

Data Management Committee (DMC) Meeting Notes



Meeting Name: Monthly Meeting

Meeting Date: Tuesday 9/10/2019 1-3PM Mountain Time

In Person: NWCG Conference Room

Virtual:

<https://zoom.us/j/447464116>

Conference Line: (669) 900 6833 or (929) 436 2866

Meeting ID: 447 464 116

Attendees:	Attendees:
Andrew Bailey	Laura Barrett
Cameron Tongier	Lauren Hickey
Casey Teske (new FWS)	Lori Glaeser
Dianna Sampson	Paul Schlobohm
Emmy Harbo	Rick Squires
GaBriella Branson	Roshelle Pederson
Gina Papke	Skip Edel
Heather Castillo	Steve Larrabee
Kevin Guerrero	

Agenda:

- Data Cache Update
- Data Maturity Assessment
- Standards DB Update
- Incident Complex and Merged Fire Guidance

Meeting Notes:

Data Cache Update: Kickoff meeting for technical design contract will be scheduled soon. The contract is for 6 months. Both departments (USDA & DOI OCIO) will be closely involved to ensure that the technical design is in line with the departments' enterprise plan.

The technical analysis will come back with a plan on how to handle the transactional database layer.

Data Maturity Assessment: It still looks as though we are driving data via applications vs enterprise. We ended up at a 2.5 out of 5 for data maturity. Our Standards Database, IRWIN work, and other areas are really good. We have gaps in other areas – decision making boards, data specific stewards, etc. Roshelle will send out the results of the maturity assessment.

Data Governance: Ideas are floating around about what data will be integrated with IRWIN after the 6.0 release. The Data Management Committee is the business steward for IRWIN so the DMC will need to begin taking part in that decision process and prioritizing how the data gets managed.



Data Management Program Support: Jeff Rupert approved moving the funding for USGS GeoMac and will use it to support Data Management Program.

Incident Complex and Merged Fire Guidance:

Tami Parkinson submitted the following request to the DMC:

There are many ways to go about merging, complexing or grouping incidents, but I think it is time to do a check-in following the direction and guidance that was produced following the 2015 fire season – Some questions include:

- *what has changed?*
- *what needs updated and are there additional considerations that may have been overlooked?*
- *what is needed or needs to be changed to make this work smoother?*
- *who all needs to be involved?*

Some of the applications have changed and perhaps are more robust, in addition some of the applications are going through an overhaul and it would be timely to think about how these topics could be incorporated into the new design.

I would encourage the data management committee to initiate these conversations with some of the stake holders - I have included a couple of folks who I have talked with and guided through various conversations this past field season. I think these folks would have a great perspective share to this work and guidance.

DCM agrees that there is a need to revisit this. Suggest we have a specific focus session on this at an Irwin Integration Testing to better understand existing capabilities and identify gaps.

There is a complex ID in the National Feature Service. It's up to the powers that be to give the fire a Complex ID. Fires that should be merged aren't being merged because of financial reasons. The applications do not yet have a way to handle things. The feeling is not that the guidance is incomplete or incorrect but that the IT environment doesn't support the guidance.

Alaska had 7 total merges. In one case, Fire A consumed Fire B and ultimately, they consumed fire C. Because we don't have the data visualization stood up, we don't know if our analysis tools are able of handling those types of relationships.

Communication Support Opportunity: Communication team at OWF and NIFC are going to help us communicate what we're doing and why it is important (via video and maybe other mediums). We want to communicate (1) the importance of IRWIN and IROC integration to leadership (2) why data standards are important. The communication folks are going to attend a Fire Reporting subcommittee meeting and other meetings to create professionally tailored communication messages. Let Roshelle know if anyone has an idea for a communication video.

Subcommittee Round Robin:



GSC:

- Finalizing the Incident Position Description for the NWCG website
- Completed Perimeter Data Sources table and white paper coming soon
- GeoMac update. Transition plan is on track.

FRSC:

- Working on the acres data in Inform – going from 3 acre fields to 2 fields -
- Final fire data set spreadsheet has not been sent out yet. The letter is ready to send to DMC.
- Steve and Matt Jolly spoke and are working to define the data fields for fire danger and fire occurrence...Matt is the fire danger research person that can help them implement these fields.
- FFP – Uses historical fire occurrence data for analysis and has been working with Matt on an INFORM export so FFP can import the information. This will likely result in FFP making changes to its current data schema to accept better data (like a GUID for an incident ID instead of the traditional fire number)
- INFORM View access will be available to mobile users.

DSTS:

- We have a lot of data standards out for review and have gotten a lot of comments so far
- Adding a search option for the glossary

DSIS:

- We've been working with Tod DaBolt on implementing the NWCG Standards Database Neo4j and Linkurious. This is a significant investment and the DOI OCIO has asked us to look at RDF database and semantic data route. The OCIO is going to come out to visit us on October 28th and we're going to discuss with them on using the technology that they want us to use. They've already paid for RDF graph within GeoPlatform and if our data can be put into their standard then we can comply with open data and machine readable data and will offer us some opportunity to reuse data in other places and other environments.
- The OCIO also has tools that can automate workflow and help with Ontology.
- We will keep our instance of Neo4j up and running until we migrate
- NFPA conference is coming up and hopefully we will learn how to incorporate RDF, graph and semantics into the Data Cache technical plan.

Unit ID

- Waiting for the fire season to end so they can get onto the new platform.

NWCG Updates:

- 34 positions out for review on the NWCG website
- NWCG all chairs meeting will be in February 2020 at the training center. It will be focused on committees.
- Quarterly call is on October 2nd. Committee chairs should have invites anyone can call into this as well.
- Firenet is not going away...Google will be extended an additional year and then other platforms will be considered to meet the requirement.
- IRIN conversation is going to be revisited now that fire season is wrapping up.

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- Paul is retiring Dec 31st!

Action Items:

Lead	Other members	Committee	Action	Report back
Roshelle		DMC	Get and share results of the Data Management Program Maturity Assessment	Sept
GaBriella		DSTS	Consider the review process for data standards. Should interested stakeholders be given the opportunity to review a proposal before it is posted for public comment?	Oct DMC Meeting
Dianna	GaBriella, Emmy	FRSC	Re-work Fire Size data standard	Within FRSC
Roshelle		DMC	Contact the previous Incident Complex and Merged Fire task group members and schedule meetings to review current guidance.	Oct DMC Meeting

Next meeting:

October 8, 2019 1300 MT