

# Data Standards and Terminology Subcommittee Meeting

NWCG Conference Room, NIFC / Virtual

## Meeting Information

Date: November 19, 2019

Time: 1400 - 1600 MT

Conference line: 1-866-508-3445

Passcode: 7124430#

Online Meeting: <https://www3.gotomeeting.com/join/464945414>

## AGENDA

| Item # | Topic  | Lead / POC(s)  |
|--------|--|----------------|
| 1.     | <b>Glossary</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• NIAC: Flight Following and Resource Tracking</li><li>• Federal Fire Policy Definitions</li><li>• Heaps of new term requests (77)</li></ul> | GaBriella      |
| 2.     | <b>Data Standards</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Location of Geospatial Data Layer Standards</li><li>• Fire Cause Task Group Status</li></ul>   | GaBriella/Emmy |
| 3.     | <b>Geospatial Data Layer Standards</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Updates</li></ul>   | Emmy           |
| 4.     | <b>Standards Database</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Adding Data</li></ul>  | GaBriella      |
| 5.     | <b>Additional Items</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• IPDs and the Database</li><li>• Standards in Limbo</li></ul>   | Group          |
| 6.     | <b>Review current assignments</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="https://trello.com/b/6hni74Q2/tasks">https://trello.com/b/6hni74Q2/tasks</a></li></ul>                          | Group          |

## In Attendance

Tim Blake, Nancie Turner, Emmy Harbo, Paul Schlobohm, GaBriella Branson

## Discussion

### Glossary

#### NIAC Flight Following and Resource Tracking

NIAC reviewed the proposed definitions for Flight Following and Resource Tracking. They will send DSTS updated proposed definitions to post for review.

The conversation at their meeting lasted a half hour and Tim was concerned about process. He felt that was too long. In GaBriella's opinion that was not a long time and the discussion was needed to get everyone on the same page. The topic almost got kicked down the road but folks were able to agree on new definitions. Felt it was a very successful half hour.

#### Federal Fire Policy Definitions

Paul and Deb have been conversing with their groups whom they feel will be most interested to hear of the FMB's new Federal definitions. They have not had any feedback suggesting there should be additional non-Federal definitions included. Kristy Swartz mentioned that several of the terms were defined in the Code Federal Register (CFR) - she provided those definitions from the CFR and Paul passed along to SMOC. The definitions are very similar. Paul and Deb will confirm consensus and then the terms and new definitions will be posted to the Glossary. We will include a definition extension citing the source and a link. Because Paul and Deb are speaking to those we understand to be key stakeholders we will forgo the 30 day review posting process. If others would like to recommend changes they can submit a revision request form.

#### New Term Requests

Don Bell was busy removing terms from the PMS 505. He submitted 75 term requests! Lori Glaeser submitted two additional terms related to training. Nancie will pull the submissions in to a spreadsheet and provide to GaBriella. GaBriella will compare to current Glossary and we will revisit at next month's meeting. She will communicate with Don if terms are already in the glossary to determine if he wants to keep the definition in the glossary or recommend something else. These terms will go out in batches due to the number of them. Nancie will communicate with Jesse regarding the submission of the PMS 505 terms.

### Data Standards

#### Location of Geospatial Data Layer Standards

The GSC would like to be able to see just the Geospatial Data Layer Standards. Nancie will add a feature to the Approved Standards page that will allow users to see three possible views: 1) all data standards (including geospatial), 2) only geospatial standards, and 3) only data element standards. For an example of the functionality check out the Master NWCG Roster page:

<https://www.nwcg.gov/committees/roster> The ability to filter down is at the top of the page.

#### Fire Cause Task Group Status

The group is meeting once a week for two hours. Paul and Deb are trading off representing as Coordinators. The group has made it through comments on Source, Age, and Prohibited Flag. Working on Activity/Group. GaBriella is breaking the comments down and adding topics in order to sort the

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comments and add efficiencies based on feedback yesterday. It appears that the representatives on the group are diverse enough to have a holistic conversation.

## **Geospatial Data Layer Standards**

There are draft standards being worked on by members of the GSC. There is no form online to request new geospatial standards and GSC is aware of that and will keep it that way until they clear their backlog.

Emmy has been working with GSC to update their standard template. They are removing Status at the top of the form and in the body - replacing with Version and date. This will make it easier for Nancie to move around on the website based on current status without having to update the document. The form currently collects Stewardship Group and Steward. Steward has historically been a person. They will now collect only Steward, but the answer will always be the Group. This is in line with the new data standards and where NWCG terminology is going in general. We will start capturing Key Stakeholder as it comes up, but will only document that information in the database until we have a “complete” picture.

## **Standards Database**

### Adding Data

1. Cleaned up labels in database – one label per node - ensured that all the other labels were either relationships or attributes being collected. This will make it easier to transition the data to an ontology and will make querying simpler.
2. Forms and the data they collect - began working on ICS forms and their data. Slightly overwhelming as it is adding additional data elements we do not have standards for, but slowly moving through the process.
3. Functional Areas in DB match the Enterprise Data Mapping and Capability poster and old Functional/Subject Areas became Topics for term definitions. These are adding ways to group and visualize related data.
4. WFM RD&A Data Management Spreadsheet Reference Data (Judy Wartella has in a relational database now) - the schema is built for how to include this data, now to implement it.
5. FAM IT Data Dictionaries - we have gone back and forth about adding this information to the database. After the meeting with Tod Dabolt and all the new policies coming out regarding data we have determined that we need to add this data in order to have a complete picture of the data collected in wildland fire.
6. Possibly add label and attribute definitions - these are currently in the database documentation, but they may need to be added as we move towards an Ontology. TBD.
7. Completed position descriptions - the first set are entered. Need to continue to update as additional IPDs are approved and/or edited.

## **Additional Items**

### IPDs and the Database

Paul recently had a conversation with Annie Benoit regarding IPDs and the database. The database was mentioned and people acknowledge they need it and that we are merely waiting to be able to interact

with it, but it would have been nice to be able to do that yesterday. Requirements include: managing the IPD definition, tracking where it has been, and versioning. GaBriella could get to some of this in the database now. Maybe there is a way they can work with her as the point to getting data out and in as they need it. Not ideal, but it would allow us to leverage the data we have collected. GaBriella will put some brain power towards how to make something work, without over-promising anything. Stay tuned.

### Standards in Limbo

There are a handful of standards that had been out for review last month and received comments that require adjudication. Nancie is going to create a data standard limbo page where she can move those documents until they become approved. We could access them via a URL and folks could potentially stumble across them - if they googled for "NWCG Data Standards in limbo" or some such thing - but she will have a short sentence or two explaining their state. Once the feedback has been reconciled the forms will be edited and moved to the Approved page. Emmy is going to review the list and communicate with Nancie which elements need to go where. Emmy has also updated the IRWIN Data Mapping Workbook to reflect the current status of the recently approved standards.

### **Current Assignments**

Used Trello to walk through current and completed tasks. See the Trello Task board for new items.

<https://trello.com/b/6hni74Q2>

### **Next Meeting**

Date: December 17, 2019

Time: 1400 - 1600 MT

Conference line: 1- 866-508-3445      Passcode: 7124430#

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