

WILDFIRE ASSET IDENTIFICATION AND CONSEQUENCE EVALUATION PROJECT



Project Update No. 4 – August 2006

What is the Wildfire Project about?

The project will establish an evidence-based methodology, designed to inform and support integrated wildfire planning and decision making. It will develop approaches, principles and tools to support a consistent and shared understanding of the consequences of wildfire across Victoria. It will focus exclusively on the consequence (as opposed to the likelihood) components of risk management.

What's happened since Project Update No. 3?

In July and August the Project Management Team and Project Board respectively approved the proposed Wildfire Project Methodology Report. This Report presents the methodology for the Wildfire Project and is written for members of the Project Management Team, Expert Panel and Project Board. Part 2 of the Report comprises the technical specifications of the method and is written primarily for senior GIS technical practitioners within DSE, CFA and local government. A simpler, summarised version of this three part report also will be produced, for distribution to general users.

Methodology Report

The report comprises:

Part 1: Methodology Context and Overview:

background details on the project, an outline of the key methodology components and design issues, and anticipated project outputs;

Part 2: Detailed Project Methodology: methodology steps, including identification of the asset types and spatial datasets for asset quantification and assessment of consequence of loss from wildfire, and production of spatial products; and

Part 3: Trialing the Initial Test Spatial Products:

trialing and testing the spatial products produced as a result of an initial application of the given methodology. The initial application of the methodology to produce spatial products comprises Stage 3 of the Wildfire Project. Trialing of the spatial products relates to field based activities undertaken following completion of the current Wildfire Project consultancy.

The methodology incorporates initial feedback from the Project Expert Panel and the likely end users of the project from workshops held in Melbourne, Benalla, Horsham and Bairnsdale.

The Wildfire Project consists of three separate Project Stages as follows:

- Stage 1 - Literature Review and Stakeholder and End User Consultation Strategy;

- Stage 2 - Methodology Development;
- Stage 3 - Spatial Product Development.

This project methodology report is the key deliverable of Stage 2 of the project.

Key Components

Key components of the project methodology include:

1. Asset Classification Approach.
2. Proposed Asset Classes.
3. Asset List.
4. Definition of Consequence of Loss.
5. Proposed list of Disruption Elements.
6. Proposed treatment of Disruption Elements.
7. Use of a multi-resolution spatial reporting unit.
8. Output product format, comprising reporting unit spatial dataset grid and supporting databases.
9. Approach to assigning relative asset value.
10. Approach to assigning relative asset quantity.
11. Proposed methodology process steps.
12. Proposed areas of user interaction with the project outputs.
13. Twelve month trial period to evaluate the methodology and products produced.

The Executive Summary of the Wildfire Methodology Report is available on the Wildfire Project web-site.

Stage 3 – Spatial Products

The initial application of the methodology to produce spatial products is currently underway with a proposed list of Asset Categories to be reviewed and finalised by the Expert Panel in late August. Stage 3 of the project will be completed in mid-October 2006.

Further Information

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Further information, is available on the Spatial Vision website at:

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