

Uintah Basin Interagency Fire Management

Fire Program Analysis (FPA)

Charter

February 18, 2005

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1. Charter Overview

1.1 Identification

This project is known as the **Uintah Basin FPA Charter** (UBFPA Charter) and was created to implement the Fire Program Analysis (FPA) process. FPA is an interagency process involving the following wildland fire management agencies:

- **Vernal Field Office, Bureau of Land Management**
- **Ashley National Forest, Forest Service**
- **Dinosaur National Monument, National Park Service**
- **Ouray National Wildlife Refuge, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**
- **Uintah and Ouray Agency, Bureau of Indian Affairs**

1.2 Purpose / Business Need / Scope

The purpose of creating this FPA charter is to support the interagency FPA effort, gather model inputs that are consistent, and implement the FPA system for all agencies involved through:

- Providing subject matter expertise from the Fire Planning Unit (FPU) to implement FPA.
- Ensure data is provided by all agencies to run the FPA model.
- Provide expertise and personnel to run the FPA model ensuring all agencies' data, objectives, and priorities are represented.
- Develop, update, and maintain, as necessary, the FPU and fire management unit (FMU) boundaries with consensus from all agencies.
- Develop practices and procedures needed to implement FPA in an interdisciplinary and interagency framework.
- Provide required products to management, the Geographic Coordinating Area and National FPA Implementation Coordination Group as required.
- Assist in design and development of the new national fire planning and budgeting system. Help develop processes and standards for interagency collaborative wildland fire planning. Help shape future policy and direction relating to wildland fire management.

1.3 Charter Objectives

The overall objectives of this Charter are to use the FPA process and supporting application components to conduct an interagency fire analysis and develop associated budgets for the Uintah Basin FPU within the context of the Fire Program Analysis System.

Specific objectives are:

- Develop interagency planning partnerships between Federal, State and local cooperators.
- Develop or refine resource management objectives relative to fire, and the full suite of fire management objectives, constraints and restrictions.
- Provide a reality check on model outputs, both costs and fire resources.

1.4 Key References

References may be found at <http://fpa.nifc.gov>. Following are significant documents guiding the FPA process:

- 1995 Federal Wildland Fire Policy
- 2001 Update to the Federal Wildland Fire Policy
- National Fire Plan
- A Collaborative Approach for Reducing Wildland Fire Risks to Communities and the Environment, 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy: Implementation Plan (a.k.a. 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy)
- Developing an Interagency, Landscape-scale Fire Planning Analysis and Budget Tool (a.k.a. "The Hubbard Report")

1.5 Terminology

Charter members will use terms consistent with those defined in the Glossary of Wildland Fire Terminology, published by the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG).

2. Fire Planning Unit

The Fire Planning Unit (see attached map) will include all lands identified as Ashley National Forest, Forest Service; Vernal Field Office, Bureau of Land Management; Dinosaur National Monument, National Park Service; Uintah and Ouray Agency, Bureau of Indian Affairs; and Ouray National Wildlife Refuge, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

2.1 Charter Organization and Responsibilities

FPA Working Team

FPA Working Team Members include:

- Fred Kaminski, Lead, Primary GIS Support, Ashley National Forest
- Cheryl Nelsen, Vernal Field Office
- Steve Strong, Vernal Field Office
- Nate Lancaster, BLM Utah State Office
- Dave Palmer, Uintah and Ouray Agency
- Steve Penny, Dinosaur National Monument
- Dan Schaad, Ouray National Wildlife Refuge

Responsibilities:

- Establish work plans for the Team to meet FPA time lines.
- Document assumptions, decisions made, and processes used in developing FPA.
- Coordinate with technical support groups, advisors and FPA geographical Liaison with the FPA Interagency Implementation Coordination Group, NIFC.
- Develop and refine the required data inputs for FPA.
- Perform an interagency "Run" using the data to create the FPA PM Analysis.
- Verify requirements for FPA system.
- Provide feedback on user interfaces, data structures and models to support FPA.
- Participate as subject matter experts for the national FPA Core Team in development of future revisions to the FPA PM software.
- Present project information to peers, associates and managers.
- Successfully produce FPA deliverables.

Fire Management Officers (FMOs)

FMOs include:

- Troy Suwyn, FMO, Vernal Field Office
- Bob Rebarchik, Zone FMO, USFWS
- Ivan Erskine, Forest FMO, Ashley National Forest
- Mark Rosenthal, FMO, Dinosaur National Monument
- Kirby Arrive, FMO, Uintah and Ouray Agency

Responsibilities:

- Develop the Charter and submit for approval.
- Assist the FPA Working Team providing periodic input on specialty subjects or directing specialists.
- Identify liaisons for Local, State, Tribal and Federal Agencies.
- Provide working direction regarding FPA strategy.
- Recommend changes to the FPA charter.
- Review work plans, deliverables and time frames.
- Assure that the deliverables of the project will meet the needs of the cooperators.

Executive Steering Committee

The Executive Steering Committee will consist of the line officers of each involved agency of this Charter.

The Executive Steering Committee members include:

- Field Office Manager, Vernal Field Office
- Forest Supervisor, Ashley National Forest
- Superintendent, Dinosaur National Monument
- Superintendent, Uintah and Ouray Agency
- Refuge Manager, Ouray National Wildlife Refuge
- Hatchery Manager, Jones Hole National Fish Hatchery

Responsibilities:

- Approve UBFPFA charter.
- Approve FPA deliverables.
- Advise the FPA Working Team regarding scope, time, quality and cost tradeoffs.
- Ensure that the deliverables of the project will meet the business needs of the cooperators.
- Resolve cooperator disputes.

2.2 Core Process Workflows

The FPA Working Team will be responsible for assembling data as needed for FPA. The Working Team will facilitate the gathering of data from all the agencies and input it into FPA. The Working Team is responsible for tasking agencies with data needs and due dates for timely implementation. The Working Team will document assumptions, decisions made, and processes used in developing the analysis.

The Working Team has the responsibility of informing the Executive Steering Committee and Fire Management Officers of discrepancies of data between agencies, discrepancies in assumptions and gaps in data that may lead to inconsistent outputs.

The Executive Steering Committee and Fire Management Officers have the responsibility of providing oversight to the Working Team in developing assumptions that best represents “real world” fire operations for their individual agency and as a collective unit.

2.3 Partnerships

Each agency as listed in Section 1.1 is considered the charter “partner” agencies. Additional participating cooperators may be added to the group as necessary or as directed by the Executive Steering Committee.

Each Agency will have the right to remove their organization from this Charter with thirty days written notice to all members of the Charter.

Each Agency reserves administrative rights for their units and will not be required to participate in an activity that is prohibited by their policy, regulation or law.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) will represent the Ute Indian Tribe (Tribe) in the fire Planning Analysis (FPA) process. The BIA will confer with the Tribe for their input and will act as liaison between the Tribe and cooperating agencies. The Tribes who have contracted or compacted the wildland fire programs will represent themselves and be full participants in the FPA process. However, approval of the final FPA product will remain with the responsible BIA agency Line Officer.

2.4 Cost Estimate

Each Agency will cover the cost of their personnel that participate in this Charter.

2.5 Charter Benefits

To develop an interagency analysis of the needed fire management organization and budget for initial response to wildland fires in the future. Assist in design and development of the new national fire planning and budgeting system. To develop processes and standards for interagency collaborative wildland fire planning. To help shape future policy and direction relating to wildland fire management.

3. Approval Section

This charter is effective as of the date of signature. By signing, the signatories indicate their agreement and support of the project charter and their commitment to the project.

William Stringer 3/7/05
Date

William Stringer
Field Office Manager
Bureau of Land Management
Vernal Field Office

George A. Weldon 2-22-05
Date

George Weldon
Forest Supervisor
Forest Service
Ashley National Forest

Chester D. Mills 04/22/05
Date

Chester Mills
Superintendent
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Uintah and Ouray Agency

Chas Cartwright 3/15/05
Date

Chas Cartwright
Superintendent
National Park Service
Dinosaur National Monument

Daniel Alonso 3/22/05
Date

Daniel Alonso
Refuge Manager
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Ouray National Wildlife Refuge

Richard Bottomley 4/19/05
Date

Richard Bottomley
Hatchery Manager
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Jones Hole National Fish Hatchery