



FPA Oversight Group Meeting
March 23—25, 2011
 Topics, Decisions and Action Items

Topic	Decision	Action Items	Responsible Party	Target Date
FPA Budget	FPA Budget was accepted by the BOD as presented.			
FPA Staffing		The Oversight Group (OG) requested the Executive Director (ED) develop alternative staffing plans. The ED will solicit input, considering tradeoffs and skill sets needed, to assist in determining the permanent positions to be included in the FPA organization, both near term (next 1 to 2 years) and long term.	Jeff Whitney	NLT April 14
Oversight Group (OG) Meeting Management Ground Rules	<p>The following ground rules were established for OG meeting management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phones and computers will be turned to off during the meeting • One speaker at a time • Mutual respect • No side bars conversations • Consensus is defined as “what the group can live with.” • Action items will be captured, with a responsible person identified and due date assigned • Decisions will be restated and captured as consensus is achieved; then, reviewed at the end of each day • Meeting outcomes (Decisions and action items) will be published on the FPA website following each meeting. 	OG meeting management guidelines will be incorporated into the FPA Communications Framework	Christie Wiley	April 8
FPA Intent				
FPA Review Status		BOD plans to meet with Forest Service and Department of the Interior (DOI) officials to discuss IT Review results and offer input to outcome.	BOD	TBD



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Path Forward: Near Term Update		The Interagency Advisory Team (IAT) will develop 2013 Budget Messages for presentation at the April 22 OG Conference Call/Webinar	M. Lichtenstein/ T. Fischer	Information due to the ED NLT April 15
Interagency Science Advisory Team Update	The OG accepted the IST recommendation that due to weak performance, spatial fuels will not be used with the Initial Response Simulator (IRS) in 2012. Focus will be shifted to spatial fuels in large fire for possible inclusion in the 2012 analysis.	Explore the ability to conduct sub-geographical analysis to determine how spatial fuels will work in those respective areas in the large fire module. Forest Service Research will develop a response function considering the following hypothesis: <i>“There is a need to treat far larger acreages than are currently treated in order for the model to display any sensitivity.”</i>	FPA Team FPA Team, SWT, IAT and IST	Ongoing Ongoing
Support Working Team Update	It was recognized that the Support Working Team (SWT) was initially identified as a 12-24 month term team; however, as work continues, there may be utility in incorporating them as a standard component of the FPA Enhancement, Operation and Maintenance (EO&M) process.	The OG will review the <i>SWT Mission, Goals, Objectives and Proposed Technical Subgroup Work Plan</i> document and provide comments on the goals and objectives for the SWT to Sue Weber at: saweber@fs.fed.us Finalize and ensure the <i>SWT Mission, Goals, Objectives and Proposed Technical Subgroup Work Plan</i> are posted to the FPA website.	Sue Weber Sue Weber	April 15 April 22
GA Lead Roles		Finalize the <i>GA Lead Roles and Responsibilities</i> document with GA Lead Group, MAT Liaison.	Jaymee Fojtik	April 8
DOI Internal FPA Review		The FPA BOD will request the opportunity to meet with DOI and FS leadership to discuss the outcome of the DOI – IT review.	BOD Members	TBD



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Interagency Analysis Team (IAT) Update	<p>OG reaffirmed that FPA uses the standard nine interagency geographic areas (GACCs) as the geographic breakout for higher level reporting/analysis.</p> <p>The following IAT findings were adopted by the OG:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FPA is a high level, national, strategic model. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ As FPA work continues to move forward, limitations need to be understood. ○ Focus will be placed on what the FPA tool can do, understanding that there are previously <i>desired outcomes</i> that may no longer be realistic. These, however, could be added in the future to a suite of tools that may or may not be called FPA. • It was determined that FPA can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • complete a comparative analysis and determine the magnitude of change from preparedness budget cuts to applicable performance measures; • identify where potential gains in effectiveness can be seen geographically; • complete a very limited tradeoff analysis between fuels and preparedness. • It was determined that FPA is not: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ capable of becoming a fully spatially explicit model; ○ capable of more tactical modeling—fuels options are not adequately portrayed in IRS; ○ capable of assessing “point protection”—FPA makes high-valued resources and wildland urban interface (WUI) performance measure assessments difficult to determine. 	<p>Research will report back to the OG regarding the methodology they will use to develop of a response function using FSIM on subsets of FPU, to test the hypothesis, and find the threshold where the model demonstrates changes in fuels treatments to make a difference against large fire at the landscape scale.</p> <p>Make revisions to IAT PowerPoint presentation and ensure placement on OG Myfirecommunity.net neighborhood</p>	<p>Mike Bevers Mark Finney</p> <p>Tate Fischer</p>	<p>Briefing paper due to Executive Director two weeks prior to the June 2011 OG Meeting</p> <p>By April 1</p>



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IAT Update (Continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At this point focus will be on what FPA can do as built. • Performance measures—suppression costs, initial attack success and total acres burned will be used for budget messaging purposes because it has been determined that these are the objective measures which can be measured. • TO minimize confusion or inconsistent communication, information discussed during the OG meetings relative to budget messaging will be considered “controlled” until discussed by the OG. Once agreed upon, budget messages will be prepared and submitted to OMB by the agency/bureaus and Departments. • 			
Other Major Decisions from IAT presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest Service Research will develop a response function, using FSIM on subsets of Fire Planning Units (FPU) to test the following hypothesis: <i>“We are not near the range of response with fuels treatments that is required to make a difference against large fire at a landscape scale.”</i> • Protocol for expanding the project scope, both inside and outside the project to include any future enhancements will be first tasked by the OG, then, developed and fully tested by the IST. As a result of their work, the IST will formulate recommendations for the OG’s consideration. 			



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FPA Communications Framework	Communication materials will be routed to the Executive Director with a carbon copy to the Communication Specialist. Once approved and finalized, the documents will be posted/disseminated, as appropriate.	Communication Framework will be edited to reflect the revised decision by the OG regarding routing of communication materials.	Christie Wiley	April 22
		OG will provide any additional feedback and comments to Christie Wiley regarding the drafted Communications Framework	OG members	April 15
GAO Interior Discussion	<p>The OG adopted the following key talking points regarding “cost containment” when addressing this issue with GAO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildland fire is a risk management business; • How we determine our risk management determines cost; • Need to look at tradeoffs between risk and cost; • Need to measure the efficiency of our response. 	The “cost containment” key themes will be included in any future communication strategy.	Christie Wiley	As appropriate
2011 Independent External Review Report out on BOD Outcome: FPA Intent Status of Review Document Next Steps		The OG will review draft Version 1.5 of the “ <i>Fire Program Analysis 2011 Technical and Business Process Review</i> ” and provide feedback to Jeff Whitney with cc to other members of the OG.	OG Members	April 8
		Incorporate OG edits for review at April 22OG Conference call.	Jeff Whitney	April 22
Change Request Tracking and Feedback		Create Decision Log to ensure program feedback is documented and a response is provided. Use the NWCG model as a suggested option.	Jaymee Fojtik	April 22



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OG Conference Call/Webinar	There will be an OG Conference Call/Webinar on Friday, April 22, at 1300 EDT to discuss: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2013 Budget Messages• Management Advisory Team Roles and Responsibilities and Guiding Principles• Update on drafted Review Solicitation document			
Next OG Meeting	Two-day meeting, June 22 – 23, 2011, in Boise, ID (0800 – 1700 each day)			
September Meeting Rescheduled	<i>Meeting date revised from previously scheduled:</i> Two-day meeting, September 7 – 8, 2011 in Boise, ID (0800 – 1700 each day)			
Agenda topics for future OG Meetings (carried over from January 2011 OG Meeting)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Status Update of Contract Re-competition• LANDFIRE/FPA Local Workshops	Appropriate items will be placed on June meeting agenda.	Jeff Whitney	June 2011