

Office of the Federal Coordinator for Meteorology Joint Action Group for the National Wildland Fire Weather Needs Assessment

PURPOSE

An abundance of accumulated biomass in forests and rangelands and persistent drought conditions are contributing to larger, more costly wildland fires. To effectively manage fire in the wildland environment, fire and air quality managers need timely, accurate, and detailed fire weather and climate information.

PRIMARY GOALS

- Conduct a comprehensive review and assessment of weather and climate needs of providers and users in their wildland fire and fuels management activities.
- Assess the capabilities of the provider and research agencies to ensure that needed weather and climate information is available to fire and air quality managers and other users.

KEY FEDERAL AGENCY STAKEHOLDERS

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| ➤ DOC <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ NIST▪ NOAA | ➤ DOI <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Bureau of Indian Affairs▪ Bureau of Land Management▪ Bureau of Reclamation▪ National Park Service▪ U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service▪ U.S. Geological Survey | ➤ DOT <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ FAA▪ FHWA▪ FRA▪ FTA |
| ➤ DOD | | ➤ NASA |
| ➤ DOE | | ➤ NSF |
| ➤ DHS <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ FEMA▪ U.S. Fire Administration | ➤ EPA | ➤ USDA <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Forest Service▪ Natural Resource Conservation Service |
| | ➤ HHS <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ CDC | |

FUNCTIONAL AREAS COVERED IN ASSESSMENT

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| 1. Data collection, integrity, processing, and archival | 6. Education, training, outreach, partnering, and collaboration |
| 2. Fire weather research and development | 7. User response, decision support, and resulting user impacts |
| 3. Forecast products and services | 8. Funding and human resource considerations |
| 4. Modeling, prediction, and data assimilation | 9. Socioeconomic impacts |
| 5. Information dissemination and technologies | |

KEY ACTIVITIES AND DELIVERABLES

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| 1. ICMSSR briefing completed (11/18/2005) | 7. Identify gaps to meet needs |
| 2. Joint Action Group established (1/06) | 8. Complete analysis and develop recommendations for report |
| 3. Review federal agencies' wildland fire programs | 9. Generate draft assessment report (Q1, FY2007) |
| 4. Identify stakeholders (federal, state, local, etc.); link to federal agencies where applicable | 10. Plan & conduct workshop for stakeholders' review (Q1, FY2007) |
| 5. Develop assessment questions | 11. Complete NFWFNA report (Q3, FY2007) |
| 6. Gather assessment information | |

*****GOAL: COMPLETE FINAL PRODUCT BY SPRING 2007 WGA CONFERENCE*****