TECHNEWS - 2007

TechNews is a means to quickly share technical information relative to Fire Program Analysis (FPA). Until the FPA system prototype is completed and approval is given to move forward, the information and requests in the TechNews are intended to help fire planning units prepare for implementation.

Information may include: data management, deadlines, project events and software version release dates. The intended audiences are staff within the Fire Planning Units using the new system.

> The purpose of this TechNews is to:
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> • Give additional background on the information status request announced in the Interagency Departmental Memos dated April 6, 2007

INFORMATION STATUS REQUEST

The purpose of the soon to be released information status request is to have the FPU partners assess the accuracy of their FPU boundary layer. The request will ask Fire Planning Units to provide information on the availability and quality of their geospatial boundary layer to help prepare for the FY 2008 delivery.

NEW FIRE PROGRAM ANALYSIS CAPABILITY

FPA participants are familiar with the concepts of Fire Planning Unit (FPUs) and Fire Management Units (FMUs) but, the **Fire Workload Area** (FWA) is a new FPA model feature. FPA adopted the FWA feature to meet recommendations by FPU partners to characterize multiple workload points.

Fire Planning Unit Characteristics
FPU boundaries are defined by the collection of FMUs and FWAs. Each FPU should contain at least one or more FMU and FWA. FPU partners wanting more specificity in their FMUs will have the ability to subdivide their FMUs into multiple FWAs.

What is a Fire Workload Area (FWA)?
FWAs in FPA's Initial Response Simulator are a variation of the Representative Location (RL) used in the Interagency Initial Attack Analysis (IIAA) and the Representative Fire Location (RFL) feature in the California Fire Economic Simulator (CFES). FWAs are developed to reflect differences in the physical attributes on the land and the firefighting resources that typically respond to fires.

Fire Planning Units represent a group of interagency units (or subunits) that together participate in a fire planning team. It includes the geographic scope of the landscape defined for Fire Program Analysis. FPUs are a scalable local administrative unit formed from a single or multiple FMUs.

Fire Management Units are areas <u>within</u> a Fire Planning Unit that are set apart from adjacent areas by management characteristics such as resource and fire management objectives, major fire regime groups, political boundaries, fuel types, and values to be protected. Fire Management Units will contain a single or multiple Fire Workload Areas.

Fire Workload Areas are areas <u>within</u> a FMU that are set apart from other areas within the FMU by unique operational characteristics such as fire type, location or accessibility, fire resources dispatched, and values at risk.