

**IDIP SME Meeting Talking Points
February 27, 2015**

Background

The Interagency Dispatch Implementation Project (IDIP) focus is to improve program delivery of dispatch services while meeting the mission needs of the Forest Service and Department of Interior, as well as State, local, Tribal, and other stakeholders. The IDIP provides a path forward to implementing safety, efficiency, and cost effectiveness changes in the dispatch and coordination system in partnership with our employee membership representatives (FS & USDI partnership unions).

Status

The IDIP Program Manager established three Technical Working Groups (TWGs) to address Governance, Workload/Staffing, and IT/Facilities. Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) and the Interagency Dispatch Operations Guide (IDOG) will be addressed by separate working groups. These TWGs include 23 personnel from disciplines focused on each specific subject matter, and represent a cross section of agency and geographic experience and composition. The TWGs met in Tucson, AZ, February 24-27, 2015. The SMEs were briefed on leaders intent, reviewed previous studies, and validated the as-is situation from previous studies and assessments.

During the February meeting the TWG groups focused on Phase 1 of IDIP Implementation. TWG identified priorities include:

Facility/IT TWG Top 5	Governance TWG Top 5	Workload/Staffing TWG Top 5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Network (Dedicated) • IA Facilities Design Team • Stand Alone Center Criteria • Radio Infrastructure • Geographic Location/Money for New Construction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Organizational Structure” Differences • Funding Contributions • SOPs, MOUs, AOPs Formats – Develop Standard • Line of Authority • LE Dispatch 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workload Activities • Workload Analysis Tool • Complexity and Pay Levels • Training • Retention

- Develop/Validate As-Is situation addressing core elements, mission requirements and the scope and function of dispatch services. This includes identification of any missing essential information and the means and timeframe to obtain it. The team will compile background info as necessary and benchmark public and private opportunities.
- Prioritize core elements within each TWG that represent the most critical areas to implement change alternatives to Leadership.
- Compare the previous Federal Fire Executive Team, NWCG, Leadership and other recommendations from past studies to validate their continued implementation.
- Identify elements of the status quo that do not operate as intended and/or require standardization. This will include development of problem statements that will lead to various alternatives for management determination.
- The team will seek out expertise and additional information necessary to explore and develop implementation alternatives.

Next Steps

In their next meeting (scheduled for Reno, NV, March 16-20) the TWG groups will arrive with rough draft elements describing ‘as is’, for peer review and finalization.

Communication

This project is transparent, but confidentiality of deliberative information is required from each team member so misinformation and rumors are not spread. Concise, accurate real-time information will be shared as described in the communication plan. If you have a question, or heard a rumor, please contact the IDIP Project Lead at idip@fs.fed.us.

Our web page is located at: <http://www.forestsandrangelands.gov/WFIT/applications/IDIP/index.shtml>. An action item from the February meeting included exploring opportunities for the use of social media to keep interested stakeholders informed on the project. We will provide information on those opportunities in future updates.