

# National Wildland Fire and Aviation System Coordination Group (SCG)

Meeting Minutes

Boise, Idaho

May 6, 2005

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## Attendees

	<b>Members:</b>
X	Al Borup – NWCG IRM-PMO (Chair)
	Mike Barrowcliff – USDA FS (Vice-Chair)
X	John Gebhard – BLM
	Gladys Crabtree – NPS
	Andrea Olson – FWS
X	David Potter – BIA
X	Rick Mills – DOI Aviation
	TBD – Fire Research
X	Keith Smith – NASF
X	Jon Skeels - ROSS
	George Conley – IQCS
	John Noneman – FPA
	Dan Keller – FPA/Landfire

	Bruce Jeske - Landfire
	Dorothy Albright – IBA
X	Andy Gray – ICSB-R
X	Eric Torres – NPS (alt. for Gladys Crabtree)

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Invited guests –

Bev Fronterhouse and John Palmer from the Alaska Fire Service

1	<p><b>Topic</b> – DOI Aviation Systems Overview  <b>Presenter</b> – Rick Mills</p> <p><i>Discussion:</i> Rick gave a quick overview of the applications in his charge. No single application that he presented is doing a 300 at this time, but one for the all-inclusive enclave called "Aviation Management Support Systems" is slated. He does manage several systems that are interagency in nature (used by DOI, FS, and States). His Pilot training app looks a lot like IQCS. The Pilot training application predated IQCS, but their similarity underscores the importance of cross referencing the upcoming NWFEA and the Interagency Aviation blueprints.</p> <p><i>Action Items:</i> None, but time cut us short. <a href="#">The SCG would like to continue with some Q&amp;A about Rick's O&amp;M needs and explore opportunities for collaboration</a></p>
2	<p><b>Topic</b> – Fire Domain Initiative  <b>Presenters</b> – Bev Fronterhouse &amp; John Palmer</p> <p><i>Discussion:</i> Bev and John gave an excellent history and high-level summary of the reasons that drove the creation of this proposal. This proposal surfaced over 3 years ago at a BLM system administrators meeting. The core of the issue revolves around the fact that the interagency wildland fire business does not neatly dove-tail into restrictive individual fire agency IT security policies. The proposal offers a way to skirt some of those restrictions so that fire can do its business without violating agency and departmental mandates. They are not saying that their solution is perfect, but rather a first cut at attempting to solve the problem. The motivation behind the proposal is to address the apparent conflicts between the way fire IRM operates versus how parent agencies IRM operate. This proposal has gone forward to the BLM's CIO, and is anticipated to move upward to the DOI CIO in the near future. The SCG felt that this should be escalated to the IRMWT for further consideration of the issue. The SCG noted that there is already a pending request to have them present at the June IRMWT meeting. The SCG recommends that at LEAST 1 ½ hours be dedicated to this topic at that meeting. The SCG recommends that the IRMWT form a task group to further detail this issue and potential solutions, with a broadened scope that fully includes the USDA Forest Service and States interests. Recommendations from that task group should then be considered, with a resultant recommendation from the IRMWT going to the NWCG Parent Group. Further, the SCG recommends that an Active Directory expert, from the private sector, be involved in that task.</p> <p><i>Action Items:</i> <a href="#">AI - Draft letter of recommendation to IRMWT, let SCG review before sending</a></p>
3	<p><b>Topic</b> – Help Desk Opportunities  <b>Presenter</b> – Al Borup</p> <p><i>Discussion:</i> ROSS is on the verge of renewing its HelpDesk contract. Jon Skeels gave the SCG a history of how ROSS's HelpDesk strategy was formed. In 2000, the NWCG suggested that this HelpDesk be contracted as a temporary measure, until the NWCG could forge an in-house solution for this type of support. That follow-on solution has not occurred and ROSS has continued renewing their contract support. The current contract expires July 1<sup>st</sup>, but has been extended 6 months until December. The vendor is fielding about 15 to 16 thousands calls a year (ROSS/ISuite combined), and sometimes up to 250 calls per day. The HelpDesk has 7 permanent personnel, and is functional 7x24. Costs is about \$640,000 a year, and averages about \$48.00 a call. The 7x24 requirement is a big cost driver. John is going to add a clause to the upcoming SOW that will allow other agencies/applications to add additional HelpDesk tasks to his contract. ICBS-R plans to take advantage of this. The SCG agreed that we have a common future vision of consolidated HelpDesk services for all of our NWCG applications. We believe the first step toward achieving this goal is to form a task group to perform an overall HelpDesk needs analysis, and that it should detail the needs for all of our fire systems – the various requirements, costs, etc. The task group would deliver a set of options to the IRMWT on how to migrate to this vision.</p> <p><i>Action Items:</i>  <a href="#">AI - draft letter of recommendation to IRMWT</a>  <a href="#">John Skeels – send copy of the new HelpDesk Statement of Work and Service Level Agreement to AI for distribution to SCG</a></p>

<b>4</b>	<b>Topic</b> – IQCS Software Maintenance Cancellation Proposal <b>Presenter</b> – John Gebhard
	<i>Discussion:</i> There is a proposal from George Conley to drop PeopleSoft maintenance support from the IQCS application. While the SCG did not feel it had any decision space in this issue, we felt that by Charter, our meeting was a valid place to discuss and share opinions about this issue. We discussed the issue at length, and pointed our suggestions to John Gebhard for his consideration.
	<i>Action Items:</i> <a href="#">None</a>

### ***System Comments:***

\*\*\* Ran out of time before we could walk through these systems for comment \*\*\*

- IQCS
- FORS
- FireCode
- ROSS
- I-Suite
- ICBS-R
- FPA
- Landfire

### ***Round Robin:***

- Al Borup –
  - Informed group of an upcoming conference call to discuss Business Processes modeling standards. Both FPA and IBA have contacted Al, asking for guidance on how best to align their modeling efforts with the National Wildland fire enterprise Architecture effort. Jim Barrett (Northrop Grumman contractor to DOI), Dan Keller, John Noneman, Michelle Tae, and Valerie Frankel will conference on Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> and 10AM to discuss this topic. Anyone interested is invited. Conference line and Passcode are listed above (same as SCG conference line).
  - Al requests that the group finalize the SCG Operating Principles and Guidelines document that is still considered DRAFT. Al will send it out one last time for final comment, and then remove the word DRAFT.
  - The SCG collaborative space on DisasterHelp.gov site is now populated with most of the artifacts of this group. Several folks have not yet registered for access to the space. Call Al with any questions or problems.

▪ ***Bin items:***

***Meeting Critique:***

What Went Well:

What Went Less Well:

Suggestions To Make Meetings Better: