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Sit-209 Unit ID Business Practices

Recent events involving the Sit/209 program and unit identifiers have necessitated a review of the business practices used to update the program under FAMWEB. In the past the Intelligence community relied on a single go-to contact to facilitate changes to unit identifiers in the Sit/209 program. Now, changes that need to be made to unit identifiers in the Sit/209 program should follow the established protocols set by the Unit ID Change Management Board.

If a unit, dispatch center, or Geographic Area Coordination Center needs to create a new Unit ID, or make a change to an existing Unit ID, the procedure is outlined below. Formal direction is available NWCG document nwcg-012-2012 Unit ID’s. Below is a shortened version of the process outlined by NWCG.

1. The agency responsible for that unit should be involved in any discussion to add, delete, or modify an existing Unit ID. Clear reasoning for adding or changing a Unit ID should be outlined by agency management.
2. The proposed change should be submitted to the Geographic Area Unit ID Custodian (see the list below). That person should prepare the request for submission to the Unit ID Change Management Board.
3. The Geographic Area Unit ID Custodian will submit the change request to the National Unit ID Custodian. The change request is reviewed and forwarded to the Change Management Board.
4. The Change Management Board will review the request and either approve or disapprove the request.
5. Once the change is approved, the National Custodian will update the NWCG Unit Identifiers list and PMS 931 document, and post the document to the web (https://www.nifc.blm.gov/unit_id/Publish.html).

Unit identifiers in the Sit/209 program will be updated periodically using the official NWCG Unit Identifier list (PMS 931). Unit ID’s not contained in this list should not be included in the Sit/209 program. Updating the Unit ID list in the Sit/209 will most likely be performed by the contractor once a formal process has been established the agency.

It is important to remember that the Sit/209 program is becoming increasingly intertwined with other programs and systems, most especially the Integrated Reporting of Wildland Fire Information (IRWIN) and Wildland Fire Decision Support System (WFDSS) systems. It is imperative that unit identifiers used by the Sit/209 program be consistent with other programs and systems.

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