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### **What is the purpose of this bulletin?**

This bulletin provides an update on the FPA project as FPA moves into Operations and Maintenance.

### **What happened at the last Oversight Group Meeting—what was different?**

At the October 2012 FPA Oversight Group meeting, the FPA system owner, Deputy Chief Jim Hubbard and managing partner Deputy Assistant Secretary Kim Thorsen attended the meeting which focused on transitioning FPA into Operations and Maintenance (O&M). At the meeting participants agreed that FPA would be a good test case to transition into the Wildland Fire Information and Technology (Fire I & T) structure.

### **With the decision to transition FPA into Fire I & T, has the intent of FPA changed?**

The intent of FPA remains as a national strategic budget and planning tool. Field level users are not the intended users of the current FPA system.

### **What role will the FPA project team have during the transition to Fire I & T?**

The FPA project team will continue to:

- ◆ work on tasks identified in the project’s three-year plan;
- ◆ decrease the workload on the field; and
- ◆ communicate with RD&A, as research and development works on the next generation of applications, ensuring any enhancements to the current system do not impede the interaction of the systems.

### **How will the FPA organization be amended as a result of Fire I & T?**

The groups currently identified in the FPA Charter will continue to engage with FPA as it transitions into Fire I & T, but their respective responsibilities may likely evolve as the transition takes place.

### **What is the concept behind Fire I & T?**

The concept of Fire I & T is a more holistic governance that provides management and oversight to investments to reduce redundancy across departments and agencies. For more information on Fire I & T, go to the [Wildland Fire Information and Technology My Fire Community neighborhood](#).

### **Does the transition to Fire I & T affect the 2013 Analysis; what should you expect?**

The transition to Fire I & T does not affect the 2013 Analysis. You should expect the following:

- ◆ A note to stakeholders has been released to the executives of the bureaus and the Chief of the Forest Service.
- ◆ The Support Working Team (SWT) will complete the analysis for 2013 for 133 Fire Planning Units (FPUs).
- ◆ Four Forest Service personnel and one National Park Service employee will make up the SWT for 2013.
- ◆ The SWT will collaborate with the FPUs as they work toward the established deadline of February 1, 2013.

### **What is the focus of the SWT as they work toward the February 1 deadline?**

The focus of the SWT work will be in this priority order:

- ◆ calibration of the analysis;
- ◆ anomalies identified in 2012;
- ◆ updating fuels treatments to show a reduction in acres treated in the minus options and an increase in treated acres in the plus option;
- ◆ ensuring non-budgeted resources are input consistently based on last year’s direction; and
- ◆ prevention program data inputs.

It is likely that the SWT will not look at the prevention options and data inputs for 2013.

### **What can you look forward to in 2014?**

- ◆ The contain algorithm in the current IRS module of FPA will be updated;
- ◆ LANDFIRE will be updated;
- ◆ gridded weather will be used for the FSIMs
- ◆ new guidance for drawing FWAs will be published;
- ◆ FPUs can decide if they update FPU and FWA boundaries;
- ◆ 2011 fire history and costs will be used—if time permits possibly 2012; and
- ◆ the FPA team will continue to work to find ways to reduce the workload on the field.

