



## Southern Area Decision Support Group

**When SA-DSG is Available:** The Southern Area Decision Support Group (DSG) can be utilized year-round during periods of high fire activity in support of the Southern Area Coordination Center (SACC) or Multi-Agency Coordination Group (SA-MAC). In addition, the DSG is available to assist with prescribed burn planning and decision support.

The co-location of WFDSS technical experts, fire behavior specialists, GIS specialists, predictive services and intelligence personnel make it possible to assist with fire behavior analyses, long term assessments, and incident prioritization. The DSG offers a common point of contact for all fire managers within the Southern Area. The DSG is scalable to the complexity of the need whether those needs are isolated or broad across the entire Southern Area. The DSG can be assembled on short notice and scaled back as activity decreases.

**Who we are:** The Southern Area Decision Support Group is typically staffed with Fire Behavior Analysts (FBAN), Long Term Analysts (LTAN), Strategic Operation Planners (SOPL), WFDSS decision specialists, and Geographic Information System Specialists (GISS), but other positions can be added to meet specific requests or needs. The DSG works in conjunction with SACC Intel and predictive services to ensure the accuracy of information. The group can support your needs virtually or assist on-site.

The Southern Area Decision Support Group can provide the following products:

- ✓ Fire behavior analyses and interpretation support for local units, incidents, Incident Management Teams, Area Command (Fire Spread Probability (FSPro), Near Term Fire Behavior, FARSITE, Short Term Fire Behavior, Flammap etc.).
- ✓ WFDSS Decision support, including Decision Documentation assistance
- ✓ Incident Strategic Alignment Process (ISAP)
- ✓ Values Inventory (VI) and Values at Risk (VAR) assessment
- ✓ Short and long-term assessment and strategic planning
- ✓ Fire behavior modeling and analysis for prescribed fire planning, go/no go decisions, assessing resource needs, and contingency planning (BehavePlus, IFTDSS, WindNinja, FlamMap, etc.)
- ✓ Advanced fire behavior modeling for higher complexity burns and advanced-level burn planning using next generation coupled fire/atmosphere fire behavior models (QUIC-Fire and BurnPro3D)
- ✓ Working with the Region 8 Air Resources Management Program to provide smoke dispersion and trajectory modeling for go/no go decisions, notifications, and to ensure compliance with R8 Smoke Management Guidelines (Hysplit-PC, BlueSky Playground, V-smoke, etc.)
- ✓ Guidance on planning for and implementing fire effects monitoring



**How to request support:** Normally support can be requested by contacting the DSG directly (See below). However, assistance from the DSG can also be requested by the following methods:

- ✓ Log into WFDSS and select Fire Behavior Request from the left-hand menu from within an incident. Provide a short summary of your request on the following screen. It is helpful to follow up that request with a call or text to one of the persons listed below.

Or for more complex questions and support

- ✓ Call the Southern Area Coordination Center (SACC) 678.320.3000 and request assistance from the Decision Support Group (DSG). SACC will put you in contact with the Southern Area Decision Support Group Lead.

For Prescribed Fire/Smoke Mgmt. support requests

- ✓ Submit requests as far in advance as possible to ensure adequate time for modeling and support to be completed. The DSG will make every effort to fill morning of burn requests in a timely manner, but some modeling and analyses, such as those provided by QUIC-Fire, require hours or days of advanced notice and coordination.

The SA Decision Support Group:

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