this

Webmap on the NIFC org to navigate to the desired Feature layer view

<https://nifc.maps.arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=a4c7c396b02f4e8dbb39c42f552a0c57>

- Watch this short video for tips for filtering the results in your display:
<https://youtu.be/bwjFg5Xc2Ls?si=Oz4YGt5DOZK9dopR>
- 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!

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

- RDA is currently working a permanent backfill behind Kim Ernstrom. In the interim we are in the process for a 120 day detailer start by the end of September.

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

- Version release v1.05 was released last week in all environments which included:
 - URL updates to Map layers to various layers including Disturbance History for Fire Perimeters and critical habitat data.
 - Bug fix for an issue causing the Relative Risk to not populate in the Organization Assessment for users that do not open the Relative Risk prior to viewing the Organization Assessment.
 - Updated the Organization Assessment to reflect the current PMS-236 including updates to Part C Organization Assessment to be in alignment with the PMS-236 and the addition of Part E Complexity Level.
 - Copy analysis is available from the Existing Analysis page and the Run/Results tab under “Actions.” LCP details and edits copy with this feature, but the LCP itself will need to be re-generated.
 - Fixed a bug preventing users from marking the Analysis Summary “Ready for Publication” when there were expired analyses that were not included in the decision.
- Upcoming version release v1.1 will be focused on finishing Development, Modernization, and Enhancement (DME) work to close out FY25. Anticipating this scheduled release by the end of September to address decision improvements and system validations.
- Looking to have a WFDSS refresher sometime in Oct.
- [WFDSS Survey](#)
 - We want to hear from you! A brief, anonymous survey was sent out wide to current WFDSS users to help us focus on needs from the field as well as

prioritize new features for the next 6 months. The survey will close on September 30, 2025 - We'll share the summarized data in our next Newsletter, along with other 6 month statistics.

- Sam Amato- There's a couple questions in the survey on features that people would like to see. From the 61 responses we've got so far, some of the top requests were for Decision preview and multiple approvers. Those are going to be out in the next release v1.1. Farsite, Flammap, auto map chart and notifications are not planned to be in 1.1. It's mostly going to be for approvers previewing drafts, and there's a couple other bug fixes, but I think those are the big two for 1.1.

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.
- As of last week, we still had 36 shapes whose combined language character counts totaled over 10,000. This will cause all language for that shape to fail to load into the Strategy section of WFDSS and fail to appear in your decision's Appendix A. Jonah made contact with all agency leads for these shapes, feel free to reach out to him for direct support.
 - Jennifer Hrobak- Did the video tutorials or written guides become available?
 - Jonah Vaughan- Final version will be released soon.

FMSF- TJ

- V2.1 was released. This release includes:
 - Adding FLAMSTAT model.
 - Fixed an issue where the projection file of shapefiles generated by MTT, RNDG, FSPR, and FARS would not work in ESRI
 - FSPR now supports floating-point values for min ERC, max ERC, historical ERC, and current ERC.
- Updated [Fire Modeling Services Framework \(FMSF\) User Guide](#)
 - Carol Ewell- Where is a good place to learn about FlamStat modeling?
 - Rick Mowery- The FMSF user guide does well at laying out what the inputs are and what values are valid for it. For more about how the model works and interpretation, there are likely better places though

IFTDSS Update – Wendy/Patrick/Bre

- IFTDSS is routinely updated to keep the application running smoothly. Visit the [maintenance schedule](#) to see when IFTDSS may be down for updates.
- Updated URLs for the following IFTDSS Reference Layers:
 - Infrastructure - Energy: Power Plants
 - Infrastructure - Energy: Transmission lines

- Special Designated Areas: Recreational Trailheads
- Removed Response Functions for Surface Drinking Water Map Values. Response functions (RFs) were associated with a previous version of Surface Drinking Water that was updated on 19 March 2025. Because the older RFs have not been evaluated with the new surface drinking water layer, they are being removed.
- Various bug fixes:
 - Landscape Burn Probability that disabled the "Use Ignitions From a Completed Run."
 - Fixed a bug from the 13 Aug 2025 patch that broke the input validation for Develop Treatment Alternatives.
- 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:**
 - Thomas St. Clair- Pretty slow fire wise. Oct. 21 through 24 will host a Fall fire review. There will be some opportunities to interact with multiple agencies in person in Anchorage.
- **Eastern:**
 - Joe Alyea- Seeing some drying trends in the GA right now. Abnormal for the northeast and also the Southern Tier and starting to see some flash drying in the Great Lakes right now. We are looking at doing a couple WFDSS trainings coming up as we transition into winter. Alan Hepworth is retiring at the end of the month.
- **Great Basin:**
 - Tonja Opperman- Activity is slow.
- **N. ops/S. ops:**
 - Patrick Doyle- Things have really slowed down. Did have some precip in Northern and Southern California. Cal Fire is going to be doing pod workshops, so we're going to be networking with the existing pod boundaries on the other agencies lands.
- **Northern Rockies:**
 - Karly Demars- Still have active fires. Couple days of a warming trend and then see more Fall type scenario. It should then be kind of ramping down South.
 - Jonatham Olsen- Still some large fires on the landscape on the forest. Most of them received precipitation over the last week, so they've moderated quite a bit. Most forests are in moderate fire danger, with a couple in the high category. No WFDSS trainings planned at the moment. Will work on it for the winter months.

- **Northwest:**
 - Ian Rickert- Holding at PL 4 right now, although we're trending towards a 3. Would expect to see that in another 3-4 days. Activity has been busy for the last week. Bear Gulch fir has interesting little study there and what can happen in 24 hours under the right conditions in a reinforced. Otherwise, still a handful IMTS out in NE Washington.
- **Rocky Mountain:**
 - Mike Caggiano- The conditions here have moderated. Not a lot of large fire activity. Thinking about having our own WFDSS AAR in the coming months.
 - Rebecca Hird- Most of the GA received some rain in the past 3 days up to an inch in some places.
 - Kate Fischer- Had a 209 fire down at Crescent Lake NWR since last call. A WFDSS decision was initiated.
- **Southwest:**
 - Richard Sinkovitz- Pretty slow in SW. Received moisture. 1 team mobilized on the Dragon Bravo, but it's suppression repair. No upcoming trainings. Starting to get our geographic area Decision support committee back in session starting November and we'll start planning some of that stuff for the winter months. We'll make sure to pass along whatever we come up with.
- **Southern:**
 - Kelly Cagle- Region 8 activity has been low, but IA is increasing. A large portion of the region is in some sort of drought classification. Forecasts are for continued dry weather pattern for next couple of weeks at least.

Next Call:

- Thursday, October 16th, 1300, Mountain Time.

Main WFMRD&A contacts for WFDSS related items:

- WFDSS Operations and Maintenance: Sam Amato sam.amato@usda.gov, Wes Hall Wesley.hall@usda.gov , and Sarah Synowiec sarah.synowiec@usda.gov, 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
- IFTDSS: Bre Schueller Brianna.schueller@usda.gov and Wendy Detwiler, wendy.detwiler@usda.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](#)