

## Lesson 6 – System Preferences

*Estimated time to complete: 15 minutes*

In this lesson, you will modify your system preferences from the **My Home** tab.

With your WFDSS account, you can:

- Choose which Map Base Layer is displayed each time you open a map display
- Choose which page appears as the initial page when you login to WFDSS
- Choose how many data rows appear in the User List (in your Address Book)
- Choose how many data rows appear in the ERC stream when you are developing or viewing inputs for an FSPRO run
- Select nearby incidents proximity distance (for viewing nearby incidents and their active, published planning areas in the Fire Environment and Safety map layers)
- Choose the format of WFDSS-generated emails, HTML or Text
- Choose which map layers are available for viewing on map displays

In this lesson, we will focus on changing your initial page when you log in and managing your viewable map layers. Learning how to manage your map layers helps you understand how to modify your map display when you begin working from the Situation map in later lessons. You can modify the other system preferences as you see fit.

### Changing your Initial Page

The default Initial Page that displays when you log in to WFDSS is **My Home**, but you can change it at any time. If you are an Author, the Incident List may be the best option. An Analyst may prefer the Analysis List, where a user assigned the Dispatcher role may prefer the Intelligence map. It's personal preference, but locating incidents is easiest if the WFDSS application opens to display the Incident List.

#### To change your Initial Page:

1. Select **My Home > System Preferences**.
2. Locate the Initial Page section, and then select the radio button beside the Incident List (or other page if you choose).
3. Click **Save Preferences**. A message displays in green that says your User Preferences were successfully stored as your new defaults.

### Managing your Map Layers

You can control which map layers are available for viewing by selecting viewable layers under My Home > System Preferences. By default, WFDSS makes all of the available map layers active (i.e. meaning they are located in the right pane), but not all map layers may be applicable to your fire area. If you choose, identify which layers are not applicable and move those layers from the list on the right to the list on the left. Layers that display in the list on the left are not available for viewing in your map displays.

For example, if your unit is in the Southwest, you may not be interested in viewing Alaska fires from 2000-2009 (AK Fires 2000-2009). You would select that layer in the list on the right, and then click the double arrow to move the layer to the list on the left. You can move the layers back to the list on the right whenever you'd like.

**Note:** If you change jobs or find yourself working in a different area, double check your system preferences to make sure you aren't inadvertently eliminating map layers from

### To manage your map layers:

1. Select **My Home > System Preferences**.
2. Scroll through the list of map layers in the right pane (highlighted in the image below), and while you press and hold the Ctrl key, select the layers that are not currently applicable (you can also move them individually).
3. Click  to move the selected layers to the list on the left. This deactivates those layers in your map displays.

**Home - System Preferences**

**Map Base Layer**

USGS Topos

USGS Imagery

USGS Topo Imagery

Google Maps

Google Physical

WFDSS Topos

U.S. States

**Initial Page**

Analysis List

Incident List

Intelligence

My Home

User Access List

**Rows per Page**

ERC Stream  User List

**Nearby Incidents Proximity Distance**

miles

**Email Format**

HTML

Text

**Map Layers**

Available Layers

Disturbance > 2010 Burn Severity

Disturbance > Fuel Treatments

Fire > AK Fire Mgmt Options

>>

<<

Selected Layers

Boundaries > Counties

Boundaries > Federal Admin > BIA/Tribal

Boundaries > Federal Admin > BLM

Boundaries > Federal Admin > NPS

Boundaries > Federal Admin > USFS

Boundaries > Federal Admin > USFWS

Boundaries > Jurisdictional Agencies

Boundaries > Responsible Agencies

Boundaries > TNC Lands

Designated > BLM > Horse and Burro

Designated > BLM > Oil/Gas Leases

Designated > BLM > Range Allotments

4. Click **Save Preferences** when you are finished. A message displays in green that says your User Preferences were successfully stored as your new defaults.

### Search for these related topics in the help:

- [Changing your System Preferences](#)
- [Changing your Initial Page](#)
- [Managing Map Layers](#)