



National Predictive Services Group

Leadership in Decision Support Services

March 29, 2005

To: Center Managers

From: National Predictive Services Group

Subject: **Implementation of the New Standardized GACC Website Template**

Background

For the past couple of years the National GACC Website Committee (NGWC), a subcommittee of the National Predictive Services Group (NPSG), has been working on the development of a National GACC Website portal and a standardized GACC website template. They have completed the initial steps in this process and are now ready to provide the necessary information to the GACCs so they can begin working on their part of the project. Although it has taken the committee a while to get to this point, we feel the Committees efforts have been well worth the wait and will truly payoff in the long run as visitors to any GACC website will be able to locate a same or similar product/document no matter which GACC website they are visiting.

Implementing Standard Website Templates

In order to get started in re-designing or developing your GACC website, you will first need to go to the NGWC website currently hosted at:

http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/fire/national_web/ngwc/ngwc.htm and download the “**National Geographic Area Coordination Center Website and GACC Standardized Website Template - Implementation Guide**.” The Implementation Guide explains the conceptual design, general roles and responsibilities, implementation timeline, and development of the National GACC website and the standardized GACC website template. The NGWC believes the Guide will help you better understand the overall concept, answer many of your questions, and get you started in the right direction. The Guide will also provide you directions on where to download the current template files and discuss the use of a centralized host server.

At the National Coordinators meeting in Monterey, it was agreed upon by all that the implementation date for the new GACC websites will be May 2, 2005. However, due to the

late date in which the Implementation Guide is being distributed, we feel there may not be enough time for all GACCs to complete the development and posting of their site by this date. Therefore, this date still stands as a beginning date, but GACCs have until July 1, 2005, for final posting of the site.

Enclosed below is a "GACC Website Contact List." If there is a "?" next to the GACC, this means the Committee has not received a name as your primary contact for the GACC. Please send your contact persons name to Jay Ellington via e-mail (jayellington@fs.fed.us) as soon as possible. This person will receive any changes, updates, etc for the GACC in the future.

Standardization is a critical component of the NPSG charter and adoption of standardized GACC website templates is a good step in that direction and will better meet customer needs. Should you have questions pertaining to the Implementation Guide or process for developing your GACC website, you can contact Jay Ellington, NGWC Committee Chair, at 505-842-3874 or by e-mail at jayellington@fs.fed.us.

/s/ Thomas A. Wordell

National Predictive Services Group Chair

/s/ Kim Christensen

National Interagency Coordination Center Manager

CC: GACC Center Managers

Enclosure: GACC Website Contact List

GACC WEBSITE CONTACT LIST	
Alaska	?
Eastern	?
Eastern Great Basin	Ed Delgado
Northern Rockies	Julie Polutnik
Northwest	Blanche France
Northern California	?
Southern California	?
Rocky Mountain	?
Southern	Pete Masiel
Southwest	Jay Ellington
Western Great Basin	?