



PREDICTIVE SERVICES OVERSIGHT GROUP

PSOG NOTES

February 25, 2022

1000-1200

Attendees:		
<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: Nuttall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GACC CM: Tomaselli
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fire Management: Achziger	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OWF: Fallon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PS Met: Nauslar/Strader
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PS FA: Gardunio	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PS Intel: SeLegue	<input type="checkbox"/> NWS:
<input type="checkbox"/> Science Advisor:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Facilitator: Watts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Note-taker: Sandoval
Additional Attendees:		

Agenda

Short-Term Plan (STP)

Schedule:

Recommend meeting every two weeks.

Next Meeting Friday, 11 March 1000-1200

FMB Recap: Chad

1. Charter clean-up

- Supported with a few minor edits
- Needs cleaned up and back to FMB for signature

2. Short-term plan (STP)

- FMB recognizes that there is a need to start work on the short-term plan
- generally supported
- emphasized that this is not a long-term solution (helps inform long-term)
- will require support from FMB members working through their agencies/GAs was emphasized
- did not identify a single funding stream, but verbal support from a few
- work to be done at agency, GA, region, state level

3. Long-term plan

- FMB has to spend time and work with FEC to prioritize all of the budgetary asks that are out there (in addition to PSOG's ask)
- need to focus on LTP without losing sight of short-term

Short-Term Plan (STP): Derrek/Nick

- FMB wanted to know who is in charge—answer is PSOG
- Project Lead – Derrek
- Project Coordinator – Nick
- Derrek and Nick presented to CGAC





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Nick's Update:

Activities have already been in motion

Asked NWS for backfill SW behind Chuck Maxwell—typically expect no backfill at GACC when below PL3

- Put together a memo for their lead, hopeful

- AK can tentatively assist the SW in April for 3 weeks (pending final approval)

Need all GAs to ask for help early/often if they hit roadblocks

Will keep status of GACCs, check-ins, status updates through peer-to-peer discussions and use the system in tandem

This is a priority over other ancillary non-critical asks

Center Managers play a key role in

Discussion:

Make sure we don't create more shortfalls by sacrificing training

Where is pushback coming from?

- Center managers

- Need coordinating groups involved—tough decisions are coming that impact them

- Need backing from center managers and fire managers

Single-point failures still in the short-term plan

- Bring people up to speed along the way—look for non-traditional avenues to broaden capability and divide workload (through training?)

- If the GACC does not have the skillset we need to grow, they will acquire it

Future meetings will include updates/discussion on STP.

Charter:

Gaps: Fire Management

- Value in having other agencies represented

- Should have an agency “host” for positions

- FWS, BIA, or NPS should fill vacancy

- PSOG should identify who they want and work it out, and let FMB know who was selected

- Need to think about skillset, what you want them to bring to the table (FMO-level? Regional?)

- Who could help round out the group?

- Derrek will do some recruiting to search out candidates (Potential?: Hayden, Nagle)

Vice Chair:

Will revisit at next month's meeting





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Long-Term Plan:

Need to be proactive, we have momentum

Need to identify “What Does Right Look Like”

Heavy center management involvement in figuring this out

Derrek will work with Heidi, Phillip, Billy to get a starting point. Advisor group is impacted most and have “boots on the ground” experience and knowledge of the issues

Discussion:

-As the short-term plan is being refined/implemented, it should inform the long-term plan (lessons-learned)

-Get away from “single point of success or failure”

-Consider centralized model in decentralized programs

-Consider impact/possibility of telework/remote work

-Consider temporary needs vs. permanent needs (immediate one-time funding vs. long-term/permanent budgeting)

-Let agencies and FMB figure out where the money will come from

-Structuring a foundational/pivotal program that will take us into the future as our current system is crumbling—don’t lose sight of this and continue to message this. Build what we need for the future and demonstrate why we need the long-term investment

First step will need to be to define what problems we are trying to solve (staffing, feed, applications, tech).

Prioritize the problems and identify which group should be responsible for those

Break the problem set into smaller chunks

Keep in mind that this is not a 7-Day issue or an NFDRS issue—it’s the entire ecosystem

Oversight, integration, coordination issues

Identify all impacts, not just coordination centers/forecasts

Workflow and product standardization will need work

Questions we need to ask:

1. What is the problem we are trying to solve?
2. Is it the right problem?
3. If we do this, what are we choosing not to do?
4. If we succeed, what will we look like?
5. If we succeed, what will our customers look like?
6. If we succeed, what will the operating environment look like?

Brian Achziger will load the Phase I/Phase II reports in the teams site



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Phase One Tasking:

-Review Wildland Fire Predictive Services program information to understand the need and expectations for predictive products and services at all levels.

-Review initial and current program staffing and any administrative issues, including, but not limited to:

Staffing protocols

Agency positions sponsorship, hosting, and supervision

Career ladders

Vacancy filling process

Job sharing opportunities

Remote location opportunities

Succession planning

-Given future considerations, develop possible alternatives for staffing products, services, etc., if any

NWCG PSOG Site: <https://www.nwcg.gov/partners/fmb/psog>

Round-Table:

Is PSOG on the right track?

- On right track now more than ever—being productive, taking action

-good pace moving forward

-gained clarity on what PSOG should really be about

-getting there, starting to get footing

-yes, on the right track

-absolutely headed in the right direction

-definitely moving in a positive direction. Turning ideas into action. Continue to work with, through, and by others

There will be growing pains and friction points, work within the governance structure to our benefit

Are we open to outside presenters for product pitch, ideas, other engagement?

-yes to some degree, maybe not ready to start with Ned and his business

-once we get the charter nailed down and full on with STP, then maybe we'll be ready to host these

-too early to entertain these until we get further into our current tasks

-would be a distraction and cause loss of focus on the priorities set by parent body

-need to build a solid foundation first

-too soon and need a quality control piece—if it's something that can help with our current tasks, then yes, we should look at those. Nothing that would take us off-track.

-too early to be looking at anything else. Do we even have a process/quality control in-place? Are individuals present to us or groups? Need a vetting platform. Focus on our current heavy lift with STP/LTP.

-currently forced into a reactionary mode, but once we get our feet under us, lets look to being proactive

-get stable before we take on more. At the beginning stages of LTP, need to stay open to looking at new ways of doing business. Must have a vetting process. If it can help us, we need to listen.