

TO: Tom Harbour, Director, Fire & Aviation Management
USDA Forest Service, Project Sponsor(s)

Daniel Keller, Project Manager

SUBJECT: Fire Program Analysis System - Phase 2 Independent Baseline Review (IBR)

FROM: Ellen Walsh, SAIC
Team Lead, Independent Review Team for Fire Program Analysis System - Phase 2

On November 17, 2005, the USDA Office of the Chief Information Officer issued a memorandum describing the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) requirements for conducting IBRs for major information technology investments. The goals of the IBRs are to:

1. Validate the reasonableness of cost, schedule, and performance baselines.
2. Assess whether processes and procedures are in place to control the baseline and to accurately report project performance for the investment.
3. Assess whether an earned value management system is in place that is compliant with the guidelines contained in ANSI/EIA Standard 748.

The FAM - Fire Program Analysis System - Phase 2 (FPA-2) was identified as an investment for IBR. This letter provides the findings of the independent review performed on FAP-2 on March 9 and 10, 2006. Attachment 1 lists the participants in the IBR. Attachments 2 and 3 contain the detailed findings. The following are key summary findings of the IBR:

- a) Cost and schedule baselines are reasonable.
- b) Performance measurement baselines need to be completed.
- c) An earned value management system (EVMS) is in place for the primary development contractor, but not for the program as a whole.

The project manager of this investment is responsible for providing a resolution plan to address the investment's compliance to the key findings listed above, as well as to the EVM ANSI 748-A Guidelines. This plan of action is due by April 28, 2006. Resolution plan formats will be e-mailed to investment project managers. Please work with your OCIO Liaison, Dawn Tucker, on this activity. For questions regarding this IBR, please call the FPA-2 IBR Team Lead, Ellen Walsh at (703) 599-9611.

Attachments

- 1 Investment IBR participant list
- 2 Investment Document status list
- 3 Investment USDA Compliance with the ANSI 748-A EVM Guidelines

CC: David Combs, USDA Chief Information Officer

Dawn Tucker, OCIO Liaison