



Fire Management Board

Predictive Services Oversight Group

PSOG-19-02

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To: Predictive Services Units, Geographic Area Coordination Center Managers, and Geographic Area Coordinating Groups

From: Dan O'Brien, Chair, Predictive Services Oversight Group **DANIEL O'BRIEN**

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Subject: Predictive Services Program Goals and Next Steps

The recent PSOG Memorandum 19-01 provided some basic national program direction, among which was encouragement to begin developing “a process for achieving alignment with the Predictive Services mission and shifting program emphasis.” Program goals provided below take the process one step further, specifying desired outcomes for an evolving national program.

Predictive Services Program Requirements

Program Goal: Predictive Services Units engage as integral components of the National Coordination System, providing actionable intelligence in support of multi-agency coordination decision-making:

- Predictive Services staff possess a working knowledge of management principles and critical decision factors in order to better provide actionable intelligence in support of multi-agency coordination decision-making.
- Predictive Service staff engage decision-makers as a cohesive team to critically frame decisions and meaningfully display the resulting operational implications that will influence wildland fire and incident management decision-making.
- Predictive Services staff possess the necessary skills/tools for accomplishing administrative and organizational tasks.

Management Goal: Coordination Center Managers and Coordinating Groups recognize Predictive Services staff as active members of the wildland fire decision-making process whose efforts and expertise critically shape operational decisions and outcomes:

- Provide clear leader's intent, clarify roles and responsibilities and set management expectations relative to coordination center and multi-agency coordination operations.
- Assist in resolving Predictive Services issues and concerns.

National Predictive Services Product & Services Requirements

Product and Services Goal: National Predictive Services products and services will utilize best available science, will be responsive and consistently available for decision-maker considerations:

- National products and services will utilize standard data sets that are consistently available from reliable data sources. Data sources will provide 24/7 support.
- National products will function from stable operating platforms with technical support.
- National products will be populated and available 365 days per year, utilizing the best available data and will follow processes and protocols that ensure scientific integrity.
- Products/services will be regularly evaluated to verify reliability for strategic decision-making.

Management Goal: National Predictive Services products and supporting data sets/services will exist as a budget line item in annual program budgets.

Next Steps

Over the next year, PSOG intends to work through the details for achieving Predictive Services program goals. Ongoing first steps include:

- Customer engagement of national and geographic area leadership and staff to learn their perspective and engagement of strategic decision-making and how this may influence Predictive Services products and services;
- Revisiting the National Significant Fire Potential Forecast product to address issues of scientific integrity, standardization, consistent availability and product support;
- Opening dialogue with FAM IT on steps to better alignment and support for technical Predictive Services products;
- Establishing requirements for Predictive Services functional areas that further refine program intent relative to program mission and program goals.

This is in no way an exhaustive list. PSOG also intends to actively engage at the Fall Coordinators and Predictive Services Meetings, among others, to both listen and inform. There's plenty of work. We continue to encourage Predictive Services staff and stakeholders to ask questions and provide feedback through their respective PSOG representatives. Their contact information can be obtained by following the link to the [Predictive Services Oversight Group Membership Roster](#).