

**TechNews** - sharing information regarding FPA software version releases

January 16, 2009

Purpose: January "Things You Can Be Doing" List for Fire Planning Units

The FPA project will add a system release on February 2, 2009. This release will include improved functionality that is expected to increase the initial attack success rates for FPUs. The most marked affect will occur in FPUs with a high occurrence of "outrun" fires. Those FPUs will likely benefit by re-running their validation runs after the February release. In the meantime, FPUs should continue to perform work on their analyses by developing the preparedness and fuels options that will be used to support their budget investment runs. These investment options will be included in the final analysis that each FPU submits in early spring.

The following list will help guide FPUs in the tasks they can accomplish prior to the February system enhancement. This list should serve as a guide and not be interpreted as a list of all things necessary for an FPU to complete their analysis. The list should be used in conjunction with white papers, tech papers, and previous information provided by the FPA project. Every FPU is unique and should utilize this list and the time between now and February in the way that best moves them toward completion of their validation run and final analysis.

- <u>Read the white papers (WP) and tech papers</u> (TP) on the FPA website
- Continue working on validation runs (Read Validation WP)
  - Fine-tune your inputs to move toward a modeled initial attack (IA) success rate that resembles your FPU's historical IA success rate  $(\pm 10\%)$
  - Remember that the new system release will likely increase your IA success when you re-run your validation in February
- Input costs into the system
  - Input the annual preparedness cost for each initial response resource you've created in the system
- Build your .Current Preparedness Option
  - Review the <u>Naming Conventions TP</u> and the <u>Preparedness Option user guide</u>
  - Use the preparedness budget numbers provided by each agency to enter the total partner budget for the FPU
  - Enter the leadership, support, etc. costs for each agency unit
  - Assign resources to the option
  - Refer to the Total Partner Budget Spent value in the Preparedness Options Summary table to be sure you remain within your budget

- Build your .Current Prevention Program
  - o Review the Prevention Program user guide, tech paper and white paper
  - Enter the general action hours and specific action hours representative of your FPU's historic prevention program
  - Enter the total cost and FTEs for each agency unit. These are the preparedness costs used to support the action hours in your prevention program
  - General action hours must be used with specific actions. You must enter at least 1 specific action hour to prevent fires in the analysis. General actions alone will not prevent fires
  - Every validation run must include a .Current prevention program
  - The funding for your prevention program comes from your preparedness budget. Therefore, the sum costs of your initial response organization and prevention program must stay within the total preparedness budget for your FPU. Refer to the Total Partner Budget Spent value in the Preparedness Options Summary table. Note that it is not required to increase or decrease the prevention program investment by the same percentage requested for the preparedness option.
- Build your .Current Fuels Option
  - Review the Fuels Option user guide
  - Use the fuels budget numbers provided by each agency to enter the total partner budget
  - Enter the program costs and any capital costs for each agency unit. The program costs include all costs of running a fuels program except the actual treatment costs
  - Build a "treatment library" for your FPU by creating one or more individual fuels treatments
  - Add individual treatments to your option by selecting them in the Treatments Per Fuels Options table
  - The total cost of the selected treatments will be added to your program cost to calculate the Total Partner Budget Spent value in the Fuels Option Summary table
  - Refer to the Total Partner Budget Spent value in the Fuels Options Summary table to be sure you remain within your budget