

WILDFIRE ASSET IDENTIFICATION AND CONSEQUENCE EVALUATION PROJECT



Project Update No. 1 – April 2006

What is the Wildfire Project about?

The wildfire project has been funded as a result of recommendations arising from the Report of the Inquiry into the 2002-2003 Victorian Bushfires. The project will enable the consequences of wildfire on assets to be mapped in a uniform way across the state of Victoria. This will meet the needs of a range of stakeholders and end-users responsible for wildfire management planning.

The products developed by the project will primarily be used as planning tools and service the prevention and preparedness components of wildfire management. The products should also provide useful strategic information for response and recovery phases of wildfire management and should be sufficiently flexible to be applicable for hazards other than wildfire.

A methodology will be developed to identify, describe, classify, quantify and map the consequence of wildfire on a range of environmental, physical, social, cultural and economic assets. A significant part of determining the consequence or impact of wildfire on assets will be to define their significance and the value that is ascribed to them. The project will deliver spatial products that support integrated wildfire planning and decision making across the entire state of Victoria.

How long will the Wildfire Project take to complete?

Key project dates relating to the completion of each project stage are:

March 2006

Stage 1 – End-User/Stakeholder Consultation Strategy, and Literature & Data Review

June 2006

Stage 2 – Methodology Development

October 2006

Stage 3 – Spatial Product Development

What's happened so far?

The project team has completed Stage 1 of the Project which included delivery of the Stakeholder and End-User Consultation Strategy and the Data and Literature Review which examined existing research and literature where these learnings may benefit the Wildfire Project.

The development of the methodology for the project has commenced with preliminary concepts drafted including the proposed approach for identifying and classifying of asset types and values.

Consultation Workshops

Stakeholder and End-User Workshops are scheduled for early June 2006. The following organisations will be invited to these workshops to discuss the proposed project outcomes and preliminary concepts on the methodology to assign asset loss consequence:

- Office of Emergency Services Commissioner
- Country Fire Authority
- Department of Sustainability and Environment
- Municipal Association of Victoria
- The Integrated Municipal Fire Management Planning Project (IMFMP) Project Team
- Bushfire CRC Project Team
- Municipal Councils
- Metropolitan Fire Brigade

Workshops will be held in both regional and metropolitan locations.

Other Related Projects

There are a number of projects which may have relevance to the Wildfire Project. These related projects include:

IMFMP Project

The Integrated Municipal Fire Management Planning Project (IMFMP) is bringing together all agencies and organisations responsible for fire management planning in Victoria and is aimed at improving the management of fire events at a local level through improved planning and inter-agency cooperation. Deliverables from the Wildfire Project will provide practical tools to support the IMFMP process.

Bushfire Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) project

– Bushfire Risk Management Model. The potential for two-way interaction between deliverables of each project will be explored as part of the Wildfire Project.

Further Information

To obtain further information, please contact either:

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Future Project Updates will also be available on the Spatial Vision website at:

<http://www.spatialvision.com.au/html/wildfire-project.htm>