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1 Identification

The National Predictive Services Subcommittee, known herein as the Subcommittee, is an interagency subcommittee under the NWCG Fire Environment Committee (FENC).

2 Strategic Intent

2.1 Vision

Wildland fire management emphasizes safety, cost containment, efficiency, and ecosystem health through the proactive use of Predictive Services decision support products.

2.2 Purpose

The Subcommittee is established to provide interagency oversight, leadership, strategic direction, and vision to improve the quality, accuracy, and relevance of decision support products and information provided by the Predictive Services program through the multi-agency coordination system to fire managers and users nationwide.

2.3 Mission

The Subcommittee provides oversight and direction to the Predictive Services program for NWCG in order to provide decision support products and services to the wildland fire community for safe, efficient resource prioritization and utilization.

2.4 Responsibility:

The NPSS strives to:

- A. Develop a framework for using climate, weather, situation, resource status, and fuels information to provide decision support tools.
- B. Provide coordinated program-wide leadership on issues such as research, information flow and access, product guidelines and standardization, problem identification, and issue resolution.
- C. Be an interagency partner in managing, developing, addressing, and making recommendations for Predictive Services products and services.
- D. Develop action items that address program goals
- E. Serve as advocate for initiatives coming forward from the field.
- F. Link key users of Predictive Services products and the research community.
- G. Standardize products and services where possible

3 Scope

The Subcommittee is primarily responsible for providing stewardship and oversight for the Predictive Services Program.

4 Authorities

The Subcommittee is established pursuant to the authorities granted in the Fire Environment Committee Charter. The deliberations of this Subcommittee are exempt from the Federal Advisory Committee Act under section 204 of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995.

4.1 Delegation of Authority

The Subcommittee Chair is authorized to convene meetings and schedule agenda items. The Chair is also authorized to make contacts, negotiate work assignments, and make commitments on behalf of the Subcommittee. The Chair may also commit such resources as are available within the

Subcommittee or as authorized by the Fire Environment Committee.

5 Organization Structure and Relationships

The Subcommittee is under the direction of the NWCG Fire Environment Committee.

The Subcommittee may create units and task teams with concurrence of the Fire Environment Committee Chair.

The Subcommittee works through the Fire Environment Committee to ensure appropriate coordination, collaboration, and information sharing with other groups and organizations for the subject matter and specific tasks of the Subcommittee.

5.1 Relationships

The Subcommittee was established by the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG).

The Subcommittee is a subgroup of the Equipment Technology Branch under the Fire Environment Committee (FENC).

The Subcommittee succeeds and replaces the National Predictive Services Group (NPSG).

The Subcommittee is accountable to the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) through the Equipment and Technology Branch Coordinator and the Fire Environment (FENC) Committee Chair.

5.2 Stakeholders and Partners

- Stakeholders and partners outlined in the FENC strategic intent
- Geographic Area Center Managers
- Coordinating Groups
- NWCG
- National Weather Service
- Research community (federal, academic and private)

6 Membership

6.1 General

The chair is recommended by the Subcommittee through a vote of primary members and approved by the Fire Environment Committee and NWCG. The vice chair shall be recommended through a vote of primary members and approved by the chair. The chair and vice chair are voting members of the Subcommittee and are part of the Subcommittee primary membership. The term of the Chair appointment will be 2 years and may be extended at the discretion of the Fire Environment Committee. The term of the Vice Chair will be 2 years and may be extended at the discretion of the chair.

6.2 Primary

The Subcommittee is comprised of 11 primary members representing:

- Geographic Area Center Managers
- Geographic Area Coordination Group Chairs
- Operations and Support Unit
- Research and Development Unit
- Education and Outreach Unit

- National Fire Weather Program (NICC)
- NICC Intelligence
- NICC Fire Analysis
- State/NASF
- Field Level
- National Weather Service

NPSS consists of a voting membership (primary members) and strives to achieve representation from all of the NWCG representative agencies. Members serve a minimum of two years, except the National Intelligence Program representative, National Fire Analyst representative, and the National Fire Weather Program representative who are permanent members.

6.3 Liaisons

Liaisons represent:

- National Wildfire Coordinating Group
- National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group
- Wildland Fire Decision Support System
- National Interagency Coordination Center

The NPSS may confer liaisons (non-voting) to other groups or entities that have special skills, interests, or resources that may help the mission of Predictive Services. Liaisons are limited to one individual from each of those groups or entities.

Technical advisors may be added to the Subcommittee as associate members with Chair approval.

7 Products and Services

The Subcommittee provides guidance, direction, evaluation and oversight for the:

- Improvement of the infrastructure that supports the integration of Predictive Services within the Wildland Fire Program.
- Evaluation and recommendation of specific tools, products and services to support user needs.
- Development and implementation of a user assessment process.
- Acquisition and maintenance of accurate data for wildfire, weather, fuels and resources.
- Standardization of fire potential, observations and predictions.
- Development standards to ensure that products and data at all levels are aligned with national standards.
- Development and implementation of a periodic review process and product validation process.
- Establishment of a process for technology transfer.
- Development of products that utilize best business practices.
- Continuous assessment and improvement, as needed, of the products and services provided by Predictive Services.
- Evaluation and advisement to owners of non-proprietary data on the quality of their data.
- Knowledge in emerging technology and provide support to implement and utilize new technology appropriately.
- Predictive Services Handbook and marketing tools.

