



TechNews is a guide to share information regarding deadlines, events and software version release dates. August 13, 2008

Topic: Updated direction for developing Fuel Prescriptions and Fuel Treatments for Fire Program Analysis (FPA).

Background:

Previous direction allowed Fire Planning Units (FPUs) to submit their fuel prescriptions using the 13 Fire Behavior Prescription System (FBPS) fuel model set, the 40 Standard Fire Behavior Fuel Models, or a combination of the two fuel model sets. However, FPA system testing shows that the Large Fire Module cannot process fuel prescriptions submitted in both the 13 and 40 fuel model sets.

New Direction: FPUs must build fuel prescriptions and fuel treatments using a single fuel set - either the 13 or the 40 fuel model set.

Discussion: The new direction may require FPUs to revise their fuel prescriptions previously submitted for Large Fire simulation. (See revisions to Technical Paper - "Building a Fuel Treatment Prescription for FPA Large Fire Module Simulation.")

FPUs must submit their **fuel prescriptions** for the Large Fire Module using the following criteria:

- 3 or 4 most common fuel prescriptions
- Use either the 13 fuel model set or the 40 fuel model set – but not both - for all prescriptions
- The chosen fuel model set must be used in both the pre-treatment fuel model and the post-treatment fuel model
- The pre-treatment fuel model must be based on the fuel models identified for your FPU by LANDFIRE, Southern Wildfire Risk Assessment, or FPA Surface Fuel Model layers
 - LANDFIRE – 13 or 40 fuel model sets
 - Southern Wildfire Risk Assessment – 13 fuel model set
 - FPA Surface Fuel Model Layers – 13 fuel model set

Once FPUs begin using FPA, they must build their **fuel treatments** (used in building fuels options) using the same single fuel model set (13 or 40) they used when submitting their fuel prescriptions.

How the new direction affects FPUs:

- FPA developed a list of FPUs with fuel prescriptions that used both the 13 and 40 fuel model sets.
- For FPUs that used both fuel model sets, the FPA team modified your prescriptions to create suggested fuel treatment prescriptions that the Large Fire Module can process.
- FPA will contact these FPUs to review changes made to their fuel prescriptions.
 - The first contacts will be made with early adopter FPUs and continue until all affected FPUs are notified.
 - Please do not send changes until we contact your FPU.

Contacts:

Jim Hutton – (208) 947.3776 (Jim_Hutton@nps.gov)

Kevin Knauth – (208) 947.3780 (Kevin_Knauth@blm.gov)