

National Wildland Fire and Aviation System Coordination Group (SCG)

Meeting Minutes

Boise, Idaho

30-Nov-2007

Attendees:

Members:	Name	Agency	e-Mail	Telephone
	Andrea Olson	FWS	Andrea_Olson@fws.gov	(208) 387-5597
X	Carol Saras	NWCG PMO	Carol_Saras@blm.gov	(208) 387-5266
X	David Potter	BIA - Chair	David_Potter@nifc.gov	(208) 387-5237
	Erik Torres	NPS - Vice-Chair	Erik_Torres@nps.gov	(208) 387-5213
	John Gebhard	BLM	John_Gebhard@nifc.blm.gov	(208) 387-5164
X	Keith Smith	NASF	Keith_Smith@blm.gov	(208) 947-3735
X	Kristine Lee	USFS - Research	kristinelee@fs.fed.us	(406) 829-6977
X	Mike Barrowcliff	USFS	mbarrowcliff@fs.fed.us	(208) 387-5280
Guests:				
	Al Borup	NWCG PMO	Al_Borup@nifc.blm.gov	(208) 387-5263
	Andy Gray	ICBS-R	agray@fs.fed.us	(303) 907-3781
	Bill Rush	USFS	brush@fs.fed.us	(208) 387-5294
	Bruce Jeske	LANDFIRE	bjeske@fs.fed.us	(406) 829-6702
	Cindy Schafer	IQCS	Cindy_Schafer@nifc.blm.gov	(208) 947-3737
	Dan Keller	FPA/LANDFIRE	dkeller@fs.fed.us	(303) 236-0635
	Dorothy Albright	IBA	dpalbright@fs.fed.us	(541) 750-7403
	Frank Peters	NWFEA	Franklin_Peters@nifc.blm.gov	(208) 387-5262
	Gladys Crabtree	NPS	Gladys_Crabtree@nps.gov	(208) 387-5214
	Greg Jensen	BLM	Greg_Jensen@nifc.blm.gov	(208) 387-5438
X	John Noneman	FireCode	John_Noneman@blm.gov	(208) 947-3775
	Jon Skeels	ROSS	jskeels@fs.fed.us	(303) 236-0630
	Rick Mills	DOI Aviation	Rick_Mills@nbc.gov	(208) 433-5050
	Shari Shetler	IRMWT	Shari_Shetler@nifc.blm.gov	(208) 387-5700

BIA - NIFC North 2: (David Potter)

- BIA-NIFC is still working with BLM to have a new modular building built on the fire center. FWS, NPS, and NWS may join BIA in the building. Total occupancy expected to be 50-60 people.
- Everything is on hold while hoping for FY2008 funding; currently delayed by continuing resolutions.
- There are network issues to be resolved regarding BIA-NIFC's access to the Internet.
- Barbara Ruffner is the Project Manager for this effort.

SLA for Systems in O&M:

- No Updates.

I-COOP:

- No Updates.

System/Project Status Reporting: (Mike Barrowcliff)

- BLM provided information to Mike Barrowcliff.
- Potter agreed to contact Gladys Crabtree (NPS) about adding an item to the report to cover the effort Jody Lane (NPS) is doing with Thin Client. Possible aspects may include pre-loading GIS and/or LANDFIRE data and pre-positioning servers in the GACCs.
- Mike Barrowcliff hopes to have a report out by mid December 2007.

Helpdesk Interoperability Study: (Mike Barrowcliff & John Gebhard)

- Delayed due to possible early-out opportunities in USFS.
- Hope is to better integrate BLM, USFS, and ROSS help desks.
- A Thin Client program may look for interagency help desk opportunities.

Template for Plan for Transitioning Projects to O&M: (David Potter)

- Mike Barrowcliff indicated Jon Skeels and/or Dan Keller may have insights on the topic.

SCG Charter: (David Potter)

- The SCG approved the following amendments to the SCG Charter:
 - Remove AMD (Department of the Interior - Aviation Management) from charter.
 - Reduce quorum from six to five voting members.
 - Changed "Research/JFSP" to a slightly more generic "Fire Research".
- Amended charter will not be sent to the IRMWT Chairperson until the new proposed amendment is considered by the SCG:
- Replace the sentence: "The need for additional or replacement SCG members shall be forwarded to the IRMWT for their consideration and appointment." with the sentences "The need for additional voting SCG members shall be forwarded to the IRMWT for their consideration and appointment. The replacement of voting SCG members shall be at their organization's discretion and concurrence will be sought from the IRMWT Chairperson." The topic was raised due to the PMO's replacement of Al Borup as its voting member with Carol Saras. We have never enforced this requirement (either with Erik replacing Gladys or with Kristine replacing Caroline). The original clause in our charter would take away the ability of the represented agency to select its representative and place the authority with the IRMWT. Some felt the burden was overly bureaucratic; others questioned why each agency should have to defer its membership on the SCG to the IRMWT. All present at the meeting felt each agency should be able to select its representative and to then only seek concurrence from the IRMWT chairperson. The question has been put before the SCG voting members for a final vote.

SCG Elected Positions: (David Potter)

- Our charter calls for electing a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson annually.
- Nominations were sought for Chairperson. None were offered. Carol declined the nomination, claiming a lack of experience within this group (justifiable, given this is her first meeting). David agreed he would be willing to serve as Chairperson for a second year. David was quickly nominated, seconded, and approved by the SCG members attending the meeting (we had a quorum). The final election has been put before the SCG voting members for a vote.
- Nominations were sought for Vice-Chairperson. David stated Erik indicated a willingness to continue to serve as Vice-Chairperson if necessary; but that Erik was not willing to accept the Chairperson role, claiming a lack of interagency experience and current workload. Carol Saras' comments left open the possibility she may be willing to serve as Chairperson next year. Mike Barrowcliff nominated Carol. Keith Smith seconded the nomination. Carol was elected by the SCG members attending the meeting (we had a quorum). The final election has been put before the SCG voting members for a vote.

SCG Meeting Schedule: (David Potter)

- The meeting schedule has been changed to the 1st Thursday of each month.
- The next meeting will be held at 9:00 MST on Thursday, January 3, 2008.
- Mike Barrowcliff arranged for our conference call reservation to be changed to our new schedule for all of 2008.

Round Robin:

Carol Saras (NWCG PMO):

- NWFEA's Blueprint is due out in late December 2007. It is at a very high level only.
- NWFEA is still working on technical recommendations. They are creating a Technical Reference Model that will cross interagency and State boundaries.
- Carol is working with CTSPGT on an incident security policy.
- She is also a liaison with NWCG to gain high-level support for her tasks.

Mike Barrowcliff (USFS):

- His focus has been on addressing findings from a FS-IT Security Material Weakness audit started 6-8 months ago, due by December 31, 2007 deadline. It includes topics regarding C&As, PII data, and non-government employees.
- Mike Barrowcliff is the USFS's Project Manager on an effort to review/redesign how State & Private grants are distributed to the States. Driven by 3-National Themes of: Conserving Working Forest Landscapes, Protecting Forests from Harm, and Enhance Benefits Associated with Trees and Forests. Hope to have a prototype application by February 2008; pilot programs will be in three states (CO, FL, and NY).
- The USFS data warehouse will be stood up in test mode in late December 2007 and expects to "go live" around March, 2008. It should support the .KMZ format to allow data interaction with Google-based tools.

Keith Smith (NASF):

- Glad USFS's data warehouse is coming along.
- Reported on the Fire Occurrence Reporting Study (FORS):
- Trying for data standards for 38 elements.
- Good progress is being made.
- 5-10 of the data elements are "a struggle."
- A report is due by the end of January 2008.
- He is involved with the USFS's effort to review/redesign how fire funding is given to the States and private entities via USFS grants.
- He is also representing the States' interests on FPA
- IQS (the States' version of IQCS) is stable and he is working with the ROSS project to change the data transfer mechanism. IQS is also about to move to a web-based version.
- Mike Barrowcliff told Keith the interface between ROSS and the California fire CAD system is a success.

John Noneman (BLM Project Manager):

- IQCS is going through its recurring reaccreditation process.
- BLM is working on an IQCS issue paper in regards to the PeopleSoft licensing.
- BLM has requested funds in FY2009 for IQCS study.
- New rumors in the industry suggest Oracle may not end support of PeopleSoft in 2013 as previously announced.
- Thin Client technology at the incidents will not be the "silver bullet" to solve all problems. It is very good and offers many opportunities; but there will be specific needs that cannot be met with Thin Clients.

Kristine Lee (Fire Research):

- LANDFIRE has an after action review during the 1st week of December 2007.

David Potter (BIA): Nothing.

Future SCG Meetings (David Potter):

- Tentative dates for future SCG meetings are:
 - 3-Jan-2008
 - 14-Feb-2008 (delayed one week due to IRMWT meeting during 1st week)
 - 6-Mar-2008
 - 3-Apr-2008
 - 1-May-2008
 - 12-Jun-2008 (delayed one week due to IRMWT meeting during 1st week)