

WILDFIRE ASSET IDENTIFICATION AND CONSEQUENCE EVALUATION PROJECT



Project Update No. 5 – November 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. 4?

In October and November the Project Management Team and Project Board respectively approved the proposed Wildfire Project Spatial Products and accompanying report. The report presents the findings of applying the methodology for the Wildfire Project outlined in the Project Methodology Report, and describes the Spatial Products produced through this initial application of the methodology.

Spatial Products Report

The Spatial Products Report has been written to accompany the spatial products produced in Stage 3 of the Wildfire Project. The spatial products produced in Stage 3 of the Wildfire Project that accompany the report include:

- a series of spatial datasets (in shapefile format) that identify the consequence of loss results for assets (on a spatial reporting unit basis);
- a series of databases that identify asset value and disruption element ratings assigned to assets, and asset quantity information (for each spatial reporting unit);
- a set of spatial datasets delineating all assets identified from source datasets as points, lines and polygons, and used in the initial application of the methodology (in shapefile format); and
- an interactive compact disc (CD) product containing a series of statewide and local government authority based map outputs (in Adobe Acrobat pdf file format) that display the consequence of loss results obtained in the initial application of the methodology.

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 spatial products report is the key deliverable of Stage 3 of the project.

Spatial Products

The outputs from this project identifying the consequence of loss of assets from wildfire comprise a suite of information products that consists of:

- Spatial datasets (the Asset Class summary datasets of which have been used in the creation of the maps provided on this CD);
- Linked tabular databases (describing the Asset Category information used to determine Asset Class ratings); and
- Reference documents (tables and text).

The Spatial Products incorporate detailed feedback from the Project Expert Panel. The Spatial Products and issues associated with their development were presented at consultation workshops held in Melbourne, Benalla, Horsham and Bairnsdale in November 2006.

What's Next? Stage 3 – Spatial Products

A 12 month trial period will be implemented, where stakeholders will be asked to share their experiences in using the outputs of the project over this period. The project method and format of the outputs delivered will be reviewed on the basis of feedback received at the conclusion of the trial, and key refinements will be implemented prior to the final project outputs being made available to stakeholders.

Key areas for review include determining the usefulness of the products in terms of:

- Asset classification;
- General methodology, including role of disruption elements;
- Output product format and structure; and
- Output product delivery methods.

It is envisaged that the 12 month trial will commence in early 2007, and will involve a nominated group of participants from project stakeholder agencies.

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>