



Talking Points – Volume I

What is FPA

The FPA system is an interagency fire planning and budget application system. The system provides managers with trade-off analysis tools for strategic planning and budgeting to support comprehensive, interagency fire management programs.

- Incorporates land and resource management objectives
- Cost-effectiveness trade-off analysis
- Strategic model, not tactical

Performance Metrics

The FPA system will enable local and national planners to evaluate the effectiveness of fire management strategies for meeting fire and land management goals. Effectiveness will be assessed by these five performance metrics:

- Reducing the probability of occurrence of costly fires
- Reducing the probability of occurrence of costly fires within the Wildland Urban Interface
- Increasing the proportion of land meeting or trending toward the attainment of fire and fuels management objectives
- Protecting highly valued resources areas from unwanted fire
- Maintaining a high initial attack success rate

The FPA system will comply with direction from the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior, Congress, and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to identify cost-effective collaborative fire programs at the local level and to improve the formulation of wildland fire budget requests.

Line officer involvement and support is critical because there will be fundamental changes in the budget and planning processes - the FPA system will replace three planning models used to analyze staffing and budget required for wildland fire programs: NFMAS, FirePro, and FireBase.

The system will allow voluntary participation in the analysis by State and local governments and the consideration of their resources to provide a comprehensive approach to fire planning at the landscape level.

Project Timeline

June 30, 2008	FPA system Release 2.0 – Essential functions for Fire Planning Units
July 1 - August 29, 2008	“Early-adopter” and prototype Fire Planning Units test FPA system
Mid- to late-September, 2008	Release 2.01 - Additional functions for Fire Planning Units
September - December 15, 2008	All Fire Planning Units complete FPA analysis and submit investment alternatives to national offices
December 15 – February 15, 2009	Technical and programmatic review period
February - May 2009	National level analysis for FY2011 budget planning and development

For More Information:

Visit the FPA project Web site for more information: www.fpa.nifc.gov. The Desk Guide and the past newsletters are good places to start. Register for the ListServ™ to be notified of project updates.