National Fire and Aviation Executive Board

Memorandum

To: **Fire Management**

From: **National Fire and Aviation Executive Board**

Date: **June 20, 2007**

Subject: **Agency Direction with Regards to Predictive Services**

In 2000, the National Fire Plan provided for the development of Predictive Service Units at the Geographic Area Coordination Centers (GACCs) and the National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC) in order to integrate climate, weather, situation, resource status, and fuels information into products that will enhance the ability of managers to make sound decisions for both short and long range strategic planning and resource allocation decisions, and ensure the safety of firefighting and emergency personnel. The concept behind this effort was to blend the functions of intelligence, meteorological forecasting, and fire analyst capabilities into a cohesive national program called "Predictive Services" in order to place emphasis on predictive capability at the Geographic Area and National levels.

Since its inception, interagency reliance on improved decision support tools and products continues to emphasize the importance of a strong, national, Predictive Service program with positions located regionally across the United States. Management effectiveness protocols also point an evolving increased need for a strong, national Predictive Service program. Day-to-day supervision and adequate coverage is needed to enable the program to meet its stated objectives and uphold its responsibilities under the Interagency Agreement for Meteorological Services among the fire agencies and the National Weather Service.

Each agency will provide the necessary support to ensure:

- Program staff vacancies are communicated to agency fire director level so implications of decisions are known at national level
- GACC Center Managers provide day-to-day supervision of their respective Predictive Services staff
- GACC Center Managers need to ensure Predictive Services is provided 7 days per week as specified in GMAC Preparedness Level Guides.
- GACC specific operational plans be developed that encompass the daily activities of the GACC Predictive Service program, including supervision, COOP (backup), and program priorities for the services and products produced to support intra-geographic area and national needs

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