



File Code: 5100/6600  
Route To:

Date: September 17, 1999

Subject: NWCG Dispatch Messaging System (DMS)

To: Regional Foresters, Area Director, and Station Directors

This letter formally implements DMS nationwide within the Forest Service. DMS is the first interagency component of the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) Resource Ordering and Status System (ROSS). This system is considered mandatory for use on Forest Service-owned or supported personal computers in dispatch offices or National Incident Caches.

DMS augments the existing Forest Service administrative mail system by providing 7x24 fault tolerant high-speed messaging for the transmission of mission critical dispatch information. DMS will be the primary e-mail system for interagency dispatching. DMS will not replace existing agency e-mail systems. Personal profiles will not be used on this system. It is useful to understand that, on Forest Service PCs, DMS only involves configuration of software that is already part of our system architecture to access a specialized e-mail server.

DMS is fully tested and year 2000 certified. The testing was successfully completed at the National Interagency Coordination Center and at dispatch centers in the Northwest and Great Basin Geographic Areas. The requirements specifications for this system can be found on the Internet at <http://www.nwcg.gov/ross>.

The ROSS Team has made the decision to support Netscape Messenger as its primary DMS e-mail client. The Team has developed configuration instructions for other IMAP4 compliant packages. Use of this product with Lotus Notes will not create system conflicts. There will not be any noticeable change in network load as a result of this implementation. This software is being distributed to each installation site by the ROSS Team. This software will not be distributed using agency distribution methods. Instructions for installation and use are being distributed by the ROSS Team. Copies will be made available to all IRM personnel at the time of implementation at their unit.

This DMS implementation has been coordinated with the Director of IRM. The key contact for this effort is Beth Grey Cloud at (208) 373-3874 or [bgreycloud@blm.gov](mailto:bgreycloud@blm.gov).

*/s/ Larry Payne*

*for*

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