Message Board Posts 2007

December 18, 2007 – 0825 MT
** ROSS Maintenance - Reports Only
ROSS Reports (printing of resource orders and canned reports) will be unavailable from 2100 hours mountain to approximately 2130 hours on 12/18 and from 2000 hours mountain until approximately 2300 hours on 12/19. The ROSS Application will still function during those times.

December 18, 2007 – 0755 MT
** ROSS / IQCS SURVEY
ROSS and IQCS system managers are looking for your input on the desirability of making experience data from ROSS available to IQCS. The 10-question survey is posted on the ROSS web page (http://ross.nwcg.gov). Responses should be emailed to rick_jensen@blm.gov by end of the month.

December 17, 2007 – 1323 MT
** PREPARING FOR ARCHIVE
As of Dec. 17 there are 1317 open incidents in ROSS that could be closed. These incidents have start dates prior to Dec. 1 and have no open requests. By GACC the open incident counts are WBC 230, OSC 222, NRC 162, EBC 131, SWC 128, SAC 122, ONC 99, NWC 87, RMC 82, ACC 50, and NIC 4. To quickly find incidents that can be closed, dispatchers should open the Incident List screen and filter for Open incidents. Scan the "Can be Closed?" column. Any incidents that display "Yes" should be closed. NOTE: Request information for Closed incidents is available in the Request List report and via the Data Delivery System. This information may be used as documentation for payments.

Now is a good time to review open incidents for pending requests that should be cancelled and assigned resources that should be demobed. As of Dec. 17 are 359 pending requests with a Needed Date / Time prior to Dec. 10. By GACC the pending request counts are SWC 146, NRC 77, OSC 27, AKC 26, NWC 20, SAC 19, EBC 17, WBC 11, ONC 10 and EAC 6. There are 679 filled requests where the resource has been assigned more than 21 days. By GACC the filled request counts are OSC 231, SAC 148, SWC 75, AKC 67, WBC 53, NRC 42, ONC 21, EBC 12, EAC 11, APHIS 10, NWC 8, and RMC 1.

December 11, 2005 – 1555 MT
**ROSS MAINTENANCE
ROSS Maintenance has been completed. Thanks for your patience.

December 11, 2007 – 1355 MT
**ROSS MAINTENANCE
If ROSS users lose connectivity today, please log off and back on again as maintenance is occurring that does not require a full shutdown of the application. Thanks for your patience.

December 11, 2007 – 1330 MT
**ROSS MAINTENANCE
ROSS Maintenance work will be done this evening starting at 2000 hours mountain and lasting for approximately 2 hours. Users may experience loss of connectivity to ROSS during that time but should log off and back on again to regain connectivity.

December 4, 2007 – 1620 MT
** CHANGING PASSWORDS
ROSS Production and Practice are not currently using the same directory to manage passwords. Consequently, when you update your password on one platform it is not automatically updated on the other. If you want to use the same password you must change it manually in both places.

November 27, 2007 – 1635 MT
** THE OUTAGE IS BEING POSTPONED UNTIL PROBABLY MONDAY NIGHT SAME TIME--FINAL DATE WILL BE POSTED HERE AS SOON AS ALL PARTIES INVOLVED IN THE DEPLOYMENT HAVE BEEN SCHEDULED.
A ROSS outage is planned for Monday night December 3rd beginning at 2000M and lasting approximately five hours.
  NOTE: This is pending final approval by national coordinators.
  The outage is needed to implement the following:
  (1) Several fixes related to the conversion of a ROSS record to IQCS. When IQCS sends a resource to the Clearinghouse and a matching record is found with a system of record of ROSS:
      -- the system of record for the existing resource will be converted from ROSS to IQCS
      -- qualifications will be added, deleted or updated in order to match the qualifications sent from IQCS
      -- the resource will be removed from any master rosters where the qualification for the roster position (primary or alternate) does not exist in IQCS
      -- the response message sent to IQCS will include the appropriate IQCS Operator ID
  (2) A patch to repair a memory leak on the Broker server.
  (3) A fix to display released CWN/AGR tactical aircraft resources appropriately on the CWN/AGR tab. A software problem caused them to be incorrectly displayed only on the Available tab at the dispatch center that most recently assigned them.

** CLOSING INCIDENTS
Are your open incidents impacting system performance? As of Nov. 27 there were over 3000 open incidents in ROSS with start dates prior to Nov. 1
(including 36 incidents that began in 2005 or 2006). Over 85 percent of these incidents have no open requests and should be closed. To quickly find incidents that can be closed, open the Incident List screen and filter for Open incidents. Scan the "Can be Closed?" column. Any incidents that display "Yes" have no open requests and may be closed in preparation for incident archiving. NOTE: Request information for Closed incidents is available in the Request List report and via the Data Delivery System. This information may be used as documentation for payments.

** CLOSING REQUESTS
Please take the time to review your open incidents for pending requests that should be cancelled and assigned resources that should be demobed. As of Nov. 27 there were nearly 500 pending requests with a Needed Date / Time prior to Nov. 20. There were over 1000 filled requests where the resource has been assigned more than 21 days.

** DMS email is experiencing significant time lags if sending to or receiving from non-DMS addresses. This is being addressed but in the meantime, do not expect email to get to the recipient in a timely manner. If you send an email to the Helpdesk, please follow it up with a phone call.

** ROSS Helpdesk Hours:
  Monday - Friday 0800-2000E: Helpdesk office staffed
  Monday - Friday 2001-0759E: Emergency cell phone support
  Saturday & Sunday 24 hours: Emergency cell phone support

** When a Resource is entered into ROSS and a Clearinghouse error is received the Clearinghouse Data Steward strives to resolve the issue within 24 hours (not including weekends). If the resource must be dispatched prior to resolution of the issue, the work-around is to use Fill with EFF / AD. NOTE: the history for such assignments is captured on the request rather than the resource.

** THE OUTAGE IS BEING POSTPONED UNTIL PROBABLY THURSDAY NIGHT SAME TIME--FINAL DATE WILL BE POSTED HERE AS SOON AS ALL PARTIES INVOLVED IN THE DEPLOYMENT HAVE BEEN CONTACTED
A ROSS outage is planned for Thursday night November 29 beginning at 2000M and lasting approximately five hours.
  NOTE: This is pending final approval by national coordinators.
The outage is needed to implement the following:
  (1) Several fixes related to the conversion of a ROSS record to IQCS. When IQCS sends a resource to the Clearinghouse and a matching record is found with a system of record of ROSS:
      -- the system of record for the existing resource will be converted from ROSS to IQCS
      -- qualifications will be added, deleted or updated in order to match the qualifications sent from IQCS

November 27, 2007 – 1009 MT
-- the resource will be removed from any master rosters where the qualification for the roster position (primary or alternate) does not exist in IQCS
-- the response message sent to IQCS will include the appropriate IQCS Operator ID

(2) A patch to repair a memory leak on the Broker server.
(3) A fix to display released CWN/AGR tactical aircraft resources appropriately on the CWN/AGR tab. A software problem caused them to be incorrectly displayed only on the Available tab at the dispatch center that most recently assigned them.

** CLOSING INCIDENTS

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** CLOSING REQUESTS

Please take the time to review your open incidents for pending requests that should be cancelled and assigned resources that should be demobed. As of Nov. 27 there were nearly 500 pending requests with a Needed Date / Time prior to Nov. 20. There were over 1000 filled requests where the resource has been assigned more than 21 days.

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** ROSS Helpdesk Hours:
    Monday - Friday 0800-2000E: Helpdesk office staffed
    Monday - Friday 2001-0759E: Emergency cell phone support
    Saturday & Sunday 24 hours: Emergency cell phone support

** When a Resource is entered into ROSS and a Clearinghouse error is received the Clearinghouse Data Steward strives to resolve the issue within 24 hours (not including weekends). If the resource must be dispatched prior to resolution of the issue, the work-around is to use Fill with EFF / AD. NOTE: the history for such assignments is captured on the request rather than the resource.

** PRINTING problem has been resolved.

November 27, 2007 – 0824 MT
**THE OUTAGE IS BEING POSTPONED UNTIL PROBABLY THURSDAY NIGHT SAME TIME--FINAL DATE WILL BE POSTED HERE AS SOON AS ALL PARTIES INVOLVED IN THE DEPLOYMENT HAVE BEEN CONTACTED**

A ROSS outage is planned for Thursday night November 29 beginning at 2000M and lasting approximately five hours.

NOTE: This is pending final approval by national coordinators.

The outage is needed to implement the following:

1. Several fixes related to the conversion of a ROSS record to IQCS. When IQCS sends a resource to the Clearinghouse and a matching record is found with a system of record of ROSS:
   - the system of record for the existing resource will be converted from ROSS to IQCS
   - qualifications will be added, deleted or updated in order to match the qualifications sent from IQCS
   - the resource will be removed from any master rosters where the qualification for the roster position (primary or alternate) does not exist in IQCS
   - the response message sent to IQCS will include the appropriate IQCS Operator ID
2. A patch to repair a memory leak on the Broker server.
3. A fix to display released CWN/AGR tactical aircraft resources appropriately on the CWN/AGR tab. A software problem caused them to be incorrectly displayed only on the Available tab at the dispatch center that most recently assigned them.

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** ROSS Helpdesk Hours:
   - Monday - Friday 0800-2000E: Helpdesk office staffed
   - Monday - Friday 2001-0759E: Emergency cell phone support
   - Saturday & Sunday 24 hours: Emergency cell phone support

** When a Resource is entered into ROSS and a Clearinghouse error is received the Clearinghouse Data Steward strives to resolve the issue within 24 hours (not including weekends). If the resource must be dispatched prior to resolution of the issue, the work-around is to use Fill with EFF / AD. NOTE: the history for such assignments is captured on the request rather than the resource.

November 26, 2007 – 1519 MT

** PRINTING problem has been resolved.

** PLANNED MAINTENANCE OUTAGE

A ROSS outage is planned for Wednesday night November 28 beginning at 2200M and lasting approximately five hours.
NOTE: This is pending final approval by national coordinators.
The outage is needed to implement the following:
(1) Several fixes related to the conversion of a ROSS record to IQCS. When IQCS sends a resource to the Clearinghouse and a matching record is found with a system of record of ROSS:
   -- the system of record for the existing resource will be converted from ROSS to IQCS
   -- qualifications will be added, deleted or updated in order to match the qualifications sent from IQCS
   -- the resource will be removed from any master rosters where the qualification for the roster position (primary or alternate) does not exist in IQCS
   -- the response message sent to IQCS will include the appropriate IQCS Operator ID
(2) A patch to repair a memory leak on the Broker server.
(3) A fix to display released CWN/AGR tactical aircraft resources appropriately on the CWN/AGR tab. A software problem caused them to be incorrectly displayed only on the Available tab at the dispatch center that most recently assigned them.

** DMS email is experiencing significant time lags if sending or receiving to non-DMS addresses. It is being addressed but in the meantime, do not expect email to get to the recipient in a timely manner. If you send an email to the Helpdesk, please follow it up with a phone call.

** ROSS Helpdesk Hours:
   Monday - Friday 0800-2000E: Helpdesk office staffed
   Monday - Friday 2001-0759E: Emergency cell phone support
   Saturday & Sunday 24 hours: Emergency cell phone support

** When a Resource is entered into ROSS and a Clearinghouse error is received the Clearinghouse Data Steward strives to resolve the issue within 24 hours (not including weekends). If the resource must be dispatched prior to resolution of the issue, the work-around is to use Fill with EFF/AD. NOTE: the history for such assignments is captured on the request rather than the resource.

** PRINTING PROBLEM: An issue with the print server is currently preventing users from printing resource orders and other reports. This is being worked on and we will advise when print capability is restored.

** DMS email is experiencing significant time lags if sending or receiving to non-DMS addresses. It is being addressed but in the meantime, do not expect email to get to the recipient in a timely manner. If you send an email to the Helpdesk, please follow it up with a phone call.

** ROSS Helpdesk Hours:

November 26, 2007 – 1235 MT

** PRINTING PROBLEM: An issue with the print server is currently preventing users from printing resource orders and other reports. This is being worked on and we will advise when print capability is restored.

** DMS email is experiencing significant time lags if sending or receiving to non-DMS addresses. It is being addressed but in the meantime, do not expect email to get to the recipient in a timely manner. If you send an email to the Helpdesk, please follow it up with a phone call.

** ROSS Helpdesk Hours:
** When a Resource is entered into ROSS and a Clearinghouse error is received the Clearinghouse Data Steward strives to resolve the issue within 24 hours (not including weekends). If the resource must be dispatched prior to resolution of the issue, the work-around is to use Fill with EFF / AD. NOTE: the history for such assignments is captured on the request rather than the resource.

** ROSS Helpdesk Hours:
- ** Monday - Friday 0800-2000E: Helpdesk office staffed
- ** Monday - Friday 2001-0759E: Emergency cell phone support
- ** Saturday & Sunday 24 hours: Emergency cell phone support

** When a Resource is entered into ROSS and a Clearinghouse error is received the Clearinghouse Data Steward strives to resolve the issue within 24 hours (not including weekends). If the resource must be dispatched prior to resolution of the issue, the work-around is to use Fill with EFF / AD. NOTE: the history for such assignments is captured on the request rather than the resource.

** ROSS PRODUCTION OUTAGE SCHEDULED
ROSS Production will be unavailable beginning at 2100M on Thursday Nov. 8. This maintenance outage is estimated to last five hours.

** UPDATE: The intermittent problem that caused a delay between when request status changes occurred in ROSS and when they were reflected in Cognos reports has been resolved.

** ROSS Helpdesk Hours
Effective Saturday November 10, the ROSS Helpdesk will resume the following non-fire season hours of operation:
- ** Monday - Friday 0800-2000E: Helpdesk office staffed
- ** Monday - Friday 2001-0759E: Emergency cell phone support
- ** Saturday & Sunday 24 hours: Emergency cell phone support

** When a Resource is entered into ROSS and a Clearinghouse error is received the Clearinghouse Data Steward strives to resolve the issue within 24 hours (not including weekends). If the resource must be dispatched prior to resolution of the issue, the work-around is to use Fill with EFF / AD. NOTE: the history for such assignments is captured on the request rather than the resource.

** ROSS PRODUCTION OUTAGE SCHEDULED

** November 7, 2007 – 0845 MT

** November 20, 2007 – 0953 MT

** November 7, 2007 – 1114 MT
ROSS Production will be unavailable beginning at 2100M on Thursday Nov. 8. This maintenance outage is estimated to last five hours.

** ROSS Helpdesk Hours
Effective Saturday November 10, the ROSS Helpdesk will resume the following non-fire season hours of operation:
- Monday - Friday 0800-2000E: Helpdesk office staffed
- Monday - Friday 2001-0759E: Emergency cell phone support
- Saturday & Sunday 24 hours: Emergency cell phone support

** When a Resource is entered into ROSS and a Clearinghouse error is received the Clearinghouse Data Steward strives to resolve the issue within 24 hours (not including weekends). If the resource must be dispatched prior to resolution of the issue, the work-around is to use Fill with EFF / AD. NOTE: the history for such assignments is captured on the request rather than the resource.

** We are experiencing an intermittent problem that causes a delay between when request status changes occur in ROSS and when they are reflected in Cognos reports. For example, a request may show Filled on the Request Status screen but show Pending when the Resource Order is printed. So far, the issue seems to occur only during the early morning hours with a lag time of between 15 and 90 minutes until Cognos is updated. This issue is being actively worked on and a notice will be posted when it is resolved.

** ROSS PRODUCTION OUTAGE SCHEDULED
ROSS Production will be unavailable beginning at 2100M on Thursday Nov. 8. This maintenance outage is estimated to last five hours.

** When a Resource is entered into ROSS and a Clearinghouse error is received the Clearinghouse Data Steward strives to resolve the issue within 24 hours (not including weekends). If the resource must be dispatched prior to resolution of the issue, the work-around is to use Fill with EFF / AD. NOTE: the history for such assignments is captured on the request rather than the resource.

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November 7, 2007 – 0738 MT
** ROSS PRODUCTION OUTAGE SCHEDULED
ROSS Production will be unavailable beginning at 2100M on Thursday Nov. 8. This maintenance outage is estimated to last five hours.

** When a Resource is entered into ROSS and a Clearinghouse error is received the Clearinghouse Data Steward strives to resolve the issue within 24 hours (not including weekends). If the resource must be dispatched prior to resolution of the issue, the work-around is to use Fill with EFF / AD. NOTE: the history for such assignments is captured on the request rather than the resource.

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November 5, 2007 – 0808 MT
** When a Resource is entered into ROSS and a Clearinghouse error is received the Clearinghouse Data Steward strives to resolve the issue within 24 hours (not including weekends). If the resource must be dispatched prior to resolution of
the issue, the work-around is to use Fill with EFF / AD. NOTE: the history for such assignments is captured on the request rather than the resource.

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November 4, 2007 – 0905 MT
** REPORTS & PRINTING problem
Users may see "An unexpected error occurred when the document 'authenticateResponse' was parsed." when accessing Reports or attempting to Print from ROSS. This issue is being investigated. In the meantime, the following workaround may be used:

1. Use your web browser to navigate to Cognos at the following URL: 
   http://fam.nwcg.gov/crn/cgi-bin/cognos.cgi
   (HINT: you may copy / paste this link)
2. Select ROSSLDAPSSL from the drop-down and click OK.
3. Log on to Cognos using your ROSS User Name and Password.
4. Leave this browser window open -- you may navigate away from Cognos if you wish. You should be able to run Reports and Print from ROSS. NOTE: if browser window is closed you will encounter the error again at which point you may repeat this process.

Due to weather predictions for southern California, the Helpdesk office will be staffed Saturday Nov. 3 & Sunday Nov. 4. This is a temporary change from the current schedule of "emergency cell phone support only" on weekends.

** When a Resource is entered into ROSS and a Clearinghouse error is received the Clearinghouse Data Steward strives to resolve the issue within 24 hours (not including weekends). If the resource must be dispatched prior to resolution of the issue, the work-around is to use Fill with EFF / AD. NOTE: the history for such assignments is captured on the request rather than the resource.

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November 3, 2007 – 1340 MT
**The Data Delivery System (DDS) files failed to update the morning of Nov. 3rd. The files are being synced manually. The I-Suite, Incinet and over half of the ROSS folders have been updated as of 1340M. We are currently in the process of moving the DDS to a different server and anticipate that this will alleviate the issues that have been occurring. Thank you for your patience!**

**The user-entered documentation that was inadvertently removed during the migration to ROSS 2.7 has been restored.**

**Due to weather predictions for southern California, the Helpdesk office will be staffed Saturday Nov. 3 & Sunday Nov. 4. This is a temporary change from the current schedule of "emergency cell phone support only" on weekends.**

**When a Resource is entered into ROSS and a Clearinghouse error is received the Clearinghouse Data Steward strives to resolve the issue within 24 hours (not including weekends). If the resource must be dispatched prior to resolution of the issue, the work-around is to use Fill with EFF / AD. NOTE: the history for such assignments is captured on the request rather than the resource.**

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**November 01, 2007 – 1629 MT**

**The user-entered documentation that was inadvertently removed during the migration to ROSS 2.7 has been restored.**

**Due to weather predictions for southern California, the Helpdesk office will be staffed Saturday Nov. 3 & Sunday Nov. 4. This is a temporary change from the current schedule of "emergency cell phone support only" on weekends.**

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November 01, 2007 – 0731 MT
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November 01, 2007 – 0720 MT
** Due to activity level the Helpdesk office will be staffed Saturday Oct. 27 & Sunday Oct. 28. This is a temporary change from "emergency cell phone support only" on weekends.

** IQCS Interface
The "Send to ROSS" button from IQCS is now functioning. NOTE: The middle name field in IQCS has been temporarily disabled due to a software problem that causes IQCS records to become out of sync with ROSS and the Clearinghouse when middle name is edited -- as a result subsequent IQCS updates get rejected. When this issue is resolved the middle name field will be enabled

** Problems with the DDS file updates are being addressed as fast as possible and we hope to have them resolved soon. Files were manually run Monday morning October 22nd.

** Request and Incident Cleanup tasks
All pending requests that are older than 7 days should be cancelled. As of October 12th there were nearly 900 pending requests where the Needed Date / Time were a week or more in the past.

All resources which have demobed should be released in ROSS ASAP. As of October 12th there were over 1800 filled requests where the assignment began more than 21 days ago.
Any incidents that have no open requests should be closed. To streamline this task, check out the new "Can Be Closed?" column on the Incident List screen. Any incidents that display "Yes" may be closed.

** Helpdesk Hours effective October 19th: On Saturdays and Sundays the Helpdesk is only available for emergency cell phone support. Monday through Friday the Helpdesk is staffed from 0800-2300E M-F and available for emergency cell phone support from 2301-0759E M-F.

October 26, 2007 – 1553 MT
** Clearing House
The Clearing House is functioning correctly.

** Due to activity level the Helpdesk office will be staffed Saturday Oct. 27 & Sunday Oct. 28. This is a temporary change from "emergency cell phone support only" on weekends.

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** Attention Forest Service users who have migrated to Active Directory
The instructions for using the Citrix MetaFrame Servers to access ROSS have been posted on the ROSS Home Page (http://ross.nwcg.gov). Only users who have migrated to Active Directory will be able to access ROSS via Citrix.
**User Documentation**
Restoration of user-entered documentation should be completed the week of October 22nd. This documentation was inadvertently removed in the migration to version 2.7.

**Helpdesk Hours effective October 19th:** On Saturdays and Sundays the Helpdesk is only available for emergency cell phone support. Monday through Friday the Helpdesk is staffed from 0800-2300 E M-F and available for emergency cell phone support from 2301-0759 E M-F.

**October 26, 2007 – 1321 MT**
**Clearing House**
The Clearing House is down. Please do not edit or enter resource items in ROSS.

**Due to activity level the Helpdesk office will be staffed Saturday Oct. 27 & Sunday Oct. 28. This is a temporary change from "emergency cell phone support only" on weekends.**

**IQCS Interface**
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** Attention Forest Service users who have migrated to Active Directory
The instructions for using the Citrix MetaFrame Servers to access ROSS have been posted on the ROSS Home Page (http://ross.nwcg.gov). Only users who have migrated to Active Directory will be able to access ROSS via Citrix.

** Clearing House
The Clearing House is functioning correctly
** User Documentation
Restoration of user-entered documentation should be completed the week of October 22nd. This documentation was inadvertently removed in the migration to version 2.7.

** Helpdesk Hours effective October 19th: On Saturdays and Sundays the Helpdesk is only available for emergency cell phone support. Monday through Friday the Helpdesk is staffed from 0800-2300E M-F and available for emergency cell phone support from 2301-0759E M-F.

October 23, 2007 – 1758 MT

** Due to activity level the Helpdesk office will be staffed Saturday Oct. 27 & Sunday Oct. 28. This is a temporary change from "emergency cell phone support only" on weekends.

** We are currently having connectivity issues between ROSS, IQCS and the Resource Clearinghouse. Please do not attempt to enter or edit Person Resource records in ROSS or IQCS until this problem is resolved. If you must enter a resource so that they may be dispatched the workaround is to use "Fill with EFF/AD" on the Pending Request screen. The Lockheed team is diligently working to solve the Clearinghouse issues. Thank you for your patience!

** Problems with the DDS file updates are being addressed as fast as possible and we hope to have them resolved soon. Files were manually run Monday morning October 22nd.

** Request and Incident Cleanup tasks
All pending requests that are older than 7 days should be cancelled. As of October 12th there were nearly 900 pending requests where the Needed Date / Time were a week or more in the past.

All resources which have demobed should be released in ROSS ASAP. As of October 12th there were over 1800 filled requests where the assignment began more than 21 days ago.

Any incidents that have no open requests should be closed. To streamline this task, check out the new "Can Be Closed?" column on the Incident List screen. Any incidents that display "Yes" may be closed.

** Attention Forest Service users who have migrated to Active Directory
The instructions for using the Citrix MetaFrame Servers to access ROSS have been posted on the ROSS Home Page (http://ross.nwcg.gov). Only users who have migrated to Active Directory will be able to access ROSS via Citrix.

** IQCS Interface
The "Send to ROSS" button from IQCS is now functioning. NOTE: The middle name field in IQCS has been temporarily disabled due to a software problem that causes IQCS records to become out of sync with ROSS and the Clearinghouse when middle name is edited -- as a result subsequent IQCS updates get rejected. When this issue is resolved the middle name field will be enabled.

** User Documentation
Restoration of user-entered documentation should be completed the week of October 22nd. This documentation was inadvertently removed in the migration to version 2.7.

** Helpdesk Hours effective October 19th: On Saturdays and Sundays the Helpdesk is only available for emergency cell phone support. Monday through Friday the Helpdesk is staffed from 0800-2300E M-F and available for emergency cell phone support from 2301-0759E M-F.

October 22, 2007 – 1409 MT

** Helpdesk Hours: On Saturdays and Sundays the Helpdesk is only be available for emergency cell phone support. Monday through Friday the Helpdesk is staffed from 0800-2300E M-F and available for emergency cell phone support from 2301-0759E M-F.

** Problems with the DDS file updates are being addressed as fast as possible and we hope to have them resolved soon. Files were manually run Monday morning October 22nd.

** Request and Incident Cleanup tasks
All pending requests that are older than 7 days should be cancelled. As of October 12th there were nearly 900 pending requests where the Needed Date / Time were a week or more in the past.

All resources which have demobed should be released in ROSS ASAP. As of October 12th there were over 1800 filled requests where the assignment began more than 21 days ago.

Any incidents that have no open requests should be closed. To streamline this task, check out the new "Can Be Closed?" column on the Incident List screen. Any incidents that display "Yes" may be closed.

** Attention Forest Service users who have migrated to Active Directory
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** User Documentation
Restoration of user-entered documentation should be completed the week of October 22nd. This documentation was inadvertently removed in the migration to version 2.7.

** October 18, 2007 – 1350 MT
** Due to reduced activity, Helpdesk hours are changing effective Friday October 19. On Saturdays and Sundays the Helpdesk will only be available for emergency cell phone support. Monday through Friday hours are not changing -- the Helpdesk is staffed from 0800-2300E M-F and available for emergency cell phone support from 2301-0759E M-F.

** Problems with the DDS file updates are being addressed as fast as possible and we hope to have them resolved by the end of the week.

** Request and Incident Cleanup tasks
All pending requests that are older than 7 days should be cancelled. As of October 12th there were nearly 900 pending requests where the Needed Date / Time were a week or more in the past.

All resources which have demobed should be released in ROSS ASAP. As of October 12th there were over 1800 filled requests where the assignment began more than 21 days ago.

Any incidents that have no open requests should be closed. To streamline this task, check out the new "Can Be Closed?" column on the Incident List screen. Any incidents that display "Yes" may be closed.

** Attention Forest Service users who have migrated to Active Directory
The instructions for using the Citrix MetaFrame Servers to access ROSS have been posted on the ROSS Home Page (http://ross.nwcg.gov). Only users who have migrated to Active Directory will be able to access ROSS via Citrix.

** IQCS Interface
The "Send to ROSS" button from IQCS is now functioning. NOTE: The middle name field in IQCS has been temporarily disabled due to a software problem that causes IQCS records to become out of sync with ROSS and the Clearinghouse when middle name is edited -- as a result subsequent IQCS updates get rejected. When this issue is resolved the middle name field will be enabled.

** User Documentation
Restoration of user-entered documentation should be completed by late the week of October 14th. This documentation was inadvertently removed in the migration to version 2.7.

**October 17, 2007 – 1454 MT**

**ROSS Resource Clearinghouse issue has been resolved. Resources and updates may be sent to the Clearinghouse from both ROSS and IQCS.**

**Request and Incident Cleanup tasks**
All pending requests that are older than 7 days should be cancelled. As of October 12th there were nearly 900 pending requests where the Needed Date / Time were a week or more in the past.

All resources which have demobed should be released in ROSS ASAP. As of October 12th there were over 1800 filled requests where the assignment began more than 21 days ago.

Any incidents that have no open requests should be closed. To streamline this task, check out the new "Can Be Closed?" column on the Incident List screen. Any incidents that display "Yes" may be closed.

**Attention Forest Service users who have migrated to Active Directory**
The instructions for using the Citrix MetaFrame Servers to access ROSS have been posted on the ROSS Home Page (http://ross.nwcg.gov). Only users who have migrated to Active Directory will be able to access ROSS via Citrix.

**IQCS Interface**
The "Send to ROSS" button from IQCS is now functioning. NOTE: The middle name field in IQCS has been temporarily disabled due to a software problem that causes IQCS records to become out of sync with ROSS and the Clearinghouse when middle name is edited -- as a result subsequent IQCS updates get rejected. When this issue is resolved the middle name field will be enabled.

**User Documentation**
Restoration of user-entered documentation should be completed by late the week of October 14th. This documentation was inadvertently removed in the migration to version 2.7.

**October 17, 2007 – 1146 MT**

**The ROSS Resource Clearinghouse is down which is preventing new Resources from being entered via ROSS or IQCS. Work is underway to fix the problem. We will advise when functionality is restored. Thank you for your patience!**

**Request and Incident Cleanup tasks**
All pending requests that are older than 7 days should be cancelled. As of October 12th there were nearly 900 pending requests where the Needed Date / Time were a week or more in the past.
All resources which have demobed should be released in ROSS ASAP. As of October 12th there were over 1800 filled requests where the assignment began more than 21 days ago.

Any incidents that have no open requests should be closed. To streamline this task, check out the new "Can Be Closed?" column on the Incident List screen. Any incidents that display "Yes" may be closed.

** Attention Forest Service users who have migrated to Active Directory
The instructions for using the Citrix MetaFrame Servers to access ROSS have been posted on the ROSS Home Page (http://ross.nwcg.gov). Only users who have migrated to Active Directory will be able to access ROSS via Citrix.

** IQCS Interface
The "Send to ROSS" button from IQCS is now functioning. NOTE: The middle name field in IQCS has been temporarily disabled due to a software problem that causes IQCS records to become out of sync with ROSS and the Clearinghouse when middle name is edited -- as a result subsequent IQCS updates get rejected. When this issue is resolved the middle name field will be enabled.

** User Documentation
Restoration of user-entered documentation should be completed by late the week of October 14th. This documentation was inadvertently removed in the migration to version 2.7.

** October 15, 2007 – 0438 MT
** URGENT Request and Incident Cleanup tasks
All pending requests that are older than 7 days should be cancelled. As of October 12th there were nearly 900 pending requests where the Needed Date / Time were a week or more in the past.

All resources which have demobed should be released in ROSS ASAP. As of October 12th there were over 1800 filled requests where the assignment began more than 21 days ago.

Any incidents that have no open requests should be closed. To streamline this task, check out the new "Can Be Closed?" column on the Incident List screen. Any incidents that display "Yes" may be closed.

**Attention Forest Service users who have migrated to Active Directory
The instructions for using the Citrix MetaFrame Servers to access ROSS have been posted on the ROSS Home Page (http://ross.nwcg.gov). Only users who have migrated to Active Directory will be able to access ROSS via Citrix.

** IQCS Interface
The "Send to ROSS" button from IQCS is now functioning. NOTE: The middle name field in IQCS has been temporarily disabled due to a software problem that causes IQCS records to become out of sync with ROSS and the Clearinghouse when middle name is edited -- as a result subsequent IQCS updates get rejected. When this issue is resolved the middle name field will be enabled.

**User Documentation**
Restoration of user-entered documentation should be completed by late the week of October 14th. This documentation was inadvertently removed in the migration to version 2.7.

October 12, 2007 – 1200 MT
**URGENT Request and Incident Cleanup tasks**
All pending requests that are older than 7 days should be cancelled. As of October 12th there were nearly 900 pending requests where the Needed Date / Time were a week or more in the past.

All resources which have demobed should be released in ROSS ASAP. As of October 12th there were over 1800 filled requests where the assignment began more than 21 days ago.

Any incidents that have no open requests should be closed. To streamline this task, check out the new “Can Be Closed?” column on the Incident List screen. Any incidents that display “Yes” may be closed.

**IQCS Interface**
The "Send to ROSS" button from IQCS is now functioning. NOTE: The middle name field in IQCS has been temporarily disabled due to a software problem that causes IQCS records to become out of sync with ROSS and the Clearinghouse when middle name is edited – as a result subsequent IQCS updates get rejected. When this issue is resolved the middle name field will be enabled.

**User Documentation**
Restoration of user-entered documentation should be completed by late the week of October 14th. This documentation was inadvertently removed in the migration to version 2.7.

October 8, 2007 – 0930 MT
**URGENT - PENDING and FILLED REQUESTS**
All requests that are pending which are older then 7 days should be cancelled. Currently there are more then 1000 pending requests and are older then 30 days. All filled requests which have demobed should be released ASAP. Currently there is an excess of 2500 filled requests which show as mobilized for more then 21 days.

October 4, 2007 – 1310 MT
** We have determined that when middle name or middle initial is REMOVED in IQCS the update does not occur in the Resource Clearinghouse or in ROSS. This causes the records to be out of sync and future updates by IQCS are rejected. Until this issue is resolved, middle name or middle initial SHOULD NOT be removed in IQCS.

** Changes to a resource's Provider organization made in IQCS are transmitted to ROSS. When this happens the resource is made Unavailable with a reason of "Provider Changed". This is a cue that the resource item record should be reviewed as the resource may need to be transferred to another dispatch center. IQCS sets the Initial home dispatch when creating a resource. After that, ROSS is the system of record for home dispatch -- any changes to dispatch center must occur in ROSS.

** Auto-doc and user-entered documentation were inadvertently removed during the migration of data from 2.4 to 2.7. Work is underway to restore the user-entered documentation. Users should be aware that auto-doc is archived on a 14-day rolling cycle to enhance system performance. Archived incident and request documentation is available in the DDS INCIDENT_DOCUMENTATION and REQUEST_DOCUMENTATION files by dispatch Unit ID.

For more information regarding version 2.7 functionality please see the following resources on the ROSS web site:


** October 2, 2007 – 1755 MT

IQCS users may now send Quals to ROSS. Updates to resources sent from IQCS are also working with the EXCEPTION of name changes. We believe this issue may be limited to middle name / middle initial changes. An update will be posted when this is confirmed.***

WELCOME to ROSS VERSION 2.7

This is the new ROSS Message Board which will be used to post important information about system status, planned outages, business issues and tips on using ROSS. Access to update the Message Board is role-based and the Save button is only enabled for users with update privileges.

So, what's new? See below for a few examples. For more information visit the following resources on the ROSS web site:

PERFORMANCE: Databases have been optimized and queries have been tuned. Reports and the DDS have been moved to another server to reduce the load on Production. Notifications are now delivered automatically rather than being polled on a user-defined schedule. (See Release Notes page 1)

IQCS INTERFACE: No more IQCS imports. A new "Push to ROSS" button in IQCS sends resources, qualifications and updates to ROSS in "real time". The only updates to records from IQCS that are permitted in ROSS are Owner, Provider, Home Unit, Contacts, Jetport, Home Location, Weight and Gender. (See Release Notes page 6).

RESOURCE CLEARINGHOUSE: Single overhead resources created in ROSS now require a SSN. A check for duplicates in the new ROSS Resource Clearinghouse application is performed before a new resource is saved. If a duplicate resource is detected by the Clearinghouse the Clearinghouse Data Steward will assist with justification of the records. Contact the ROSS Helpdesk to initiate this process. (See Release Notes page 3).

CAD INTERFACE: Specific to Altaris CAD at this time. Incidents, requests, place and fill actions can be pushed from CAD to ROSS. Resources must be synchronized manually. (See Release Notes page 2).

REPORTS: ROSS now uses Cognos for generating reports and print button outputs. Preferred filter criteria may be saved for reuse and reports may be scheduled. (See the User Guide - Reports chapter and the Reports Quick Reference Card)

RELEASE AUTHORIZATION: This new screen allows a center to require that resource releases from a subordinate's incident be approved. This is done on an incident and catalog basis. (See Release Notes page 9).

TACTICAL AVIATION: You can now fill with assignment rosters on this screen. Assigned aircraft at subordinate and selection area centers are now displayed on the Requests tab. You may divert, reassign or fill with tactical aircraft that are assigned to your subordinate's incident. (See Release Notes page 12).

GO TO: Twelve new Go To options have been added that allow you to move quickly from screen to screen while maintaining focus on a single request or resource. (See Release Notes page 15).