

United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY Washington, D.C. 20240

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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 Deputy Assistant Secretary - Business, Management and Wildland Fire

Subject:

Fire Program Analysis Update Nine Rose Hatfield

As we begin the new fiscal year it is timely to update you and your managers on the status of Fire Program Analysis (FPA), which is being developed collaboratively with the U.S. Forest Service as a common interagency fire planning and budgeting tool.

In December 2006, the FPA Executive Oversight Group recommended to the Wildland Fire Leadership Council (Council) that we move forward with proof-of-concept through prototyping of FPA, and the Council concurred. To that end, in June 2007, the Project and Interagency Science Teams demonstrated a proof-of-concept by prototyping the functionality to analyze initial response organizations, fuels treatments, and large fire suppression. Following approval by the Council on July 25, 2007, the Project transitioned to development of the full FPA system, including prevention, initial response organization, and fuels treatments. This system is capable of displaying trade-offs between fire management program components relative to performance metrics. The system, when completed in 2008, will support interagency analysis of investment alternatives specific to these program components.

In September 2007, an eleven person interagency Management Advisory Team was assembled representing the five Federal wildland fire agencies and the National Association of State Foresters. This team, co-led by the two FPA business leads representing the Forest Service and the Department of the Interior, has two important roles:

- To support project development by providing direct conduits for the line officer and field • feedback and input through the project's business leads, Jaymee Fojtik (DOI) and Bonnie Wood (FS);
- To communicate and help the field understand the project's progress. •

In September the Management Advisory Team participated in a two day FPA workshop which also included agency fire directors, or their representatives, and agency fire budget

representatives. Enclosed is the Team's roster. I encourage your interaction with team members.

In late October the Interagency Science Team, which has been advising the project over the last year, met in Boise to review model development. The Interagency Science Team, which is cochaired by Jack Waide for the Department of the Interior and, Danny Lee for the Forest Service, will continue to play an important role during the development of FPA.

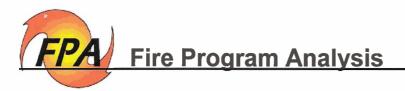
In late November the project will host a workshop for the seven prototype Fire Planning Units. Previous workshops have been valuable in the development of the system. Representatives from each geographic area will be asked to participate in the workshop.

The planned delivery date to the field for an operational system is June 30, 2008. The first Fire Planning Unit submission of investment alternatives is scheduled to be completed by February 2009 and used to support the FY 2011 budget request.

This is an important interagency endeavor and I encourage your involvement. If you have questions, please contact a Management Advisory Team member or Jaymee Fojtik at 208-947-3756. The project's web site <u>http://fpa.nifc.gov</u> is an excellent tool by which to stay abreast of FPA's progress and activities.

Enclosure - Management Advisory Team roster

cc: Kent Connaughton Fire Directors Bill Breedlove Donna Scholz Jaymee Fojtik Bonnie Wood Danny Lee Jack Waide



Management Advisory Team

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