InciWeb Drupal Questions and Answers

1. What is Drupal?

Drupal is an open-sourced content management system for web sites. It is a tool that allows us to create and maintain content on a website without the need for specialized technical knowledge. Essentially, Drupal is like an interpreter: it takes your message (e.g., content, pictures, menus, articles, tools, videos, and more) and translates it into the language of the web.

2. Why does InciWeb, an already functioning website, need to be upgraded to Drupal?

All forms of technology need routine maintenance to keep it in proper working condition. Some maintenance is easy while others can be complicated or expensive. Eventually technology can't be repaired anymore and becomes obsolete. To prevent this, a website needs to stay relevant requiring an upgrade. Therefore, InciWeb is moving to Drupal to stay relevant, accessible, and align with other government websites migrating to Drupal.

The other and sometimes more important reason for the change is security. The longer a website doesn't change with the environment that hosts it, the more vulnerable it becomes to attack from the outside.

3. Since InciWeb is moving to Drupal, does that mean that InciWeb will be harder to find for the public?

No. There are many new changes coming to InciWeb Drupal, but many of the things that made the InciWeb website successful will be transferred as well. The look and design of the InciWeb Drupal public website will stay mostly the same, with minimal cosmetic changes. The user experience of navigating the site and locating incident information will remain unchanged. However, the InciWeb Drupal address or URL (Uniform Resource Locator) will change.

4. Why would the InciWeb Drupal address change if the website is just getting an upgrade?

There is an interagency effort underway to consolidate wildland fire websites under the wildfire.gov domain. This new domain is intended to provide standardization, make it easier for the public to find wildland fire related information, and make it easier for the various government agencies to manage the many websites and web applications supporting wildland fire. Inciweb.nwcg.gov will become inciweb.wildfire.gov.

5. If I have inciweb.nwcg.gov bookmarked in my current web browser, will I still be able to find InciWeb Drupal on the web?

Yes. Once the transition occurs from the current form of InciWeb to InciWeb Drupal, you will automatically be redirected to the new InciWeb Drupal address when attempting to reach inciweb.nwcg.gov.

6. Will the public still be able to find InciWeb Drupal in a Google search or other web browsers when searching for wildfire information?

Yes. The migration to InciWeb Drupal will keep its place atop many searches. However, the changeover on each search engine may take a few days.

7. When will the revision of InciWeb Drupal take effect?

The current target go Live date for InciWeb Drupal is Wednesday, July 6, 2022. If the date is delayed, users will be notified.

8. When the change to InciWeb Drupal occurs, will logging in to the administrative site also be changed?

No. That won't change in InciWeb Drupal. Administrators, of all-levels and agency affiliation, will still need to apply for an Integrated National Application Portal (iNAP) account and password. Those active accounts will migrate over.

9. What is the best way to attain an iNAP account, if I don't have one, to access InciWeb Drupal?

If you do not have an iNAP account, log on to https://nap.nwcg.gov/NAP/. Once you are at the website, in the upper left corner, just below the USDA and Forest Service logos, there is a link titled "Request account". Click there and follow the online instructions.

10. If I already have a username and password, but my username or password doesn't work, will I need to create a new iNAP account to access InciWeb Drupal?

Maybe? Password issues can happen at any time. In the current version of InciWeb and after the release of InciWeb Drupal, password issues should always be resolved by calling the IIA Helpdesk at 1-866-224-7677 (available 24-hours a day, 7-days a week).

If it has been over one-year since you have logged into iNAP, then a new account may need to be created. Since, iNAP has multiple inactive accounts in its database, it's recommended to call the Helpdesk to have your old accounts removed.

11. Will I have to relearn everything in InciWeb Drupal?

No. The content that administrators (superusers and users) input into the current version of InciWeb will be the same content input into InciWeb Drupal. Administrators will still be following the Incident Command System, Incident Status Summary (ICS-209) form. What will change in InciWeb Drupal is the architecture of how-to input the incident information.

12. If I get stuck or I'm having problems with InciWeb Drupal, what do I do?

There are three options available:

- a. First, search through the new InciWeb Drupal manual. It will have extensive how-to instructions and cover a range of topics, from creating to concluding an incident in InciWeb Drupal.
- b. A series of short instructional training videos on various InciWeb Drupal subjects will be available at the National Interagency Fire Center website. https://www.nifc.gov/fire-information/pio-bulletin-board/inciweb, before the release date and available thereafter.
- c. The IIA Helpdesk is also available to help. Call 1-866-224-7677 (they are available 24-hours a day, 7-days a week).