Fire Reporting Sub-Committee Meeting 5/26/2021

Attendees:

Steve Larrabee, Dianna Sampson, Karen Short, Laura Barrett, BJ Glesener, Susan McClendon, Richard Wilson, Andy Kirsch, Cameron Tongier, Roshelle Pederson, Kendra Fallon

Draft version of the 5th edition (1992-2018) FOD

- Karen S. shared linked to the draft version of the FOD on Google Docs. Contains updated cause data. NOT for Distribution.

Action Items from FRSC Meeting on 5/26/21

- Covered action items that consisted of:

> - Setting up coordination call with NCSC on the FRSC subsequent reviews on the Event Kind/Category standards review (no response from our initial contact to Jarrod Simontacchi yet).
> - FRSC Subgroup (Barrett, Short, Bailey, Thompson, Harbo, Pederson) will assemble descriptive verbiage on the status and usage of current fire data sets and their systems.

Historic/Current Fire Occurrence Data Source and Usage Document

- Create document to help users access different sources of historic fire occurrence data, their authoritative status, and caveats of usage. Harbo has documented FAQs on some of the data posted on the NIFC Open Data site.
- A wider view of the issue would be to have a process for inserting this guidance into NWCG publications.
- How best to consolidate these write-ups and how people can access them to better understand our spatial and tabular historic/current fire data. Also, would be helpful to have the current status of present systems and their planned trajectories.
- Perhaps a "scorecard" of when a system or application was deemed authoritative would be of assistance to users.
- EDG will become an important part to this.
- Short, Bailey, and Teske are currently working on a high-level document that would address some of these issues.

New Method within WFDSS for Accessing and Viewing Perimeters (McClendon)

- WFDSS has documented a change in the method of how perimeters are gathered into the system.
- Primarily on how pre-WFDSS (2007-2008) perimeters are being included from several external sources.
- Will describe the current perimeters available and the ones that came in from the various bureaus and agencies.
- Reasons for the change/update: 1) To eliminate duplicates. 2) If users see a perimeter in the WFDSS system that's not in their bureau's authoritative data set, there will be processes to assist in correcting the oversight.

USGS Wildfire Historical Perimeters (Justin Welty: Land Treatment Digital Library Project)

- USGS is compiling wildlife historic perimeters and assembling a data layer for distribution

- A couple preliminary meetings have been held with the creation of a compilation of data sources to augment the current work that USGS has completed to date. Also, appropriate fields and nomenclature were discussed along with how best to proceed with collaborating with existing efforts/systems.
- One method that was questionable was that they took perimeters from several sources and then combined them all to create a "final" perimeter.

Initial Attack (IA) Success Percentage Data Fields in InFORM
- In WFMI and FMIS there existed a time component that could be coupled with the size values to compute IA success.
- The target value of a IA percentage within the high 90's was sometimes considered to be a myth.
- Quantitative values were migrated to a Qualitative descriptive over the years.
- The Performance Measure for IA success rate is still a GPRA requirement.
- Currently there are about 20% of the records within InFORM that have IA success rate fields filled.
- The field within InFORM is presently an optional entry.
- FMIS has an algorithm that computes IA Success Rate. Not required by field to compute but is done at a national level.
- USFS has these elements within FIRESTAT.
- Would be difficult to require IA Success Rate data to be entered by the dispatch community without additional training.
- It is assumed that the local authorities/staff would have a better understanding of IA Success Rate percentage.
- Remains an important program performance qualifier as budgets are calculated according to the rate. Also, is still a Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) measure.
- Is definitely an FRSC issue as it is a relevant rating value and should be acknowledged as a required element(s). And should be addressed to leadership as an issue of importance. Plus, the connotation from the field that it has no importance or relevance should be considered. Are there any alternatives if the current process and methods aren't applicable any longer? What is the business need? IA Success Rate figures seemed to over inflated.
- How can the overall strategy success rate be calculated? And how can poor management decisions be highlighted so as to explain decreases in IA success rate?
- OWF is currently re-evaluated the Performance Measure calculation and appraising process. Pederson and Thompson will have a conversation with the OWF PM re-evaluation group and discover what steps are being planned to replace the current processes and what their status is.
- FRSC should decide what we are trying to accomplish in these IA Success Rate percentage values.
- With FWS migrating to InFORM, they have a vested interested.
- Would be beneficial if FRSC could have a solution/answer/method by the end of the calendar year.
- Be sure we're documenting the changes in how the data will be collected and calculated.
- The Department level needs to gather the IA success rate data and relay it to the Bureaus and interagency committees.

Action Items and Other Points of Interest
- FRSC Subgroup (Barrett, Short, Bailey, Thompson, Harbo, Pederson) will assemble descriptive verbiage on the status and usage of current fire data sets and their systems.
- Pederson and Thompson will have a conversation with the OWF PM re-evaluation group and report to

FRSC
- InFORM Core Team will meet to discuss how to include IA Success Rate (or Overall Strategy Success) within InFORM data entry process to meet GPRA and DOI Performance Measure goals.