Fall 2015 DMC Meeting

Update on Task Groups

NWCG Executive Board Taskings to the DMC

➤ FireCode Task Group

  ➤ In response to a letter to NWCG from the State of ID and regional USDA FS and BLM FMOs regarding the confusion around the host Unit ID, and inconsistencies in the user's guide.

➤ Complexes and Merged Fires

  ➤ Action prompted by problems with complexes in 2014 and again in 2015. Merged fire proposal from AK in response to the 2015 fire season.

FireCode Task Group Membership

- Laura J Barrett, FS FireCode Business Lead
- David Burley, DOI FireCode Business Lead
- Jamie Parker, FS Incident Business
- Christine Peters, NPS Incident Business
- Carol Salo, BLM Incident Business
- Danica Colley, NPS FBMS SME

- Chris Stratton, FS Abq Service Center
- Jill Amanda Leguineche, Dispatch
- Rick Squires, Dispatch & Unit IDs
- Gwenan Poirier, BLM Fire Planner
- Shannon Tippett, BLM FireCode Project Manager
- Roshelle Pederson, DMC - Facilitator

FireCode Task Group

- *Address issues identified in Management Oversight of FireCode and Unit Identifiers (NWCG DOC181) that relate to either the business rules associated with FireCode or the application itself.*

- *Determine which issues identified by the Idaho interagency partners can be resolved by updates to business rules or the application, or need to be addressed elsewhere, for example in agency policy or another application.*

FireCode Task Group

- *Revise business rules associated with FireCode, including but not limited to Unit ID-related data standards, as appropriate.*
    - Replace Host Unit ID with Jurisdictional Unit ID
    - Add Protecting Unit ID
    - Add Fiscally Responsible Unit ID
        - Optional
        - Probably managed by IBA, not dispatch
    - All three will require a data standard

FireCode Task Group

- *Work with the FireCode Business Leads to determine the need for a FireCode Change Management Board. If needed provide suggestions on membership/representation.*
  - Determined a Change Management Board is required.
    - Federal membership only
    - Each agency will be represented
    - Incident Business, Finance, Dispatch, and other business areas to be represented

FireCode Task Group

- *Identify changes in the FireCode application to present to the FireCode Business Leads.*

  - Unit IDs (jurisdictional, protecting, fiscally responsible)

  - Incident Category

    - Ignition FireCodes – requires Lat/Long

      - Wildfire (WF), False Alarm (FA), Assist (?)

    - Non-ignition FireCodes – does not require a Lat/Long

      - Support (SU) and Preparedness/Preposition (PP)

FireCode Task Group

- Work with the FireCode Business Leads to revise the FireCode User Guide as necessary.

  - Will be tasked to the Change Management Board

- Provide potential solutions to issues that were identified but are outside of the FireCode application.

  - DMC will have to support the work on Unit IDs and the Event Kind Category data standard

FireCode Task Group

- Report accomplishments to NWCG Executive Board

  - In progress, target date to NWCG Nov 7, 2015

- CMB to be established

- FireCode to assess all change requirements

- CMB and Business Leads prioritize

- CMB to update user's guide to reflect changes to the application

Complex & Merged Fires Task Group Membership

- Andrew Bailey
- Andy Kirsch
- Bill Fletcher
- Bob Lippincott
- Christine Peters
- Chuck Wamack
- Dave Burley
- Dianna Sampson
- GaBriella Branson
- Isaiah Hirschfield
- Jeff Arnberger
- Jerry Clements
- Julie Polutnik

- Kara Stringer
- Kristy Swartz
- Laura Barrett
- Beth Spencer
- Mary Gausen
- Peter Butteri
- Quincy Chung
- Roger Staats
- Sarah Fisher
- Sean Peterson
- Shari Miller
- Susan Goodman
- Jill Lipsey

Complexes and Merged Fires Tasks

- *Establish clear terminology and definitions for multiple wildfire incidents that are managed as a complex, or are merged into a single incident.*

- *Review related NWCG Glossary Terms and Definitions and recommend changes as necessary.*

Terms and Definitions

- **Incident complex** - refers to two or more individual incidents located in the same general area that are assigned to a single IC or UC (FEMA)

- **Merged fire** – a wildfire that physically burns into another wildfire [and is declared merged].
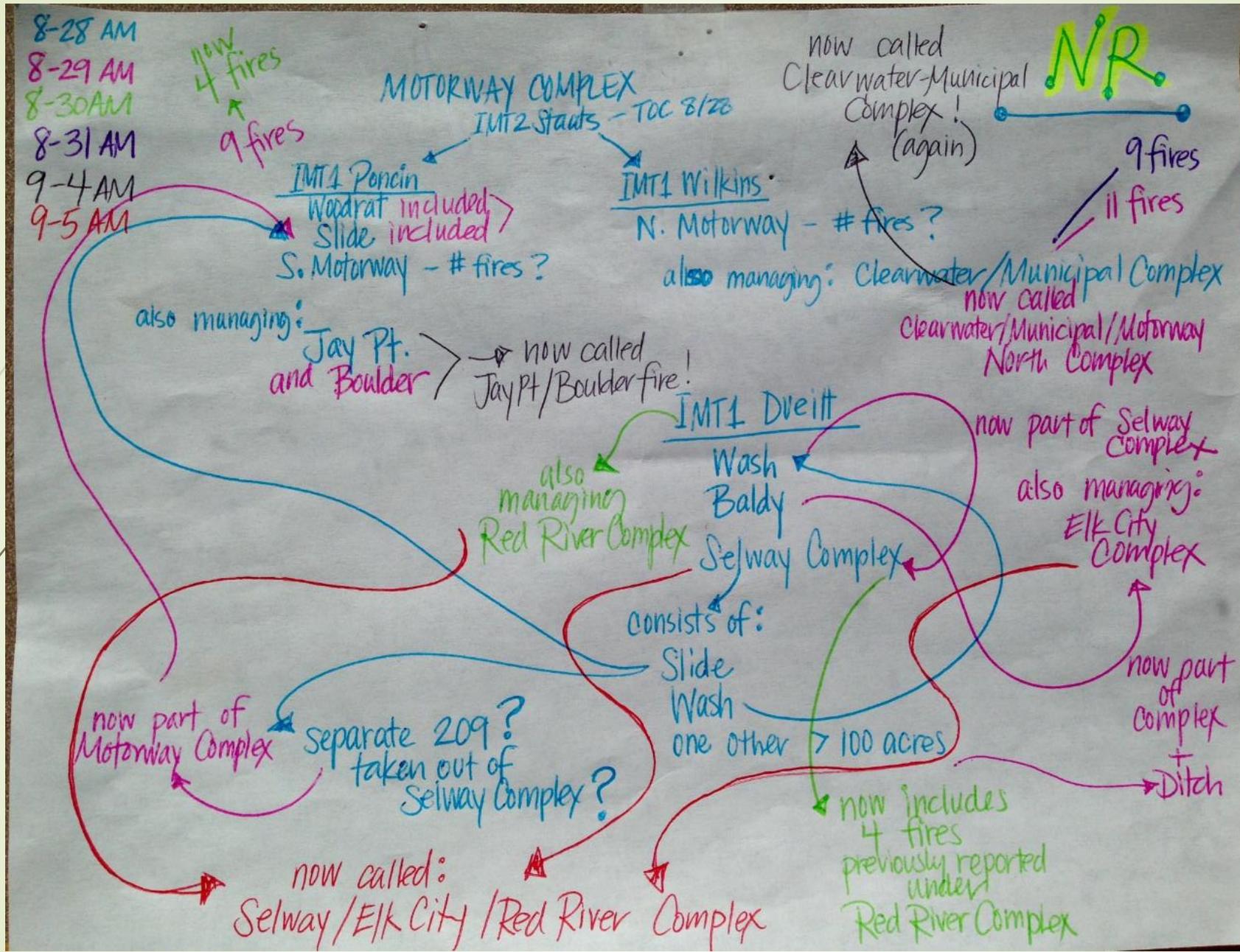
Complexes and Merged Fires Tasks

- *Develop consistent guidance that aligns data collection and data management across wildland fire IT applications with operational management actions.*

- *Identify Information Technology applications as Authoritative Data Sources for creating and managing data related to incident complexes and fires that merge.*

- *Develop guidance for reporting perimeters and historical fire occurrence*

Incident Complex

Complex and Merged Fires Task Group

What and Why Complex?

- To simplify:

  - Decision making

  - Resource ordering

  - Reporting (209)

- A complex is not an ignition and should not be treated as such – it is representative of the management structure

Incident Complexes at the "bucket" level

- An Incident Complex does not require latitude/longitude

- It does not have a start date (though there may be a creation date)

- An incident can only be part of one Incident Complex at any given point in time

- Must have two or more incidents to create an Incident Complex

Important Incident Complex data

- Sum of incident acres

- Sum of resources by type and agency

- Values at risk – a list, not a numerical value

- Plans for next operational period and strategic discussion

- Blocks 39, 40, and 41 on the 209

- Critical resource needs

Data Required for Incidents in a Complex

- Incident name

- Acres

- Strategy

- Values at risk

- Structures

- Injuries/fatalities

- Fuel model

Complex Costs and Resources

- Incident Complex may deal with cost codes differently

    - Each incident keeps its own code and there is no Incident Complex code

    - Each incident keeps its own code and there is a Incident Complex code

        - Any or all are used at the discretion of the IBA and Agency Admin

    - There is only an Incident Complex code

        - All incident costs are charged to the incident complex and not the individual incident

Complex Costs and Resources

- The Incident Business Committee will

  - Develop a decision tree to help IBAs guide Agency Admin

  - Need to reflect short and long term implications for cost accounting

  - Pros and Cons of each decision in the process

Complex Costs and Resources

- FireCode requires incident children to have unique FireCodes

  - Because Complexes won't be created in FireCode, the FireCode application will reflect only the members of the complex that have unique FireCodes issued

- Multiple resource orders are not required for a resource that is shared between incidents

  - This needs to be clearly communicated and should not be a factor in deciding to create an Incident Complex

Merged Fires

Merged Fires

- If a fire burns into an area that had a fire previously called out, the two incidents do not merge

- If a fire burns into another active fire, neither incident is called out
  - One becomes the parent and all acres are attributed to it
    - The child fire retains its last known acres, but those acres are no longer reported upward
    - A merge date is noted on the child
  - A fire can consume multiple children, but a child can only belong to one parent
  - A parent can be consumed by another fire and become a child itself
    - All data is now reported on the "grandparent"

Merged Fires, Continued

- Each perimeter is a temporary outcome and in the end there is one final outcome with multiple ignitions
  - Each fire should have a separate perimeter prior to the merge
  - Any perimeter after the merge will be one single perimeter encompassing all the incidents
- There will only be one 209 after the fires merge
- When the parent fire is called out, the child inherits its out date

Merged Fires, Continued

- Merging fires occurs in the CAD if there is a CAD; if no CAD it should be done in 209

- Costs would not be moved up into the parent upon merge

  - How costs are handled from that point forward would be case dependent

Report

- Peter Butteri is drafting the report
- Review by the task group
- Submit to NWCG (Due Nov 7)
- Comment and Review period (30 days)
- Incorporate comments
- Produce final report

Prioritizing Change

- These two task groups are proposing a lot of changes to workflows, business rules and applications

- These types of change take time

- The DMC will play a significant role in the success of these changes

Questions?