



## National Wildfire Coordinating Group

National Interagency Fire Center  
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### MEMORANDUM

Reference: NWCG#005-2012

To: Geographic Area Coordinating Group (GACG) Chairs  
National IC/AC Council Chair

From: NWCG Chair *Arthur Bidabun*

Date: April 11, 2012

Subject: Wildland Fire Decision Support System and the Role of Incident Management Teams

The Wildland Fire Decision Support System (WFDSS) has been used during the past three (3) years by all federal agencies and many states. Given the variation in fire season complexity, the assignment of responsibility for publishing a decision has been inconsistent, particularly in relation to the role of Incident Management Teams (IMTs). Both Unit Line Officer and IMTs desire clarification on the role of the IMT.

The purpose of this paper is to present consistent guidance in the role of Unit Line Officer and Incident Management Teams in WFDSS. Although the WFDSS decisions are the Unit Line Officer's responsibility, this memo specifically addresses:

- What portions of the WFDSS process may or may not be delegated to the IMT
- What WFDSS understanding and skills IMT personnel need
- Where the Unit Line Officers or IMT can obtain help with WFDSS.

If you have questions regarding the Unit Line Officer or IMT role in WFDSS, please contact your Fire Director or Lisa Elenz, Acting Wildland Fire Management RD&A Program Manager at (208) 387-5658.

Attachment A: WFDSS and the Role of IMTs White Paper

cc: NWCG Executive Board  
Program Management Unit (PMU)  
NWCG Committee Chairs  
Budget Advisory Unit (BAU) Chair  
Roy Johnson, OWFC Deputy Director  
Rod Bloms, OWFC Program Analyst  
Lisa Elenz, Acting WFM RDA