

WFDSS 3.3 / 3.4 Release Notes

(3.3 deployed May 31, 2009 – 3.4 deployed July 12, 2009)

I. Maps

a. Incident Markers

- i. Incident markers use five colors to indicate incident status. Red indicates that a fire has not been contained, orange that a fire is contained but not controlled, yellow that a fire is controlled but not out, white that a fire from the current year is out, and gray that a fire from a previous year is out

Incident Marker Legend

Incident Status	Incident Size
 Not Contained	 < 100 acres
 Contained	 < 1000 acres
 Controlled	 < 5000 acres
 Out	 \geq 5000 acres
 Out prior year	

- ii. Incident markers use four sizes to denote different fire sizes (see image).

b. Map Legends

- i. An Incident Marker legend was added to the 'Incidents' layer that exists in the Fire-Related section (see image).
- ii. A legend was added to the 'Designated Areas' layer that exists in the References section.
- iii. A legend was added to the 'Land Owners' layer that exists in the References section.

II. Values Inventory (VI) / Values at Risk (VAR)

- a. The layers that are searched at the time that a 'Values Inventory' or a 'Values at Risk' is performed are recorded in the database. This allows the application to display what was searched as opposed to only what was found when the results are displayed.
- b. When version 3.4 of WFDSS was deployed (July 10 for training and July 12 for production), all existing Values Inventory and Values at Risk results were removed from the database. This was done to maintain the consistency of the information stored in the database. However, VI/VAR results for pre-existing Planning Areas, Short-Term Fire Behavior Results, and FSPro Results can be generated upon request. Note that if a user requests VI / VAR results from within the application and the results do not exist, then an asynchronous message is sent to generate the results. Results typically take only a few seconds to generate, but if the area being searched is large, it is possible that the request may take more than a minute to generate.
- c. In release 3.4, cadastral building structure data was added to the layers that are searched. This data is currently only available in the western United States provided that a county has shared their cadastral data. A record of the counties for which WFDSS has data is maintained so that we can indicate when no data is available. If no data was available within a county, the results will display 'no data' as opposed to 0. Note that this means if 0 is displayed, WFDSS has cadastral data for the given county, but no building structures occurred within the area of intersection.
- d. As of July 24, 2000 Census Housing Values are no longer included in a 'Values Inventory' or a 'Values at Risk'. All previously saved 'Values at Risk' information was removed from the WFDSS database at the time that Census Housing Values were no longer being searched.



- e. A Values Inventory is automatically initiated whenever a Planning Area is saved or when Short-Term Fire Behavior results are being processed.
- f. The Values Inventory results associated with Short-Term Fire Behavior are for the union of the arrival time shapes.
- g. Values at Risk are automatically initiated whenever FSPro results are being processed.
- h. VI / VAR results can be viewed (requested if they don't exist) from the Situation Assessment map by expanding the information associated with a given Planning Area, Short-Term Fire Behavior analysis, or FSPro Analysis.
- i. VI / VAR results can be viewed (requested if they don't exist) from the full report available from the reports sub-menu tab within the Incident perspective.
- j. VI / VAR results can be viewed (requested if they don't exist) when editing a decision or a report.
- k. FSPro VAR results can be viewed from the Analysis Detail map. Click on the 'Values Inventory' link in the Analysis Details sub-panel under the Results tab of the left-hand menu.
- l. FSPro VAR results are only visible to users with analysis editing privileges for a given FSPro analysis until the results of the FSPro analysis are accepted by an analyst. Once the FSPro analysis results are accepted (moving the analysis to Completed status), anyone with a valid WFDSS login can access the VAR results.
- m. Planning Area Values Inventory results are only visible to users with incident editing privileges until a decision is published that includes the Planning Area. Once the Planning Area is included in a published decision, anyone with a valid WFDSS login can access the VI results.
- n. Planning Area Values Inventory results are included as default content within every decision that is published.

III. Incident List / Intelligence Map Filtering

The incident list / intelligence map filter pages have been expanded to include additional filtering capabilities. The filter definition pages have been divided into four sections – Date Filters, Other Filters, Incident Authors, and Incident Names. Each section can be expanded or collapsed. If a section contains any filter criteria, then information will be displayed to the right of the filter section name so that users can determine whether a given section contains any search restrictions.

a. Date Filter Section

Date Filters

Start Date of Incident

Any start date

Incidents in last days

Started On

Contained Date of Incident

Any contained date (including fires that are not contained)

Fires that are not contained

Incidents contained in last days

Contained On

Controlled Date of Incident

Any controlled date (including fires that are not controlled)

Fires that are not controlled

Incidents controlled in last days

Controlled On

Out Date of Incident

Any out date (including fires that are not out)

Fires that are not out

Incidents out in last days

Out On

Contained, Controlled, and Out dates can now be used to filter (limit) the results displayed in the incident list or on the Intelligence map. The date filters can be combined with the other filters displayed on the incident list / intelligence map filter definition pages.

b. Other Filters Section

The Other Filters section contains a miscellaneous collection of filters, four of which existed in early versions of WFDSS – National Significance, Acreage of Burn Area, Geographic Area, and Jurisdiction. The ‘Active Status’ filter was removed as ‘Active’ has multiple meanings within the fire community. You can use the date filters to more precisely define the list of incidents that you are interested in accessing.

Three new filters have been added:

- i. Incident Privileges can be used to find those incidents for which you have a specific role – be that Incident Owner, Incident Editor, Decision Reviewer, or Decision Approver. Note that you can create a filter of your incidents that have not been declared out by checking all four Incident Privileges checkboxes in conjunction with the ‘Fires that are not out’ radio button in the Date Filters section.
- ii. If you use the Unit ID filter, the filter will find incidents that contain a matching unit ID within the incident fire number (entered on the Incident Information page). Note that this implies that the unit ID should contain 5 or 6 upper case characters without a dash, as these rules are enforced on both the Incident Information page and on the filter definition page.
- iii. The Decisions filter allows you to find incidents for which decisions are being worked on (pending decisions) as well as incidents for which decisions have been published. You must click the ‘Incidents with published decisions’ checkbox in order to enter temporal criteria for the published decisions.

c. Incident Authors Section

Incident Authors

User Name

Geographic Areas

Alaska
Eastern
Eastern Great Basin
Northern California
Northern Rockies

>>
<<

Agencies

BIA
BLM
FWS
NPS
USFS

>>
<<

Select users from this list to add to your author Filter

	User Name	Geog Area	Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	Carbonari, Seth	Northern Rockies	USFS
<input type="checkbox"/>	Johnson, Sean	Rocky Mountain	USFS
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sears, Sheri	Northwest	BIA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Secakuku, Christopher	Eastern Great Basin	BIA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Secrest, Jess	Northern Rockies	USFS
<input type="checkbox"/>	Seielstad, Carl	Northern Rockies	Other
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Seli, Rob	Eastern Great Basin	USFS
<input type="checkbox"/>	seli, robert	Northern Rockies	USFS
<input type="checkbox"/>	Selmer, Nicole	Eastern	USFS
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sexton, Tim	National	USFS

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Restrict to incidents owned by these authors

	User Name	Geog Area	Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fiedler, Hans	Rocky Mountain	USFS
<input type="checkbox"/>	Seli, Rob	Eastern Great Basin	USFS

The Incident Authors filter section permits filtering within the filter definition. That is, the User Name, Geographic Area, and Agency filters allow you to more quickly find a particular author. In the example above, ‘Se’ was entered into the User Name field and then the Apply Filter button was activated. The selection list (on the left) contains all users with WFDSS Incident Authoring privileges whose first or last name begins with ‘Se’. (A user has WFDSS Incident Authoring privileges if they have Author, Geographic Area Editor, or National Editor privileges.) Once you find an author name you want to add to your filter, mark the checkbox in front of their name and then click the Add button. You can repeat the ‘Apply Filter’ process as many times as you want to add more authors to your filter. When used, this filter will find all incidents owned by one of the authors in the filter list (the list on the right). At the moment, the filter does not find incidents owned by a group. This will be fixed in the next release.

d. Incident Name Section

The Incident Name Filter was not updated with this release. It still functions as a ‘slush bucket’ that allows a user to move incidents from the list on the left to the list on the right. In a future release, the Incident Name filter will function as the Incident Authors filter currently functions – that is, you will be able to apply a filter to narrow your selection list before moving items into your filter list.

IV. Incident List Information

- a. The Fire Number field has been split into three separate fields –Year, Unit ID, and Number.
 - i. The Year is a non-editable, auto-populated field. The Year value is taken from the start date of the incident.

- ii. The Unit ID is a 5 or 6 character unit ID (the first two characters of the unit ID identify the state). The Unit ID field will coerce an entered value to upper case. It will also remove a dash if it is entered. The Unit ID field is auto-populated for most incidents created from the Intelligence map provided the incident location is on National Park Service or US Forest Service land. When WFDSS obtains 'unit spatial data' for other agencies, the Unit ID field will be auto-populated for these agencies as well.
 - iii. The Number component of an incident Fire Number is required to be 4 to 6 digits. If a number with less than 4 digits is entered, it will be left-padded with zeroes to 4 digits.
- b. If an incident is owned by a Group, the Group name is a link to a popup window that will display all members of the group with WFDSS Incident Author privileges.

V. Automated Fire Behavior

- a. The input parameters used for both automated basic and short-term fire behavior modeling can be viewed from the analysis perspective. We are in the process of enabling analyst-assisted basic and short-term fire behavior, but did not complete it in time for the 3.4 release. The 'Information' viewing page will be the same page analysts use for editing / specifying input parameters. Consequently, the page contains a number of disabled (grayed) input fields for displaying the majority of the input parameters. The input parameters (other than for landscape input) are grouped into five expandable / collapsible sections on the 'Information' page.

My Home	Incidents	Analyses	Intelligence	Data Management	Administration																								
Analysis List		<div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px;"> <div style="background-color: #4f81bd; color: white; padding: 2px;">General Information</div> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> <p>General Parameters</p> <p>Analysis Name 3.4</p> <p>*Analysis Date: 07/12/2009 *Hour: 16 *Conditioning Days: 7</p> <p>*Foliar Moisture Content (%): 100 *Crown Fire Method: Finney (1998)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> <p>Spread options</p> <p>*Degrees: 0</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Direction from North</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Relative Direction from Max</p> </div> </div> </div>																											
Results		<div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> <p>Station Information</p> <p>*Station: 292001 - BEAVERHEAD (14.8 miles)</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td>Green Up Month/Day</td> <td>Grass Type</td> <td>Climate Class</td> <td>Slope Class</td> </tr> <tr> <td>04/12</td> <td>P : Perennial</td> <td>2 : Subhumid</td> <td>3 : 41 - 55%</td> </tr> </table> <table border="0" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 5px;"> <tr> <td>Latitude</td> <td>Longitude</td> <td>Elevation</td> <td>Aspect</td> <td>Avg Precipitation</td> <td>Pos on Slope</td> <td>Forecast Zone</td> <td>Station Type</td> </tr> <tr> <td>33.4183</td> <td>108.1025</td> <td>6,700 feet</td> <td>Flat</td> <td>15.00 inches</td> <td>Valley Bottom / Flat</td> <td>360</td> <td>4 - NFDRS Satellite</td> </tr> </table> </div>				Green Up Month/Day	Grass Type	Climate Class	Slope Class	04/12	P : Perennial	2 : Subhumid	3 : 41 - 55%	Latitude	Longitude	Elevation	Aspect	Avg Precipitation	Pos on Slope	Forecast Zone	Station Type	33.4183	108.1025	6,700 feet	Flat	15.00 inches	Valley Bottom / Flat	360	4 - NFDRS Satellite
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◆ Basic Fire Information																													
Analysis Map																													
Landscape Editor																													
Landscape																													
View Landscape																													
Report																													
Notes																													
Contact Information																													
Analysis Privileges																													
RAWS KML																													

- i. The General Information section contains the parameters entered on the first sub-panel used to run automated Basic Fire Behavior – the name of the analysis as well as the start date and time. Several other default parameters are also included.

General Information

Winds

*Speed *Direction

Gridded Wind Resolution

Wind Type

Generate Gridded Winds
 Static Direction
 Wind Blowing Uphill
 Wind Blowing Downhill

- Wind Direction is only necessary if you generate gridded winds or use static winds.
 - Gridded Wind Resolution is only necessary if you generate gridded winds.

Weather Stream

Wind Stream

Fuel Moistures

Save

- ii. The Winds section contains the parameters entered on the second sub-panel used to run automated Basic and Short-Term Fire Behavior – the wind speed and wind direction. The default values for the gridded wind resolution as well as the wind type are also included in this section.

Weather Stream

Date	Precip Amt	(Start hr	End hr)	Min Temp (@ hr)	Max Temp (@ hr)	Min RH	Max RH
7/4	<input type="text" value="0.07"/>	<input type="text" value="1600"/>	<input type="text" value="2200"/>	<input type="text" value="55"/> 4	<input type="text" value="85"/> 13	<input type="text" value="25"/>	<input type="text" value="98"/>
7/5	<input type="text" value="0.20"/>	<input type="text" value="200"/>	<input type="text" value="1500"/>	<input type="text" value="53"/> 5	<input type="text" value="86"/> 11	<input type="text" value="25"/>	<input type="text" value="97"/>
7/6	<input type="text" value="0.12"/>	<input type="text" value="1500"/>	<input type="text" value="1600"/>	<input type="text" value="47"/> 5	<input type="text" value="88"/> 12	<input type="text" value="19"/>	<input type="text" value="98"/>
7/7	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="46"/> 5	<input type="text" value="88"/> 13	<input type="text" value="16"/>	<input type="text" value="97"/>
7/8	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="48"/> 5	<input type="text" value="90"/> 16	<input type="text" value="20"/>	<input type="text" value="93"/>
7/9	<input type="text" value="0.05"/>	<input type="text" value="1700"/>	<input type="text" value="1800"/>	<input type="text" value="54"/> 5	<input type="text" value="90"/> 14	<input type="text" value="17"/>	<input type="text" value="93"/>
7/10	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="57"/> 4	<input type="text" value="92"/> 14	<input type="text" value="13"/>	<input type="text" value="88"/>
7/11	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="51"/> 5	<input type="text" value="90"/> 14	<input type="text" value="12"/>	<input type="text" value="84"/>
7/12	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="54"/> 6	<input type="text" value="90"/> 16	<input type="text" value="16"/>	<input type="text" value="59"/>
7/13	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="54"/> 6	<input type="text" value="86"/> 16	<input type="text" value="16"/>	<input type="text" value="50"/>

- iii. The Weather Stream section contains the weather information (precipitation, minimum and maximum temperature, and relative humidity) used to condition the fuel moistures required for the fire behavior modeling.



Wind Stream				
Date	Hour	Speed (MPH)	Direction	Cloud Cover (%)
7/4	0	<input type="text" value="3"/>	<input type="text" value="220"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>
7/4	1	<input type="text" value="2"/>	<input type="text" value="171"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>
7/4	2	<input type="text" value="2"/>	<input type="text" value="180"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>
7/4	3	<input type="text" value="1"/>	<input type="text" value="263"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>
7/4	4	<input type="text" value="1"/>	<input type="text" value="166"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>
7/4	5	<input type="text" value="2"/>	<input type="text" value="318"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>
7/4	6	<input type="text" value="2"/>	<input type="text" value="200"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>
7/4	7	<input type="text" value="1"/>	<input type="text" value="162"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>
7/4	8	<input type="text" value="2"/>	<input type="text" value="125"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>
7/4	9	<input type="text" value="3"/>	<input type="text" value="359"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>

- iv. The Wind Stream section contains the hourly wind readings, as well as the cloud cover percentage used to condition the fuel moistures required for the fire behavior modeling.

Fuel Moistures					
Model	1 Hour FM	10 Hour FM	100 Hour FM	Herb FM	Woody FM
0	<input type="text" value="5.0"/>	<input type="text" value="7.0"/>	<input type="text" value="17.0"/>	<input type="text" value="65.0"/>	<input type="text" value="113.0"/>

- v. The Fuel Moistures section contains the 'default fuel moistures' at the start of the conditioning period. They're referred to as 'default' because they apply to all fuel models (Fuel Model 0). Eventually, WFDSS will apply moistures to every fuel model.
 - vi. Landscape input parameters can be viewed by selecting Landscape from the left-hand menu. Landscape viewing will be enabled in the next release of WFDSS. Landscape editing will also be available for analyst-assisted basic and short-term fire behavior.
- b. Short-Term Fire Behavior 'In Process' updates have been added to the analysis list page so that the progress of the Short-Term analysis can be monitored while it is running. The percentage complete messages are only updated when the analysis list page is manually refreshed (by clicking on the Analysis tab in the top menu).
 - c. A Values Inventory is automatically initiated when Short-Term Fire Behavior results are being processed. The Values Inventory results associated with Short-Term Fire Behavior are for the union of the arrival time shapes.

VI. Management Action Points (M.A.P.s)

Management Action Points were added in the 3.4 release of WFDSS. Management Action Points are part of the default incident decision content.



- a. Management Action Point Business Rules
 - i. A condition and an action are required for every M.A.P.
 - ii. Management Action Points can be associated with a shape file, but it is not necessary to do so.
 - iii. Resources and a M.A.P. cost can be specified, but it is not necessary to do so.
 - iv. A shape can be associated with or disassociated from a M.A.P. until it is included with a published decision.
 - v. A shape can only be associated with a single M.A.P.
 - vi. A Management Action Point can have at most one shape file associated with it.
 - vii. A Management Action Point becomes activated at the time a decision is published in which the M.A.P. has been included.
 - viii. An activated M.A.P. remains active until it is excluded from a published decision.
 - ix. An activated M.A.P. cannot be edited, but it can be annotated.
 - x. A Management Action Point cannot be annotated until it is activated.
 - xi. A Management Action Point that has not been activated can only be viewed by users with incident editing privileges.
 - xii. Once a Management Action Point is activated, any WFDSS user can view it.
 - xiii. Once a Management Action Point is activated, it cannot be deleted (nor can its associated shape).
 - xiv. Unless explicitly excluded, a Management Action Point is included by default in an incident decision.

b. The Management Action Point List

The Management Action Point List is accessed through the left-hand menu of the Incident perspective. That is, click on the ‘Mgmt Action Points’ left-hand menu option from any incident page. A filter exists to manage the content included in the M.A.P. list. The filter allows the user to limit the M.A.P.s based upon their activation status and / or their relationship with the next decision. Note that only users with incident editing privileges will see non-activated M.A.P.s. Consequently, users without incident editing privileges will not see the ‘Next Decision’ filter box. After entering your desired criteria, click on the ‘Apply Filter’ button to update the contents of the M.A.P. list.

Management Action Point Selection

Active Status	Next Decision
<input checked="" type="radio"/> All	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No Filter
<input type="radio"/> Currently Active	<input type="radio"/> Included
<input type="radio"/> Never Active	<input type="radio"/> Excluded
<input type="radio"/> Active on <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/> Included or Excluded

c. Creating a Management Action Point Shape

Management Action Point shapes are created from the Situation Assessment map in the same manner that other incident-based shapes are created. That is, they are drawn on the map using the point, line, rectangle, and polygon tools. They can also include other incident-based shapes if those shapes are selected. The new M.A.P. shape will include every shape on the map that is highlighted in yellow. At the time you create the shape, you will be given an option to create a new Management Action Point or to associate the shape with an existing Management Action Point. You do not need to choose either

option at the time you create a Management Action Point shape. When naming a Management Action Point shape, do not include a number or M.A.P. at the beginning of the name. Use a descriptive name instead, such as ‘Aspen Grove Trailhead’. When displayed on a map, WFDSS will insert M.A.P. # before the shape name. The # is the number of the Management Action Point that the shape is associated with.

d. Creating a Management Action Point

Management Action Points can be created from the M.A.P. list page or from the Situation Assessment map. From the list page, use the ‘Create Management Action Point’ link at the top of the Management Action Point list.

Management Action Points For 3.4 Test							
Create Management Action Point							
	M.A.P.	Associated Shape	Activated	Deactivated	Included	Cost	Condition
<input type="radio"/>	1		07/12/2009		Yes	\$50,000	If the fire breeches this line
<input type="radio"/>	2	Southern	07/12/2009		Yes	\$25,000	If the fire approaches or breeches this line
<input type="radio"/>	3	Western	07/12/2009		Yes	\$1,000	If the incident is within spitting distance of t
<input type="radio"/>	4		07/12/2009		Yes		If the incident reaches the eastern M.A.P.
<input type="radio"/>	5	Two Blobs	07/15/2009		Yes		Demonstration

From the Situation Assessment map, you first need to create a new M.A.P. shape. After creating a shape, a popup browser window will appear. The window allows you to bind the new shape to an existing M.A.P. (select an M.A.P. and click on the ‘Assign to M.A.P.’ button), bind the shape to a new M.A.P. (click on the ‘Create New M.A.P.’ button), or leave the M.A.P. shape unbound for the moment (click on the Cancel button).

Assign Management Action Point to Shape: Demo

Management Action Points for 3.4 Test							
	M.A.P.	Shape Label	Activated	Deactivated	Included	Cost	Condition
<input type="radio"/>	1		07/12/2009		Yes	\$50,000	If the fire breeches this line
<input type="radio"/>	2	Southern	07/12/2009		Yes	\$25,000	If the fire approaches or breeches this line
<input type="radio"/>	3	Western	07/12/2009		Yes	\$1,000	If the incident is within spitting distance of this line, create a new management action point.
<input type="radio"/>	4		07/12/2009		Yes		If the incident reaches the eastern M.A.P.
<input type="radio"/>	5	Two Blobs	07/15/2009		Yes		Demonstration
<input type="radio"/>	6				Yes	\$25,000	Demonstration

The Management Action Point edit / create page allows you to specify a cost for the M.A.P., select an associated shape (unless you are creating a M.A.P. for a new shape), as well as enter the Condition, Actions, and Resources for the M.A.P. Only the Condition and Actions are required.

e. Annotating a Management Action Point

Management Action Points can be annotated after they are activated. The primary intent is to allow users with incident editing privileges the ability to indicate that the



Management Action Point did go into effect. Note that no other content within a management action point can be modified after it has been activated.

View Management Action Point 2

NAME	VALUE
Cost	\$25,000
Shape	Southern
Activated	Jul 12, 2009
Deactivated	

Condition

If the fire approaches or breeches this line

Actions

Call for air reinforcements - attempt to prevent the fire from crossing the southern boundary of the desired containment area.

Testing 3.4

Resources

Use retardant, helicopters, and fixed wing aircraft as available.

Annotations

Time	User	Note
Delete...		

Save Note

Return

To annotate a particular M.A.P., select it from the M.A.P. list and click the View button. Enter the desired annotation into the text box and click the Save Note button. The timestamp and user are captured with each note. Annotations are displayed in a list – you may annotate a given M.A.P. multiple times.

f. Viewing Management Action Points from a Map

To view a Management Action Point with an associated shape from a map, you first need to display the M.A.P.'s shape. As with all incident-related shapes, expand the Incident section of the Layers panel under the Map sub-tab of the left-hand menu. Next, expand 'Mgmt Action Points' and then check the box in front of the desired M.A.P. shape. The shape will be displayed on the map (provided it is within the current view port) and the shapes label will be displayed within a box. Click anywhere within the label box to display the M.A.P. – the content of the M.A.P. will be displayed in a popup browser window.



VII. Incident Decision Process

In an attempt to make the decision process more intuitive, several user interface changes were introduced to in the 3.4 release. Default content was also added to the decisions. In addition, it is also possible to download an HTML version of a published decision.

a. Incident Decision Default Content

- i. Decision Summary Page –page is added at the time the decision is published.

Decision Summary

Decision Information

NAME	VALUE
Published	07/25/2009 05:01
Estimated Cost	\$250,000.00
Incident Owner(s)	Hans Fiedler
Editor(s)	Marlena Hovorka, Robert Seli
Reviewer(s)	
Approver(s)	Hans Fiedler

Decision History

Editor Name	Action	Date	Comment
Fiedler, Hans	Published	07/25/09 05:01	
Fiedler, Hans	Approved	07/25/09 05:01	
Fiedler, Hans	Review Requested	07/25/09 05:01	
Fiedler, Hans	Created	07/25/09 05:00	

- ii. Assessment
 - 1. General Incident Information
 - 2. Fire Weather Zone Forecast for the Planning Area
 - 3. Values Inventory generated from the Planning Area
- iii. Incident and Strategic Objectives
- iv. Course of Action
 - 1. Strategic Direction List (the Course of Action)
 - 2. Management Action Points
- v. Validation History

b. Activation Dates

There are a number of items associated with a decision that have associated activation and deactivation dates. These items are never explicitly activated or deactivated – instead, an item is activated the first time a decision is published in which the item is included. Similarly, an item is deactivated the first time a decision is published from which the item has been excluded (provided that the item was previously activated). In addition, a decision is identified by the time when it is published. Note that none of the new activation dates can be set when a decision is being reviewed since the decision has yet to be published. Consequently, this information needs to be filled in at the time the decision is published. The following items and sections of the decision that are updated when the decision is published:

- i. Decision Summary
- ii. Incident Objectives / Incident Requirements
- iii. Strategic Directions / Course of Action



- iv. Management Action Points / Course of Action
- c. The Decision Process

As previously mentioned, a number of changes were made to the user interface in an attempt to make the decision process more intuitive. The changes start with the Decision 'View Information' page. The contents of the page have been re-arranged to emphasize the steps remaining (if any) before the decision status can be changed to Reviewable.

Requirements That Must Be Completed Before An Incident Decision Can Be Reviewed / Approved

Requirement(s)
The proposed Course of Action needs to be validated (from the Validation page).
Content must be added to the "Rationale" section of the decision (with the decision editor).

[Return](#)

Decision Information

Decision	Decision Status	Decision Creator
Pending Decision	Available	Fiedler, Hans
Editor Name	Created Date	Last Modified
Fiedler, Hans	07/25/09 04:56	07/25/09 04:56

Decision Reviewers And Approvers

Decision Reviewers

No reviewers have been specified.

Decision Approvers

Name	Agency	Approval Time
Hovorka, Marlana	USFS	
Seli, Robert	USFS	
Fiedler, Hans	USFS	

Decision History

The buttons displayed at the top and bottom of the Decision List page were renamed to 'Begin Review/Approval Process.' Clicking the button will display the list of 'Requirements That Must Be Completed Before An Incident Decision Can Be Reviewed / Approved' if all the requirements have not been met. If the requirements have been met, the next page displays help text to inform the incident owner of the consequences of starting the Review/Approval process.

Once the Review / Approval process is started, no one will be able to modify the content of the decision. Confirm that you want to start the Review / Approval process by clicking on the 'Continue' button. Use the 'Return' button if you do not want to start the Review / Approval process at this time.

[Continue](#)

[Return](#)

Reviewers and Approvers both use the same button to review and then accept / approve or reject a decision. Prior to release 3.4, the text on the button did not include 'Approve'. The text of the button now reads 'Review/Approve Decision' to make it clear that both Decision Reviewers and Decision Approvers should use the button to review the decision.

Decisions List

[Set Decision List Preferences](#)

<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Editor</u>	<u>Creation Date</u>	<u>Last Modified</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pending Decision		Reviewable	Fiedler, Hans	07/25/09 04:56	07/25/09 04:58

In release 3.4, a defect related to the loading of the Decision Editing or Decision Viewing page was fixed. The defect existed in the underlying framework used to control the various components of the pages. The defect occurred on systems with slow bandwidth and prevented the page from loading. Consequently, users experiencing slow bandwidth could not edit or view decisions. To fix the defect, the underlying framework was replaced. As a result, the look and feel of the decision editing / viewing pages changed with release 3.4, but the general functionality of the pages remained the same. The new look is displayed below.

Menu **Decision**

- Decision
 - Assessment
 - Incident Information
 - Content**
 - Weather
 - Content
 - Content
 - Objectives
 - Content
 - Courses of Action
 - Content
 - Validation
 - Content
 - Rationale
 - Content

Pending Decision (Decision : Assessment : Incident Information : Content)

Incident Information

NAME	VALUE
Incident Name	3.4 Test
Latitude	33.2106 N
Longitude	108.0422 W
Geographic Area	Southwest
Jurisdiction(s)	USFS
Unit Name	Gila National Forest
Fire Number	2009-NMGNF-0034
Fire Code	
Incident Start	Jul 11, 2009 16:25
Contained	
Controlled	
Out	
Incident Cause	Natural
Nationally Significant	No
Incident Size	100.0 acres

Note that the buttons to approve (accept) or reject the decision are in the banner.

The final user interface change to the decision process is the addition of a page that is displayed when the final approver clicks the 'Approve Decision' button. At that time, the 'Decision Will Be Published' page informs the approver that the decision will be published if they continue the approval. The approver is given the option to publish the decision or to cancel their approval. Note that 'Cancel' is not the same as rejecting the decision. Rejecting a decision requires the entire Review/Approval process to be re-started. The 'Cancel' button leaves the decision in its same state and simply does not record the approval that was never completed. Besides informing the approver that the decision will be published, the page also allows the approver to set the number of days before the next periodic assessment is required.

You are the last person required to approve this decision. Use the 'Publish Decision' button to approve and publish the decision. If you do not want the decision published at this time, use the 'Cancel' button.

Incident assessments are periodically required. You have the option to set the number of days before the next assessment is required.

Number of days between assessments

Send me an email reminder the morning the next assessment is due

Decision Reviewers And Approvers

Reviewers No reviewers have been specified.	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="3">Approvers</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Name</th> <th>Agency</th> <th>Approval Time</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Fiedler, Hans</td> <td>USFS</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Approvers			Name	Agency	Approval Time	Fiedler, Hans	USFS	
Approvers										
Name	Agency	Approval Time								
Fiedler, Hans	USFS									

Decision History

Editor Name	Action	Date	Status	Comment
Fiedler, Hans	Review Requested	07/25/09 05:01	Reviewable	
Fiedler, Hans	Created	07/25/09 05:00	Available	

Page of 1 Rows per Page:

d. HTML Download

Due to popular demand, an HTML download capability was added in the 3.4 release. The creation of the HTML decision document is performed asynchronously when a decision is published. If you attempt to download an HTML decision document created prior to the 3.4 release (and no one has previously attempted to download the decision), a request is sent to create the document. In this case, a message will be displayed informing the user that a request was submitted. Typically, the request will complete in less than a few seconds, but for large decisions, it will take longer.

Not all decisions can be downloaded. A defect was discovered after the release relative to the creation of HTML documents. If a decision contains an embedded link to an external image, the creation of the HTML document will fail. To fix this defect, WFDSS needs to remove embedded links to external images. In general, embedded links to external content should not be included in a decision document because there is no way for WFDSS to guarantee that the external content will exist in the future. Instead of using external links, users should upload images into WFDSS and include the image in the decision by inserting an incident content link into their decision. This approach allows WFDSS to maintain the image so that the decision content does not change over time. In addition, it allows WFDSS to download the image with the HTML content.



VIII. Incident Reports

Incident reports are now fully functional. That is, custom reports can be created, content added, and the report published so that other users can view or download the content. Editing, viewing, and downloading reports works in the same manner as editing, viewing, and downloading decisions, but is accomplished from Reports sub-menu tab.