



## Fire Management Board

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FMB Tasking Memorandum No. 16-001

Date: 3 March 2016

TO: Ben Butler, Chair, Incident Data Access Task Group

FROM: Larry Sutton, Chair, Fire Management Board

SUBJECT: Release of Fire Incident Data to the Public

**Purpose:** This memorandum establishes a task team to address standard protocols and associated guidance for release of wildland fire incident data to the public.

**Tasking:** Conduct an assessment of business requirements and develop recommendations for standard protocols and associated guidance regarding the release of wildland fire incident data to the public that could be used by the agencies. The task team is expected to reach out to subject matter experts and pertinent interagency stakeholders at national, geographic area, and local levels to assess business requirements and develop recommendations. Provide a status report at the FMB meeting, May 18, 2016, and a final report, including recommendations, at the FMB meeting, October 19, 2016, that address the following:

- What data should be released and what data should not be released?
- When and how should data be released – real time release or delayed release?
- How should we coordinate with external affairs?
- How should we handle data from state or local entities? Are they ok with the release of their data?
- How to minimize conflicts with data published on the Situation Report and other public reports?
- Who should oversee and manage this process?
- What, if any, IT security issues must be addressed prior to the release of data?

Ben Butler will serve as task group chair, reporting to the FMB. Other representatives have been selected to cover the range of wildland fire business area stakeholders. Paul Schlobohm, NWCG-FMB Liaison, will serve as our contact with your task group. The task group will seek assistance from Subject Matter Experts as needed. The task group members are:

- Chair, Ben Butler, FS RD&A
- External Affairs, Randy Eardley, BLM; Kaari Carpenter, FS
- NICC Intelligence, Sean Peterson, BLM
- NWCG Fire Reporting Subcommittee, Andy Kirsch, NPS
- NWCG Data Management Committee, Keith Smith, NASF
- GACC-level data management, Kim Kelly, BIA
- NWCG Geospatial Subcommittee, Sean Triplett, FS

**Contact:** Please provide deliverables to Paul Schlobohm ([pschlobo@blm.gov](mailto:pschlobo@blm.gov)) one week prior to FMB meeting dates.