



Management Review Report Fire Program Analysis (FPA) Executive Brief – September, 2006



In 2001, Congress directed the Departments of Interior and Agriculture to develop a coordinated and common system to determine readiness and improve the allocation of fire resources to improve effectiveness and efficiency. Subsequently, the two Departments embarked on a project titled Fire Program Analysis (FPA).

Late 2005, the Departments chartered a two-part mid-course review of the FPA project: a scientific review of the model and a management review of its application.

- The Scientific Review Team, consisting of interagency scientist, operated under the umbrella of the Management Review Team and issued a report identifying several issues.
- The Management Review Team, consisting of representatives from four of the five agencies and a State Forester incorporated the science team's findings, issues, and recommendations in its report.

The Management Review Team endorsed the visions and goals of FPA; however, it identified some challenges to meeting the vision. The report identified key questions and offered recommendations for consideration. Implementing the team's recommendations will be challenging, it will require:

- Significantly more leadership and management oversight, direction, and support; and
- Managing and renegotiating stakeholder expectations.

To ensure success, the team recommended six actions be implemented as soon as practicable; the recommendations were based on three key observations:

- Understanding, acceptance, and support among various stakeholders were not what they believed they should be in order for success.
- The Science Review team's answers to questions raised questions about the FPA model.
- A significant amount of money had been spent and projected future investment is also significant.

The team recommended the following actions should be accomplished:

- Establish an Interagency Oversight Group (IOG); this group will assist the Wildland Fire Leadership Council (WFLC) in management oversight.
- Convene a science panel that reports to the Interagency Oversight Group.
- Complete a peer review to validate the direction FPA development has taken.
- Complete the planned analysis of Phase 1 Fire Planning Unit data.
- Complete an after-action review of the process used to develop FPA.
- Continue to look for local efficiencies.

The Oversight Group is working with the FPA Team to make mid course corrections suggested in the Management Review to continue the project as a multiyear adaptive process that seeks to gain efficiency and effectiveness for interagency fire program delivery.

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