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**Subject:** Fire Program Analysis Status

**To:** Regional Foresters, Station Directors, Area Director, IITF Director and Deputy Chiefs

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

In December 2006, the FPA Executive Oversight Group recommended to the Wildland Fire Leadership Council that we move forward with a proof-of-concept prototype. The Council concurred. To that end, in June 2007, the Project and Interagency Science Teams demonstrated the functionality to analyze initial response organizations, hazardous fuels treatments, and large fire suppression. With the Council's concurrence the Project then transitioned to development of the FPA system, which will also include prevention. The system is intended to display trade-offs between program components relative to performance metrics. When completed in 2008, it will support interagency analysis of investment alternatives specific to program components.

In September 2007, a twelve person interagency Management Advisory Team was assembled representing the five Federal wildland fire agencies and the National Association of State Foresters and is co-led by the two FPA Business Leads. The Team has two important roles:

- To support development of the project by providing line officer and field feedback and input through the project's business leads, Bonnie Wood for the Forest Service and Jaymee Fojtik for the Department of Interior; and,
- To communicate and help the field understand the project's progress.

In September the 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 met to review model development. The Science Team, which is co-chaired by Danny Lee for the Forest Service and Jack Waide for the Department of the Interior, will continue to play an important advisory 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 also be asked to participate in the workshop.



The planned delivery date for an operational system to the field is June 30, 2008. The first Fire Planning Unit submission of investment alternatives is scheduled to be completed by February 2009 and will be utilized 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 Bonnie Wood at 208-947-3774. The project's web site <http://fpa.nifc.gov> is an excellent tool by which to stay abreast of FPA's progress and activities.

*/s/ James E. Hubbard*

JAMES E. HUBBARD

Deputy Chief, State and Private Forestry

cc: Nina Hatfield

pdl wo spf fam regional fire directors

Bill Breedlove

Bonnie J Wood

Donna Scholz

Jaymee Fojtik

Jack Waide

Danny C Lee