



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Washington, D.C. 20240



In Reply Refer To:
FWS/ANRS-NR-FM/026761

Memorandum

To: Regional Directors, Regions 1-7
Manger, California/Nevada Operations
Deputy

From: Director *Kenneth Stansell* AUG 07 2006

Subject: Fire Program Analysis Process (**Response Due: August 21, 2006**)

The Fire Program Analysis (FPA) process is nearing another milestone. The continuing collaboration by all partners in each Fire Planning Unit (FPU) is essential to the development process. Each bureau has been requested to facilitate responses from units in their respective Regions. Please ensure that the spreadsheet supplied in Deputy Assistant Secretary of Business Management and Wildland Fire Nina Hatfield's memorandum is completed in collaboration with your FPU partners. Each FPU is asked to provide written feedback on the FPA process. This information should relate to the overall process not just the analysis results.

FPA participating units are also reminded that the FPA process includes interagency efforts to assemble and clean input data, collaborate with partners, develop charters, develop Fire Management Unit (FMU) weights, run the analysis, and submit both the FPA and Budget Development and Deployment datasets. Observations on the FPA process, and model performance, should be grouped into the categories used in the spreadsheet when possible. It is important that FPU's provide a fair and balanced accounting of the FPA experience to date. The narrative and spreadsheet will serve as the "transition plan" mentioned in the memorandum from Assistant Secretary for Policy Management and Budget P. Lynn Scarlett dated March 22, 2005.

Please provide the spreadsheet and narrative to your appropriate Regional Fire Management Coordinator. Regional Offices must send consolidated information with any additional information from their perspective Regions to the National Interagency Fire Center, Attention: Kathy Winship, by **August 21, 2006**.

Please refer to the attached memorandum and excel spreadsheet for additional information and guidance. Thanks for all your hard work and perseverance through this process.

Attachment

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United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
POLICY, MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
Washington, DC 20240



JUL 21 2006

Memorandum

To: Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs
Director, Bureau of Land Management
Director, Fish and Wildlife Service
Director, National Park Service

From: Nina Rose Hatfield *Nina Rose Hatfield*
Deputy Assistant Secretary Business Management and Wildland Fire

Subject: Fire Program Analysis Process
REPLY DUE AUGUST 25, 2006

The recently completed Fire Program Analysis (FPA) process which included collaboration, planning, and analysis using the initial response component of the FPA modeling system was a significant interagency accomplishment. As we move forward with implementation and further development of FPA we want to reflect on what we have learned while making an assessment of the potential efficiencies that we have identified.

It is my understanding that efficiencies were identified through the collaboration that occurred in the Fire Program Analysis process. To help us identify and understand those, I am asking that you collaborate with your Fire Planning Unit (FPU) partners to:

- 1) Provide feedback and observations as to the overall effectiveness of the initial FPA process as an interagency fire planning and budgeting tool.
- 2) Provide specific examples and observations on the initial response model's performance that can be used to assess its strengths and weaknesses.
- 3) Identify and briefly explain specific program efficiencies identified through the FPA process.
 - (a) Agency Administrators will review their February 2006 FPA analysis and collaborate with their FPU partners to identify possible program efficiencies that could be implemented in FY 2007 or FY 2008. The efficiencies may be in movement, consolidation, or elimination of resources (type, number, location, etc.), facilities, program leadership, or support staff; including cross agency or cross FPU efficiencies.
 - (i) Report efficiencies by cost savings and category (e.g. engines, program leadership staff, support staff, etc) on the attached form.

Each bureau's regional or State offices will review the Fire Planning Unit submissions and submit them to their bureau's Washington Office. Submissions should be forwarded from each bureau's Washington Office to the Director of the Office of Wildland Fire Coordination.

The Forest Service Fire and Aviation Management Director and the Director of the Office of Wildland Fire Coordination will identify possible improvements in efficiency and effectiveness that can be implemented. These changes will be summarized in a national report and used by the Department of Agriculture and the Department of the Interior (DOI) to inform our budget justifications.

Specific expectations include:

- 1) Coordination of the FY 2008 budget justification between the Forest Service and DOI to describe how FPA was used.
- 2) Analyze collaboratively the Fire Planning Unit responses to the overall effectiveness of FPA.

Your response to this inquiry will be sufficient as a response to direction to develop a Fire Planning Unit Transition Plan by October 1, 2006.

Again, I want to recognize the hard work by everyone to reach this goal and assure you that we will continue to strive to make certain that FPA meets our objectives.

If you have questions, contact your bureau's FPA Steering Committee member. A listing is found at <http://www.fpa.nifc.gov/Contacts/steering.html>.

Enclosure

cc: Lyle Carlile, Fire Director BIA
Tom Dyer, Acting Fire Director BLM
Brian McManus, Fire Director FWS
Mike Wallace, Fire Director NPS
Rob Collins, Acting Director OWFC
Tom Harbour, Director Fire and Aviation Management USFS



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MAR 22 2005

To: Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs
Director, Bureau of Land Management
Director, National Park Service
Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

From: P. Lynn Scarlett *[Signature]*
Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget

Subject: Update on Fire Program Analysis (FPA)

Bureau wildland fire staffs have been working with the USDA Forest Service for the past two years to create the Initial Response module of the interagency Fire Program Analysis system. This system will comply with direction from the Departments, Congress and OMB to identify cost-effective collaborative programs at the local level and improve the formulation of wildland fire budget requests. The initial version of FPA has been tested by the four prototype fire planning units. The testing identified needed changes and the FPA staff and contractors are committed to incorporating needed changes so that the system can be used to support the Department's 2007 Wildland Fire Preparedness budget request.

The bureaus are asked to assist in FPA implementation by completing the following tasks:

1. By July 15, 2005, 39 Fire Planning Units (FPUs) will complete a model run using the latest model version available. Model run certification and approval will not be required. By analyzing 60 percent of the national wildland fire workload, this model run will provide the Departments a proof of concept that shows how FPA will be used as a budgeting tool. A list of the 39 FPUs is attached.
2. By October 1, 2005 all FPUs will finalize their boundaries and interagency partnerships so that unit line officers can develop charters for governing boards and approve FPA outputs in time to submit budget requests by February 15, 2006.
3. By November 15, 2005, approximately two thirds of the FPUs will run FPA using the latest model version available. Model run certification and approval will not be required. A list of these FPUs will be developed by the Geographic Area Coordination Groups and the FPA Implementation Coordination Group and will be approved by the agency Fire Directors. It is imperative that FPU representatives attend training offered this spring in order to complete the analysis. The analysis outputs will be used to support development of the final Wildland Fire justification in the President's 2007 budget request.
4. By February 15, 2006, all FPUs will complete a model run using the latest version available. In order to meet this requirement, it is important that FPU representatives attend training this Spring. Only a limited amount of training will be offered in the Fall. Since this information will be used to formulate the 2008 budget, and will be the first analysis of all 147 FPUs. Model run must be certified and approved. Instructions for certification and agency administrator approval are attached. Since it may take up to two months to complete the certification and approval process, FPUs are urged to begin this process as early as possible.

5. By September 30, 2006, FPUs, state, regional, and national offices will develop transition plans to guide the implementation of FPA. It will require several years to fully develop all modules of the FPA system. Until all of the FPA modules are operational, the complete fire program cannot be analyzed. Transition plans will need to be developed to address the phase in of FPA modules and resultant program changes. The FPA Transition Strategy (see attachment) outlining the process to complete development of FPA and develop transition plans is attached. FPU transition plans will be developed by local governing boards to ensure that all staffing and organizational changes incorporate the concerns of local, interagency partners.

Development of the remaining FPA modules, including analysis of programs for prevention, extended response, large fire support, fuels management, and rehabilitation, has begun and will be completed by the end of fiscal year 2008. The final system will integrate all phase 1 and 2 modules into one system.

If you have any questions concerning the above information please contact your geographical area FPA coordinator or Agency FPA coordinator.

cc: Director, Office of Wildland Fire Coordination

Attachments:

Priority 39 Fire Planning Units
Transition Strategy

Priority 39 Fire Planning Units

No.	FPU Unique ID	FPU Name
1	AK_AK_001	Alaska #1
2	CA_CA_001	California #1
3	CA_CA_002	California #2
4	CA_CA_007	California #7
5	CA_CA_008	California #8
6	CA_CA_012	California #12
7	EA_MN_001	Minnesota Woodland (EA #1)
8	EA_MN_002	Minnesota Transition and Prairie (EA#2)
9	GB_ID_004	Eastern Idaho
10	GB_NV_002	Northeast Nevada
11	GB_UT_002	Color Country
12	GB_WY_001	Western Wyoming
13	NR_ID_002	North Idaho
14	NR_MT_003	Dillon
15	NR_MT_004	Rocky Mountain Front
16	NR_MT_007	Lewistown
17	NR_MT_010	SW Montana
18	NW_OR_003	Southwest Oregon
19	NW_OR_004	Central Oregon
20	NW_OR_008	Southeast/South Central Oregon
21	NW_WA_004	Northeast Washington
22	RM_CO_001	Southern Front Range
23	RM_CO_002	Montrose
24	RM_CO_005	NW Colorado
25	RM_CO_006	Upper Colorado River
26	RM_SD_001	Black Hills
27	RM_SD_002	Prairie
28	RM_WY_003	Wyoming #3 - Big Horn Basin
29	SA_AR_002	#22 - Southern Ozarks
30	SA_FL_001	#01 - South Florida
31	SA_FL_003	Central Florida
32	SA_MS_002	#17 - Southeast Mississippi
33	SA_SC_002	Low Country
34	SW_AZ_001	Southeast Arizona
35	SW_AZ_003	White Mountains
36	SW_NM_002	Southern NM Mountains
37	SW_NM_005	Central New Mexico
38	SW_NM_006	Northwest NM Plateau
39	SW_NM_007	Colorado Plateau NM/AZ