

Interagency Dispatch Implementation Project (IDIP)

Project Update

Fire Share Cost Analysis Tool (FCAT)

Business Requirements Working Group

June 30 – July 1, 2015

Overview: A working group comprised of Interagency Dispatch Implementation Project (IDIP) team members and a mixture of interagency fire managers, planners and executives met at the Rocky Mountain Area Coordination Center June 30 and July 1, 2015. The purpose of the meeting was to initiate discussions to develop a business case for a software package to inform staffing and fair share costs for interagency dispatch and coordination centers. This is one of the top priority action items identified by the IDIP project.

Participants Included:

IDIP Team Members		Additional Subject Matter Experts	
Cathy Hutton	Center Mgr for the Cody Interagency Disp Ctr, BLM	Mike Davin	Regional Fire Mgmt Officer Intermountain Region NPS and current chair of the Rocky Mtn Area Coord. Group (RMCG)
Sheri Fox	Center Mgr for the Great Plains Interagency Disp Ctr, FS	Neal Beetch	Regional Fuels Coord. Mountain/Prairie Region FWS and acting chair of the RMCG Ops Committee
John Byas	Special Agent for Pacific Northwest Region FS	Cal Pino	Regional Fire Management Officer for SW Region BIA and RMCG Board Member
Julian Affuso	Deputy Director of Safety, FAM Rocky Mtn Region, FS	Robert LaPlant	Wildland Fire Prog Mgr Rocky Mtn Region, BIA / RMCG Executive Committee
Scott Swendsen	Center Manager RMCC, FS	Steve Ellis	West Area Field Mgmt Officer, State of Colorado
Susie Stingley-Russell	Center Manager, NICC, FS	Brian Achziger	Deputy State Fire Mgmt Officer Colorado State Office BLM
Traci Beaudin	IDIP Core Team, FS	Gwenan Poirier	Fire Planning Specialist Colorado State Office BLM
Kolleen Beesley	IDIP Project Lead, FS	Kara Stringer	Acting Deputy Ctr Mgr Great Basin Area Coord Ctr

Guest Presentation: Scott Sugg, Fire Operations Specialist - FS Rocky Mountain Region, discussed ongoing efforts to develop a standard operating guide for the National Incident Cache system.

Highlights: This working group discussed and evaluated new and existing models and component parts necessary to identify the best methods for determining dispatch center complexity levels. They determined that dispatch center core functions are integral to evaluating complexity. Outputs will be scalable to local, regional, state and national levels. Participants recognized the need for the model to adapt to future changes so that it can evolve as technology moves forward.

Next Steps: The working group drafts a list of factors that contribute to dispatch center complexity and potential measures for these factors. The IDIP will finalize these elements to provide to leadership for review and approval. Upon approval, the IDIP team will be able to distinguish non-core duties (“a la carte” services) that many dispatch and coordination centers are providing to their customers. The working group will review historic data to determine if they can use it to measure core functions. The IDIP FCAT working group will develop the FCAT business case for consideration in the Wildland Fire Information and Technology (WFIT) process. This tool, once developed, will replace FireOrg and any other staffing/costing models used to inform funding and staffing at individual dispatch centers.

Contact: The IDIP project shares pertinent information with the dispatch community and leadership, but may also require confidentiality for deliberative information. If you have a question, heard an anecdote, or rumor please contact the IDIP Project Lead at jdip@fs.fed.us.

IDIP on the Internet: <http://www.forestsandrangelands.gov/WFIT/applications/IDIP/index.shtml>.