



NATIONAL WILDFIRE COORDINATING GROUP

Memorandum No. 16-025
Date: 25 October 2016

TO: Larry Sutton, Chair, Fire Management Board
FROM: John Glenn, Chair, NWCG Executive Board
SUBJECT: Wildland Fire Information and Technology (WFIT) program assistance request:
Incident Complexes and Merged Wildfires

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John A. Glenn", is positioned to the right of the "FROM:" line.

In September 2015, the NWCG Executive Board tasked the Data Management Committee to develop NWCG standards that would enable accurate and consistent interagency data management practices for incident complexes and merged wildfires. This was necessary because incident complexes and merged wildfires affect the ability to enter, report, and use incident data in an accurate and useful manner. Managers have experienced ongoing issues related to wildland fire data management such as: limited interagency guidance for reporting and data management; limited information technology system flexibility; incident data integrity; and use of geospatial data.

The Data Management Committee has developed proposed standards, which are attached to this document. The NWCG Executive Board supports the standards. However, prior to releasing them for use by the member agencies, a number of IT requirements must be approved and implemented. These are:

- Modify CADs and ICS209 to:
 - Recognize that an incident complex record is not the same as a wildfire incident record and collects different data.
 - Only allow incident complex records to be created as a Complex Event Category.
 - Allow individual incidents to be added to and removed from an incident complex.
- Enable ICS209 to capture and update additional required data for each child incident to be summed or rolled up in the incident complex ICS209 report.
- Ensure that CADs and ICS209 can share incident complex data, including data for each child record, with other applications via the IRWIN data exchange capability.
- Ensure that CADs, ICS209, FireCode, ROSS and other applications can read incident complex data from the IRWIN data exchange capability for use in their business function.

Please help us meet these requirements as soon as possible. Please direct questions to Roshelle Pederson, Data Management Committee Chair (kimber_pederson@ios.doi.gov), or Paul Schlobohm, NWCG staff (pschlobo@blm.gov).

Attachment:

1. *NWCG Data Management Standards for Incident Complexes and Merged Wildfires.*