March 15, 2010

Rocky Mountain Geospatial Technology Committee 3:00 p.m.

Attendees:

Dave Hammond, NPS Elise Bowne, U.S. Forest Service Chris Ferner, Colorado State Forest Service John Guthrie, U.S. Geologic Survey Susan Stitt, U.S. Geologic Survey Susan Guthrie, Northrop Grumman contractor

Agenda –

- RMIRS
- Availability for RMACC GIS support
- RMACC MAC Briefing for 2010
- Plotter (HP1055) available for use on incidents, it will be ordered with a local NFES number
- WFDSS Layers
- NPS SDE and data layers
- Westwide Fire Risk Assessment
- USGS UAS Ravens
- Follow-up from February 12th training/conference call (not actually discussed at this meeting, but need to document)

• Rocky Mountain Incident Reporting System (RMIRS)

Development is almost complete. Jody (last name?) is finishing the final changes. John Guthrie and Jody demonstrated it to Marco last Friday. It is currently at: sierrafire.cr.usgs.gov/rmirs. It is tied to Geomac right now. The intent is for two or three people at RMACC to be able to edit data and add incidents by lat/longs.

• Availability for RMACC GIS support

GIS support for RMACC should be ordered through ROSS. Fern and Susan Stitt plan to be available. The GIS guide is complete, pending updates for current fire season.

• RMACC MAC Briefing for 2010

Have not heard any news on when this will be or what will be needed from our group for support.

HP1055 Plotter in Rocky Mountain Cache for Incident Use

The traveling case and supplies for the plotter have been ordered by Flint Cheney. The plotter should be ready to go soon.

WFDSS Layers

The group discussed the feasibility of GACC level (geographically) interagency layers for WFDSS. There are some attempts to get some layers at a National level at least within individual agencies. Standardizing layers amongst the agencies while take a lot of effort, but could have some great benefits, not just to WFDSS, but in many other areas.

National Park Service – SDE

The National Park Service is getting SDE running and will have layers such as fire history and fire management units at a national level. Skip Edel is instrumental in this effort.

Westwide Fire Risk Assessment

This process is underway, via contractor. Delivery date is unknown, at this point. The analysis and output will be similar to the Colorado Fire Risk Assessment, as the same contractor is responsible for the Westwide assessment.

Unmanned Aircraft Systems - USGS

The US Geological Survey has purchased several Ravens. Mike Hutt is the contact for this project. They are looking for a prescribed fire to test this technology. FAA approval is needed in order to use the UAS, so plenty of lead time is necessary. The Ravens have GPS on board and the there is a video camera. The camera is a forward-looking instrument and is designed for "looking at" the fire.

• Follow-up from WFDSS Training

On February 12th, members of the RMGTC attended the remote WFDSS Training put on for the Geospatial Technology Group, who graciously allowed us to share the presentation and training. This gave a good introduction and general look at the geospatial aspects, including layers they want to collect.

• Additional Follow-up from the February 12th

After the WFDSS training session, there was a quick GTG conference call concerning the two proposed Fuels Treatment Polygon standards. One of the proposed standards is from the RMGTC while the other is from the Pacific Northwest group. The intent was to combine the two standards into one standard approved by all parties. There were not many differences, due to the fact that the two groups worked fairly closely in developing the standards. We arrived at a mutually agreed upon standard, which should now move forward through the DAWG (Data Administration Working Group) which approves standards.

Action Items:

- John and Jody will continue developing and fine-tuning RMIRS.
- Elise will follow up on the plotter and advice group of status.

- If anyone sees an opportunity for UAS use on prescribed fire, contact USGS, Mike Hutt.
- Elise will continue to contact Marco Perea to coordinate any support for the MAC Exercise.