



WFIT News

Volume 1, Issue 1
April, 2015

Vision "Fundamentally improve information and technology processes that support fire business."



Mission "Provide access to timely, consistent, reliable information and technology services to enable effective, efficient Wildland Fire business functions through interagency collaboration."

WFIT SOP Working Draft Completed

A first draft of the WFIT Standing Operating Procedures (SOP) is now complete and presented to the Executive Board. The Program Board and new Core WFIT support team will continue to refine this document as WFIT working groups, (the Planning Working Group, Development Working Group, and Operations and Development Working Group) begin their work.

We encourage you to review a copy of this document by going to the [Forest & Rangeland](#) website. Send comments to Kathy Hinds at kastuehlerhinds@fs.fed.us.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

[WFIT SOP Working Draft Completed](#)

[News from the WFIT Executive Board](#)

[Other Activities](#)

News from the WFIT Executive Board

The WFIT Executive Board met on March 27th, 2015 to discuss these items:

Fire Line of Business Study: The Contract Support Team is working on Line of Business discovery. An April 14th kick-off meeting will discuss "leaders' intent" and project effort focus and deliverables.

5-Year Investment Plan: The Executive Board received an update on planning efforts and congressional pass back.

Access Authentication: Update regarding working group efforts to address interoperability issue affecting dispatching and service first centers. USDA FS and DOI are reviewing new and proposed technical - solution sets. The

Executive Board will evaluate recommendations at their April 20 meeting.

Project Proposals:

- ✓ **Fire Reporting:** DOI is looking at alternatives to the aging Wildland Fire Management Information (WFMI) platform. The effort is looking to leverage existing capabilities when possible.
- ✓ **Consolidated Weather:** The EB approved the formation of a working group to address aging, duplicative, weather reporting system issues.

- ✓ **Next Generation Prevention Tool:** An RFI is in process to investigate a replacement for RAMS.
- ✓ **FTP Site:** FAM-IT, under the auspices of WFIT, will provide information about how to access a new site for the fire community to share information.

WFIT Calendar

- WFIT Program Board meets weekly (Wed 1-4 MST)
- FMB Information Technology Advisory Board (ITAB) meets monthly (second Thursday 8-10 MST)
- Executive Board (EB) meets Bi-Monthly (third Friday of month) **TIME?**
- WFIT Project Managers Group meeting twice a month (Thursdays at 1:00 MDT)

Learn More At....

Review WFIT governance, library documents, charters, and MOUs at these websites:

 [Forest and Rangelands](#)

 [Wildland Fire Lessons Learned Center](#)

Other Activities

WFIT Core Staffing: The DOI and FS plan to hire a WFIT Program Manager, Business, and Data Architects. The OWF is working on position classification and advertising via USA Jobs. The plan is to hire these staff before end of this year.

GMAIL Issue: To ensure that FOIA requirements are met, a small working team is identifying a technical solution for using non-government email. The DOI/USDA/FS CIO offices will send the field a memo about this issue.

HSPD-12 Waiver: The USDA recently approved a 2015 waiver for non-HSPD 12 card holders to access government systems in support of fire operations. Our thanks to Doug Nash, FS OCIO for making this happen.

Project Manager Working Group: Erik Torrez-Jacques is leading the effort to formally organize a WFIT Working Group team to discuss Project Manager related WFIT support requirements. The group meets twice a month on Thursdays at 1:00 MDT.

WFIT ETG: The WFIT Emerging Technologies Group (ETG) meets regularly to refine charter goals and internal processes. Additional information about the ETG will be available in the May 2015 WFIT Newsletter.

Mobile Technologies Working Group: An interagency group meets monthly to review new technologies that could be used for field operations. A recent report of current activities was published by this team and shared with Program Board\Information Advisory Technology Board (ITAB) leadership.

IDIP Working Group: An interagency team will implement the findings of a dispatch governance study. They are also working on the Next Gen Computer Aided Dispatching (CAD) procurement effort.

CAD 6.0 Fielding Effort: The DOI is sponsoring an effort to implement the 6.0 WildCAD Software upgrade to national dispatch centers starting this spring.

IrWin: Integration efforts regarding IRWIN and legacy

Fire IT applications are ongoing along with associated testing efforts. The project is ahead of schedule with more applications being considered for integration into this system.

FAM IT O&M Bidders Conference: A bidder's conference was held for current O&M contract. Over 50 bidders attended this FS AQM sponsored event. Request for Proposal will follow.



Be part of the news!

Anyone interested in submitting articles for this newsletter should send information\requests to Traci Beaudin, WFIT Newsletter Editor, at: tbeaudin@fs.fed.us

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Contact Traci Beaudin,
WFIT Newsletter Editor at
tbeaudin@fs.fed.us