

National Predictive Service Group (NPSG) Meeting

Meeting Notes

Location: Boise, Idaho
Meeting Dates: October 10-12, 2006

Members Present:

- ? Tom Wordell – FS/NICC – Fire Analysts Representative – NPSG Chair
- ? Rick Ochoa – BLM/NICC – Fire Weather Program Representative – NPSG Vice Chair
- ? Chip Collins – NPS – Field Level Fire Managers Representative
- ? Gerry Day – BLM/NWCC – GACC Managers Representative
- ? Roger Lamoni – NWS, Western Region – National Weather Service Representative
- ? Paul Witsaman – NWS, National Weather Service Representative, vice Lamoni
- ? Randy Dzialo – BLM/WBC, Intelligence Coordinators Representative, vice Lococo
- ? Brad Smith – NASF Representative
- ? Chuck Maxwell – FWS/SWCC – GACC Meteorologists Representative
- ? Kim Christensen – FS/NICC Manager – NICC Representative
- ? Neal Hitchcock – FS/NIFC – NMAC Representative

Members Absent:

- ? Charlie Leonard – FS/NICC – Intelligence Program Representative

Guests:

- ? Heath Hockenberry – NWS, Office of Climate and Water and Weather Services
- ? Pat Winter – FS – Social Scientist
- ? Heidi Bigler-Cole – FS – Social Scientist
- ? Nelda St. Clair – Western Great Basin Center Manager
- ? Brian Potter – PNW Research Station, AirFire Team
- ? Rob Seli – Missoula Fire Sciences Lab
- ? Paul Schlobohm – FENWT Chair
- ? Shari Shetler – IRM Working Team Chair
- ? Beth Hall (via Conference Call)
- ?

Notetaker: Lani Williams – Boise Interagency Logistics Center

Meeting Agenda Topics:

1. Report of User Needs Assessment
2. Haines Index Climate Atlas on the Web
3. Funding for Predictive Services Positions
4. FY06 Budget/Awards Review and FY07 Budget Proposals

5. NPSG Action Item Review
6. NPSG Membership and Replacement Schedules
7. FS Pro
8. Predictive Services Handbook and Predictive Services Logo
9. Meteorologists and Intell Working Group Updates
10. NWS Tabular Spot Forecasts
11. OFCM Update
12. FENWT Update
13. Strategic Plan – Updates and Work Session
14. Live Fuel Moisture Proposal (Conference call with Beth Hall)
15. Next Generation NFDRS: Implications for Predictive Services
16. November Predictive Services Meeting – Agenda/Logistics
17. Future NPSG Meeting Topics and Logistics
18. Bin Items
 - Use of NWS Weather Stations as RAWS Stations

Exhibits:

- A. Action Items, Decisions and Meeting Topics
- B. NPSG Funding
- C. The National Predictive Services User Needs Assessment, PowerPoint
- D. Table 5 from The National Predictive Services User Needs Assessment Final Report (DRAFT)
- E. A Web Based Haines Index Climatology, PowerPoint
- F. Western Great Basin Issue Paper
- G. 7-Day Product Verification Proposal
- H. Fire Planning, Fire Analysis and Fuels Analysis Services Contract No. AG-9A72-C-06-2004 (Cheetah)
- I. FSPro – Fire Spread Probabilities, PowerPoint
- J. Executative Summary: The FSPro System (Fire Spread Probability)
- K. Executive Summary: RAVAR (Rapid Assessment of Values At Risk)
- L. Predictive Services Handbook, National Office Edits
- M. Predictive Services Handbook, Meteorologists Working Group Executive Summary
- N. Ideas for Predictive Services Logo
- O. Spot Formatter, PowerPoint
- P. NWS Tabular Spot Forecasts for Prescribed Fire and Wildfires
- Q. WIMS Task Order
- R. NWCG Strategic Plan
- S. NWCG Wildland/Urban Interface Working Team Strategic Plan – 1 page
- T. NWCG Action Plan
- U. NPSG Action Plans
- V. High Level Logic for WIMS Alternate Gateway for NFDRS Observations
- W. Fire Lab Activities to Support Predictive Services, PowerPoint
- X. Agenda for the National Predictive Services Meeting

Tuesday – October 10, 2006**Welcome, Introductions and Meeting Logistics (Rick Ochoa)**

Rick welcomed everyone and covered logistics of NIFC. Everyone introduced themselves, and the Agenda was briefly covered.

Agenda Item: Report of User Needs Assessment - Pat Winter and Heidi Bigler-Cole
(Exhibits C and D)

The User Needs Assessment was selected by NPSG as a method as meeting program goals. The survey sample was assembled through a variety of means and designed to cover different functional areas. It was distributed to both federal and nonfederal individuals. The nonfederal side was a shorter version with a subset of the questions and required OMB approval. In addition, there were instances where the survey was forwarded to secondary respondents (Volunteers). Volunteer responses are referenced in the report when they are significantly different. Responses were also broken into Familiars and Unfamiliars referencing their familiarity with the Predictive Services Program and the products. Statistically the results can not be broken out by GACCs since respondents often utilize GACCs other than their own. It will be possible to categorize respondent by job function with additional information provided by NPSG. The draft report is available for review by NPSG prior to statistical peer and policy review. The final draft will be available, with a short turnaround for review by all of NPSG. Pat and Heidi will be available after the report is released to assist NPSG in interpreting the results as they make decisions and formulate actions. Preliminary findings include:

- ? Users access Predictive Services more during the fire season, although some access throughout the year.
- ? Predictive Services information is used in a variety of ways
- ? Users are more familiar with the web products and briefings than the emails.
- ? The majority of respondents assigned positive attributes, though the “familiars” were more likely to do so.
- ? Products and services met most expectations and most were satisfied.
- ? Trust and confidence in the information was mid-range of the scale.

✍ **Action Item No. 133:** Provide input to Pat Winter on which Predictive Services products are national in scope.

Lead: Tom Wordell

Target Completion Date: 10/31/2006

✍ **Action Item No. 134:** Pat Winter will provide the list of user categories from the assessment so they can be combined by interest to obtain sufficient sample size.

Lead: Tom Wordell

Target Completion Date: 10/31/2006

✍ **Action Item No. 135:** Review of the Draft User Assessment and provide comments to Pat Winter.

Lead: Tom Wordell, Gerry Day, Chip Collins, Brad Smith

Target Completion Date: 10/31/2006

Agenda Item: Haines Index Climate Atlas on the Web – Brian Potter (Exhibit E)

Brian presented a project proposal for funding. An existing Joint Fire Science Project (JFSP) examines how future Global Climate Model (GCM) Haines Index will differ from historic. In connection with this project, a data base and map were created. The current map can be accessed at <http://35.8315.88/maps/>. While this information would be useful to Predictive Services staff as well as FBANs, IMETs, LTANs and others the current JFSP Proposal does not provide funding to make this product available.

Project Proposal: Develop an easy web access and downloadable map using within-house staff at the Pacific Wildland Fire Science Lab.

Estimated Cost: \$6000.00

Decision: *NPSG agreed to fund this proposal. Tom will work with Brian on funding mechanism.*

Agenda Item: Funding for Predictive Services Positions – Nelda St. Clair (Exhibit F)

Nevada BLM has decided not to fill the current Fire Meteorologist position at Western Great Basin due to a lack of funding assistance from other agencies. Nelda will continue to explore other funding options; Western Great Basin is solely funded by the BLM. NPSG will take approach NFAEB for support.

✍ **Action ItemNo 136:** Develop an Issue Paper to present to NFAEB.

Lead: Tom Wordell, Gerry Day, Nelda St. Clair

Target Completion Date: 11/07/2006

Wednesday – October 11, 2006

Agenda Item: Fire Danger Committee Meeting – Heath Hockenberry

The Committee recently had their organizational meeting where they reviewed the Charter and began working on Mission and Vision Statements as well as objectives. They were directed by FENWT to focus on standards and requirements for systems rather than recommending specifics. Issues the Committee is also discussing include:

- ? Alternate observation sites for use with NFDRS
- ? Weather Service Verification Studies – NDFD versus MOS
- ? Auto entry of weather observations into WIMS

Agenda Item: FY06 Budget/Awards Review and FY07 Budget Proposal – Tom Wordell

Funding for FY07 is expected to be at the current level of \$160,000; of which \$60,000 is committed for funding for ROMAN while awaiting a recommendation from FENWT to NWCG.

Funding Requests to Consider:

\$5,000	NPSG contribution to the Fire Behavior/Fire Environment Workshop
16,000	Funding for Seasonal Assessment Workshops
6,000	MOS Equations for the Eastern Great Basin
30,000	Updates to Cheetah
3,500	Facility for the National Predictive Services Workshop
6,000	Haines Index Climate Atlas (Potter)
28,000	Verification for 7-Day Product (Rolinski) (Exhibit G)

Decision: *Provide funding for the workshops, MOS Equations, Verification for the 7-Day product by DRI, and the Haines Index Atlas Proposal. Do not fund Cheetah updates at this time (will review at the February meeting). Leave a cushion of unobligated funds to review proposals at the next meeting.*

- ✍ **Action Item No. 137:** Mail out Cheetah project proposal for review. (Exhibit H)
Lead: Tom Wordell
Target Completion Date: 10/31/2006

Agenda Item: NPSG Action Item Review – Tom Wordell

Action Item No. 94: MOS Equation Development – Completed at this point; a new Action Item was created (No. 137) associated with Gridded MOS.

Action Item No. 108: The Action Item Table was updated and Tom will post to the website.

- ✍ **Action Item No. 138:** Explore collaboration with NWS to develop RAWs and/or Gridded MOS.
Lead: Rick Ochoa and Paul Witsaman
Target Completion Date: 04/2007

Agenda Item: FSPro (Fire Spread Probabilities) – Rob Seli (Exhibits I, J and K)

Fire Spread Probabilities (FSPro) – FSPro calculates the probability of fire spread from a known perimeter or point; a combination of RERAP and FARSITE. It is designed to be part of the Wildland Fire Decision Support System (WFDSS) and provides long-term and strategic decision support. FSPro works by simulating thousands of fires with different weather scenarios using a minimum travel time (MTT) fire spread method. The probability

is simply the frequency of how many times a cell burned. The program needs a FARSITE/FlamMap landscape file (.LCP), hourly FireFamilyPlus database and an ignition shapefile. Limitations include the data, currency and quality. Fuel moistures are derived from ERCg climatology using an autocorrelation methodology. Wind is an independent variable and randomly selected based on probability of direction and speed. Currently there is no climate prediction. The underlying limitations and assumptions of the fire behavior models are still here. This program was tested in a Proof-of-Concept mode across much of the west during the 2006 fire season and used extensively by fire managers in the decision making process. Post use evaluations are being performed. This program is easier to run than FARSITE and may eventually be available to FBANs and LTANs.

Rapid Assessment of Values At Risk (RAVAR) – RAVAR identifies primary resource values threatened by ongoing large fire events and can be directly integrated with FSPro model to identify the likelihood of different resources being affected by an ongoing fire event. The structure layer of RAVAR is generated through local county surveys and records. RAVAR can potentially assist in the development of the Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (WFSa) and in prioritizing large fire needs.

Agenda Item: Predictive Services Handbook and Logo – Chuck Maxwell (Exhibit L, M and N)

A Draft Predictive Services Handbook with edits from the NICC Predictive Services staff was distributed. Chuck reviewed the comments that were discussed on the Meteorologists Conference Call; these comments were consistent with the Intelligence Working Group. Discussion focused on the need to clearly define roles, responsibilities and relationships without defining command (possibly eliminating the “wiring diagram” now included in the DRAFT Handbook). It was also suggested that Fire Training and Experience for Predictive Services Positions be tied to either Incident Qualifications Card requirements or the Position Descriptions for those positions. Colleen Finneman (Northern Rockies Coordination Center) is compiling responses from the Intelligence Coordinators Working Group. Mike Lococo will gather edits/suggestions from the NICC Predictive Services staff, and the Working Groups to make revisions by early November. The Handbook will be reviewed at the National Predictive Services Meeting in November. It was suggested that the group seek assistance in review for consistency in finalizing the Handbook (contact Tim Swedberg for recommendation).

Chuck passed out samples of a Predictive Services Logo designed by Jay Ellington. This is another item that will be discussed at the National Predictive Services Meeting for decision on a logo design. The logo would then be used in related correspondence and product release for “branding”.

Agenda Item: Meteorologist and Intelligence Working Group Updates
Meteorologist Working Group – Chuck Maxwell

- ? **Elections/Representative:** The Group will be holding elections at the November Meeting for the Chair and Vice-Chair. This will determine who the new NPSG Representative will be.

Intelligence Working Group – Randy Dzialo

- ? **Sit Report:** Dan Ervin has been retooling the program based on ownership in the Year to Date totals. This will be implemented January 1, 2007.
- ? **209's:** There have been problems with the accuracy of the information and the timeliness of submission. The Group will be distributing 209 Tips. There was also discussion concerning inclusion of the 209 process in the Situation Unit Leader Training.
- ? **INTL/INTS Training:** The Intelligence Officer (INTL) Course is currently approved and available. Kathy Wiegard needs assistance to complete the Intelligence Support (INTS) Course. NPSG may have funding available to fund an assistant. Neither position is currently in the AD Pay Plan.
- ? **7-Day Product:** The Intelligence contribution to the 7-Day Outlook has not been done consistently. The Group plans on defining expectations at the November Meeting. It was suggested that the Operations Group at the National Coordinators would be able to provide input as a user to help determine what would be displayed/presented.
- ? **Website:** All but one Geographic Area has adopted the new format. The Group is looking at fine-tuning the websites.
- ? **Elections/Representative:** This Group will also be holding elections in November. Randy has replaced Mike Lococo as the new NPSG Representative.

Decision: Suggest Kathy Wiegard write a funding proposal to NPSG for assistance to complete the Intelligence Support Course.

- ✍ **Action Item No. 139:** Group will develop a proposal at the November Meeting to take to the National Coordinators Meeting, Operations Group to determine standards for 7-Day Product.

Lead: Randy Dzialo

Target Completion Date: 11/16/2006

Agenda Item: NPSG Membership Replacement – Tom Wordell

- ? **GACC Meteorologist Representative** – Chuck Maxwell will transition with his replacement in February. He will stay connected to his commitments.
- ? **GACC Intelligence Coordinators Representative** – Randy Dzialo has replaced Mike Lococo.
- ? **Field Level Managers Representative** – Chip will stay through the spring and then transition. This replacement should be rotated among the federal agencies and they

should be responsible for selecting the individual. It was suggested that the next individual should be from the BIA.

- ? **Geographic Area Coordinating Group Representative/Liaison** – Dave Lentz has been recommended and is willing to serve in this capacity. A letter needs to be sent to the Geographic Area Coordinating Group Chairs for their concurrence.
- ? **State Representative** – Brad will remain an additional year to provide continuity.
- ? **National Representative** – This position has historically been from NMAC; with the new Charter there was discussion that it may be more appropriate for the position to be selected from NFAEB. Tom will ask for direction from NFAEB.
- ? **Chair and Vice-Chair** – The Group requested that Tom and Rick remain in their positions for an additional year.

✍ **Action Item No. 140:** Request NFAEB to select a Field Managers Representative for NPSG from the BIA.

Lead: Tom Wordell

Target Completion Date: 11/07/2006

✍ **Action Item No. 141:** Send a letter to the Geographic Area Coordinating Group Chairs for their concurrence of Dave Lentz as their NPSG Representative/Liaison.

Lead: Kim Christensen

Target Completion Date: 10/31/2006

✍ **Action Item No. 142:** Request NFAEB to determine who the NPSG Representative should be.

Lead: Tom Wordell

Target Completion Date: 11/07/2006

✍ **Action Item No. 143:** Request NFAEB concurrence for Tom Wordell and Rick Ochoa to remain as the Chair and Vice Chair respectively of NPSG for an additional year.

Lead: Tom Wordell

Target Completion Date: 11/07/2006

Agenda Item: NWS Tabular Spot Forecast – Heath Hockenberry (Exhibits O and P)

Currently the only acceptable format for Spot Weather Forecasts for wildland fire is text. Tabular options are available for prescribed fire and may have utility for wildland fire. The format is a mix of narrative and tabular elements for the first period and all narrative for the remainder of the forecasts. Forecaster can chose a time resolution for the table, and may be tied to terrain complexity. The NWS is proposing that there be a change in policy to allow the use of Tabular Forecast Format with the decision and details determined through the local AOP Meetings.

✍ **Action ItemNo. 144:** Write letter of endorsement of the use of the Tabular Format for Spot Weather Requests for Wildland Fire, with the caveat that substantive discussions are held during AOP Meetings.

Lead: Tom Wordell

Target Completion Date: 10/31/2006

Agenda Item: OFCM Update – Heath Hockenberry

There is a Joint Action Group (JAG) Conference Call October 12th regarding the National Wildland Fire Weather Needs Assessment. This assessment is a result of the Western Governor's Association and was requested to be a comprehensive survey to additionally address the needs of FENWT. Currently the survey is to be distributed at the Third International Fire Ecology and Management Congress in November. The final report is due to the Western Governors Association in early June. Paul Schlobohm, FENWT Chair, Heath and Rick will be on the call tomorrow.

Agenda Item: FENWT Update – Paul Schlobohm (WIMS Task Order – Exhibit Q)

- ? **RAWS Program Oversight and Management** – FENWT received the Issue Paper from NWCG and requested an analysis by Tim Brown and Beth Hall. From this information it was determined that significant progress has been made over the last five years and there are still ways to do better. A response will be coming out of the FENWT Meeting in November.
- ? **Fire Weather/Fire Danger Committees** – The Fire Danger Committee has recently met. The Fire Weather Committee has formed but has not yet met.
- ? **WIMS Task Order** – Updates to WIMS using the Nelson Model is scheduled to be operational in 2007. This will be a topic at the FENWT Meeting in November.
- ✍ **Action Item No. 145:** Request appropriate communication planning and information sharing to the user community from FDC/FENWT/USFS concerning the WIMS Task Order.
Responsible: Tom Wordell
Target Completion Date: 10/31/2006
- ✍ **Action Item No. 146:** Develop requirements needed for CY 2007 Fire Season regarding WIMS Task Order.
Responsible: Chuck Maxwell and Neil Hitchcock
Target Completion Date: 10/31/2006

Thursday – October 12, 2006

Agenda Item: Fire and Weather Data – Tom Wordell

The Department of Interior has changed the data format and it is no currently exportable to FireFamilyPlus. This should be corrected in FireFamilyPlus V 4.0. This information is not being made available to users.

- ✍ **Agenda Item No. 147:** Request that FAMWEB provides more inclusive information concerning data retrieval process/timelines.
Responsible: Tom Wordell and Neil Hitchcock
Target Completion Date: 12/31/2006

Agenda Item: Fire Occurrence Records – Tom Wordell

The FORS Project is going forward although the emphasis has changed to a User Needs Assessment rather than a system analysis. Tom is the Federal Business Lead. Other projects have identified the need for a single point of access with standard elements for data. Their report is due to NFAEB January 31, 2007.

Agenda Item: Strategic Plan – Shari Shetler (Exhibits R, S, T and U)

The Group worked at reviewing and completing the Priority Action Plans as well as deciding on a template for the Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan is not as dynamic as the Action Plan, which are added as the Appendix. There also should be a way to link the current Action Items Tracking Table to the Strategic Plan Action Items. Action Items were identified for completion of goals. Potential Task dependency and the need for sequencing were identified. The need to develop a format to report of annual accomplishments and issues was discussed. The Tasks for Goal 3, Priority 2 and Goal 4, Priority 2 need to be reviewed and a timeline needs to be established.

Decisions:

- ? *Adopt the NWCG Template for the Strategic Plan.*
 - ? *Utilize Microsoft Project to determine interrelationships between Goals and Tasks.*
 - ? *Have Leads complete Goal 3, Priority 2 and Goal 4, Priority 2.*
- ✍ **Action Item No. 148:** Integrate current Framework, strategies and goals into the NWCG Template.
Lead: Tom Wordell and Shari Shetler
Target Completion Date: 02/06/2007
 - ✍ **Action Item No: 149:** Develop a strategy to link the Action Items Tracking Table and the NPSG Strategic Plan Action Plan to avoid duplication.
Lead: Tom Wordell and Shari Shetler
Target Completion Date: 02/06/2007
 - ✍ **Action Item No. 150:** Develop format to report 2006 accomplishments and issues to NFAEB.
Lead: Tom Wordell and Neil Hitchcock
Target Completion Date: 01/31/2007

✍ **Action Item No. 151:** Enter priority Action Plans and Tasks into Microsoft Project Manager to develop Gant Chart to view inter-relationships.

Lead: Shari Shetler

Target Completion Date: 02/06/2007

✍ **Action Item No. 152:** Have Rick Ochoa complete Goal 3, Priority 2; and have Chuck Maxwell and Colleen Finneman complete Goal 4, Priority 2.

Lead: Tom Wordell

Target Completion Date: 12/31/2006

Agenda Item: Future NPSG Meeting Topics and Logistics – Tom Wordell

Meeting Schedule:

? February 6-8, 2007 – Northwest Coordination Center; Portland, OR

? May 8-10, 2007 – Ft. Worth, TX; Brad and Paul will co-host

? October 9-11, 2007 – Western Great Basin; Reno, NV

Agenda Topics:

? Meteorologist and Intelligence Coordinators discuss program success, lessons learned...

? WIMS Task Order – Invite Larry Bradshaw

? Follow-up from meetings – Predictive Services, Center Managers, NWS/NOAA

? Status of Survey

? Finalize Budget

✍ **Action Item No. 153:** Invite Larry Bradshaw to February NPSG Meeting to update group on WIMS Task Order.

Lead: Tom Wordell

Target Completion Date: 02/06/2007

Agenda Item: FY06 Budget/Awards Review and FY07 Budget Proposal – Tom Wordell (continued)

Verification Proposal from Tom Rolinski – This item was discussed on the Meteorologist Conference Call and they would prefer that DRI develop the process; they would like to be involved.

Decision: *Fund the Verification Proposal for \$28,000. Also fund \$10,000 for travel related to the completion of Action Items. This leaves approximately \$20,000 uncommitted. There may be a need for contract assistance (map, webwork) or Gridded FXNet needs.*

- ✍ **Action Item No. 154:** Concerning the integration on non-RAWS stations in WIMS, request the Fire Danger Committee conduct an outreach to stakeholders so they have an opportunity to express concerns. Distribute to the Meteorologist Working Group.
Lead: Tom Wordell and Chuck Maxwell
Target Completion Date: 10/31/2006

Agenda Item: Bin Item – Use of NWS Weather Stations as RAWS Stations – Brad Smith (Exhibit V)

Florida is involved in a test project to utilize existing NWS Weather Stations to produce NFDRS outputs. There are a limited number of weather stations in some areas, particularly in the eastern United States. It is believed that with additional weather stations there will be better resolution in the data. There is potential to include other weather stations in the future.

Agenda Item: Fire Lab Activities to Support Predictive Services – Rob Seli (Exhibit W)

Gridded NFDRS Climatology – Long-term ERCg climatology for all of North America using the North American Regional Reanalysis dataset has been compiled. This gives daily ERCg values for the entire continent at 32km resolution. From this departures from averages can be calculated when gridded ERC forecasts are developed. Work is planned to extend the existing 24-hour ERCg forecasts using the National Digital Forecast Database (NDFD). The project will commence within the year. This forecast can then be combined with the NARR ERC climatology to express ERCg as a departure from the long-term average.

Agenda Item: Live Fuel Moisture Proposal – Tom Wordell, (Conference Call with Beth Hall, Ed Delgado and Chuck Buescher)

Beth was approached through California FireScope to develop a product involving Live Fuel Moistures. Originally designed to be a part of ROMAN, the Eastern Great Basin developed a Live Fuel Moisture Product including an interactive map which has the potential of being expanded to be national in scope. The current map was developed by RSAC and there are technical issues that have surfaced. There is the ability to import historical data. Hosting decisions will need to be made and a list of requirements needs to be available. There is set-up time involved and each GACC would need an administrator.

Ed will be presenting the proposal in November at the National Predictive Services Meeting. He is looking for feedback. It may be possible to store the data at the Western Regional Climate Center. Funding may be available for map development and travel to assist the GACCs in set-up and implementation.

- ✍ **Action Item No. 155:** Ed Delgado will follow-up with Larry Hood (who represents FireScope in California) to determine if the live fuel moisture webpage he is developing with Brad Quayle for EGB would meet their needs if it were adopted by

all of the GACCs.. If so, Ed Delgado will write up a proposal including the requirements and server needs and present it at the National Predictive Services Meeting in February 2007. Tom will keep the National Fuels Committee informed of developments.

Lead: Ed Delgado

Target Completion Date: 02/07/2007

Agenda Item: Next Generation NFDRS: Implications for Predictive Service – Chuck Maxwell

✍ **Action Item No. 156:** Coordinate with Matt Jolly on product design.

Lead: Chuck Maxwell

Target Completion Date: 05/01/2007

Agenda Item: November Predictive Services Meeting – Agenda/Logistics – Randy Dziola and Chuck Maxwell (Exhibit X)

The Agenda for the National Predictive Services Meeting in Orlando was distributed and discussed. The Joint Team Building Session has been scheduled for Wednesday. Randy will talk about the Resource Capability for the 7-Day product Thursday morning in place of the Funding and Standard Position Description for Intelligence Assistant Positions. There should be time available on Tuesday during the National GACC Web Group Report/Update to address 508 Compliance for the websites.

Change in the Monthly and Seasonal Outlook Products: Currently Seasonal Assessments issued by GACCs are released at various times and may or may not be updated. Information is reported upward to NICC in a variety of ways including emails and conference calls. Outside experts input at the national level has not been solicited. The proposal would be to continue to release a Monthly Outlook and define the Seasonal Outlook for the next three months, to be updated monthly. The Outlooks would combine information provided by the GACCs as well as other experts including climatologists and drought monitors. This will be a topic at the Meeting.

✍ **Action Item No. 157:** Request Jay Ellington to summarize and present 508 Compliance Requirements at the National Predictive Services Meeting.

Lead: Chuck Maxwell

Target Completion Date: 11/16/2006

✍ **Action Item No. 158:** Determine if Pat Winter or Heidi Bigler-Cole is available to present a summary of the User Assessment Findings.

Lead: Tom Wordell

Target Completion Date: 10/31/2006

Agenda Item: OFCM Update (continued) – Heath Hockenberry

OFCM/JAG Conference Call – Considerable time was spent in the development of an in-depth survey addressing the Fire Weather needs. This survey has since been compressed to five to eight pages to be distributed at the Third International Fire Ecology and Management Congress in November. There is a possibility that the survey may also be emailed to a list provided by the agencies. The message was clearly communicated the need for a wider distribution.