Introduction to Fire Program Analysis (FPA) System

The information in this chapter describes basic information about the Fire Program Analysis (FPA) system.

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FPA Users Guide

FPA Overview

The Fire Program Analysis (FPA) system is a common interagency application for wildland fire planning and budgeting. This tool enables the five federal fire management agencies (the USDA Forest Service and the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, and US Fish and Wildlife Service) to jointly plan for and develop inputs for the national wildland fire budget. FPA encourages nonfederal wildland fire partners' participation.

See Fire Program Analysis Briefing Paper #2 for further high-level information about the FPA system. Users can also review White Papers specific to conceptual fire planning and budgeting information implemented in the FPA system. The FPA Homepage (**www.fpa.nifc.gov**) provides several resources, including white papers and technical papers, that enhance users understanding of the application**.**

Who Should Use This Guide

The FPA system is designed to meet the needs of these groups:

- Fire Planning Units (FPUs) at the local level,

- Regional/State level planning and budget staff,

- National Fire/Aviation Management (FAM) Budget Specialists,

- Other resource management specialists and technical specialists,

- FPA Technical Support staff.

Online Resources

This *User Guide* explains how to enter data, complete planning and budgeting analysis tasks, and run reports using the FPA system. The following additional materials are helpful resources to understand and use the FPA system.

- FPA Website (**www.fpa.nifc.gov**)**:** Provides links to project-related information, the Help Desk, progress reports, and other details associated with the project. From the website users can access user documentation, white papers describing conceptual fire planning and budgeting information, and other technical information about FPA.

- TechNews: Provides the latest available technical information about the FPA application, including workarounds for known issues, clarification on common questions received by the Help Desk, and other late-breaking technical information.

- Notes from Early Adopter Conference Calls:

- Training: FPA will provide training that emphasizes a combination of self-paced learning modules available on the Internet, webinars and targeted workshops. Learning areas include:

  - Understanding how the FPA system works,

- Understanding the FPA modules and their assumptions and limitations,

- Preparing data for input into the FPA system, and the implications of detail and accuracy.

- Interpreting system outputs.

Minimum System Requirements

Ensure that your computer system meets the following minimum requirements:

- Microsoft Internet Explorer®, version 6.0 or later. (Do **not** use Netscape),

- Popups enabled,

- Java Script® enabled, and

- WinZip® version 8.0 or later, PKZIP® version 3.x or later, or the ZIP version available with Windows XP® or Vista.

Documentation Conventions Used in This Guide

The *FPA User Guide* uses the following conventions:

Convention	Description
Alternatives > Preparedness > Preparedness Options	Follow this navigation path order to access application pages.
`C:\fsapps`	Courier font indicates code examples, path names, and command line entries.
Change Password	Bolded text indicates field names and menu selections.
FPA User Guide	Italicized text indicates document titles.
TAB	Small caps indicate a keyboard key.
NOTE	Indicates a Note box. Text enclosed in a Note box is information that is important for users to understand before proceeding with data entry or fire event modeling.