



# PREDICTIVE SERVICES OVERSIGHT GROUP

## PSOG NOTES

February 3, 2022

0700 - 0900

<b>Attendees:</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chair: Hartman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FMB: Fisher	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NMAC: McDonald
<input type="checkbox"/> Co-Chair:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CGAC: Castillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GACC CM: Ellsworth, Tomaselli
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fire Management: Achziger	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OWF: Fallon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PD Met: Nauslar
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PD FA: Gardunio	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PD Intel: SeLegue	<input type="checkbox"/> NWS:
<input type="checkbox"/> Science Advisor:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Facilitator: Watts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Note-taker: Sandoval
<b>Additional Attendees:</b> Heidi Strader		

**Intent:** focus on 7-Day Significant Fire Potential product, develop solutions

**Schedule:** meet weekly until we get traction

**Next meeting:** 11 Feb 1000-1200 MST – Derrek will send invites

### **Overview: Nick**

- G model being decommissioned in spring
- Plan was to take all thresholds for current 7-day (through database) and then walk them over to Y model.
  - this is what most GACCs have been doing to prepare for the transition
  - requires GACCs to do some of their own research to make sure transition is successful
  - all this does is maintain current capabilities.
- Data feed that we rely on for old G and new Y is unstable and relies on single point of success or failure. There is no one to maintain it.
- There is no feed specifically for us for the Y model to make our 7-Day work. If a Y model feed is developed, it still only maintains current capability, but issues still exist in whether data is consistent, accurate, reliable.
- Whether we stick with G or move to Y or develop a new feed, the issues remain
  - approx. 2/3 of units have transitioned to Y-model data
  - need to move to Y across the board in prep for the May shut down and would be messier if some stayed on G and some moved to Y. Do not have capability to keep 1 system (Y) up, let alone 2 (Y and G). G needs to go.
- Intent of 7-day is not intended to be year-round product (core fire season only)
  - doing products outside of fire season, NWS stops issuing fire weather forecasts making it more difficult
  - in planning for long-term, need to look at a year-round solution





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- Independent efforts by GACCs
  - national effort to work with individual GACCs to transition
  - some GACCs have worked in-house to re-do analysis, is different than other GACCs
  - GACCs seem reasonably confident that they can have it ready by fire season, provided they continue to receive same support (support may not be guaranteed)
- Short-term fixes – limp us along, but truly need a long-term solid fix

## Discussion:

- What impact would it have if we lose Matt?
  - if the code broke, no data would pump into the 7-day
  - meteorologists digging through data, questioning reliability is unique here. In other agencies, teams of people have the expertise and do the leg work and mets focus on their actual job. It's too much for 1 person to do.
- Is there discussion among mets/fire analysts in professional series regarding comfort level with the data? Comfort levels with unreliable or questionable data?
  - not completely comfortable with how most issue the 7-Day—rely heavily on individual expertise and “eye-balling” it. Potential for disclaimers on products.
  - scientific integrity issues—want the long-term solution to be front/center.
- 7-Day breaking with the changes
  - other products down-stream likely to break (we don't know how they will handle the changes).
  - new NFDRS unable to use some data that was previously used (stations that have only 1 observation/day) -- bigger issues coming
- Will affect pre-positioning, step-up, severity, fire danger operating plans...what else? Hasn't triggered Fire Management leadership yet and it needs to
  - FDOPs, AOPs, staffing levels, utility companies, state partners...do not know full extent of NFDRS break down
  - need to capture the known additional impacts and socialize
- Integrated systems/tech architecture issue and data management issue. No dedicated funding. This real issue is the longer-term fix. The 7-day is more a symptom.
  - other agencies for these systems have support/funding/manpower to sustain them
  - how do we get to these core issues?
  - gather cadre of SMEs to help solve it for “full success”. Drew on existing systems to develop plan
  - any engagement on data architect to consult on long-term system/data fixes?
  - Matt is the guy on that, but no dedicated manpower to help solve this issue
- Staffing – if you ask for a minimum, you get a minimum or less. Need to shoot for the stars



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- Need to trace what NFDRS touches to anticipate broader impacts and how or to who do we communicate those anticipated ancillary issues?
  - NFDRS touches almost anything fire management touches for fire support/decision management. Implications are far-reaching.
- Advanced NFDRS class – no requirements, but is extremely helpful
- Need to call this what it is—it’s not a “7-Day” problem, it’s a massive issue way beyond that one product brought on or made apparent by conversion to NFDRS.
  - With this being the core issue, why aren’t more agencies/groups fire danger experts involved?

## **Short-term proposal:**

1. Most GAs have temp 2022 fixes in the works—will compile details/status from each GACC
  - expect info in 1 week with attached detailed needs (Nick Nauslar)
2. GACCs that do not have a plan or are having trouble, PSOG supports soliciting help from/facilitating GACC personnel and agency staff to support those in need
3. PSOG draft proposal to FMB to get the support for the GACCs that need it

Achziger – support (will be important to get status from GACCs)

Castillo – support

Ellsworth – support (need to continue to fight for long-term solution)

Fallon – support

Fisher – support

Gardunio -support

Hartman – support

McDonald – support

Nauslar – support

SeLegue – support

Strader – support

Tomaselli – support (maintain commitment to long-term solution)

## **\*\*Discussions on long-term fix will continue**

Can we get a forum/town-hall with FMB to talk long-term fix w/in 60 days?

- need to get NFDRS experts, fire environment committee, WFDS, NMAC, fire danger committee, and others together to highlight the real wide-reaching impacts.

