

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Office of Fire and Aviation
3833 South Development Avenue
Boise, Idaho 83705

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Information Bulletin No. OF&A 2002-039

To: State Directors
Attention: Fire Management Officers and Contracting Officers

From: Director, Office of Fire and Aviation

Subject: Implementation of a National Agreement for BLM Use of the Weather Information Management System

Fire Weather and applied products such as fire danger rating are important tools for firefighter safety as well as tactical and strategic fire management decision-making. National guidance (e.g., Chapter 7 - Preparedness, BLM Standards for Fire and Aviation Operations) requires frequent access to this information. Much of this information is located at the Weather Information Management System (WIMS), a national interagency fire weather/fire danger database operated by the US Department of Agriculture.

The purpose of this memo is to inform you, your fire staff, and contracting/finance personnel of the following:

Funding for the use of WIMS in FY 2002 by BLM field, state, and national office personnel will be covered by the National Office of Fire and Aviation based on a new national agreement (No. 1422RAI02-0008). Field and state offices should no longer fund or receive invoices for WIMS-use.

This agreement applies to all BLM personnel with existing WIMS logon IDs; new WIMS users can be added as in the past. The agreement includes use of the WIMS and KCFAST that are located at

<http://famweb.nwcg.gov> . The National Situation Report and the Incident Status Summary (form ICS-209) links, also at the web site, require approval from your local

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Geographic Area Coordination Center, but usage is also covered under this agreement. The agreement runs through September 30, 2002, and will be renewed annually by the national office.

For technical questions regarding WIMS or the agreement, contact Paul Schlobohm, Bureau of Land Management, Fire Planning and Research, at 775-674-7170.

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