



# Incorporating Risk Assessment Information into WFDSS

## Overview

Long Term Risk Assessments, typically written by Long Term Fire Analysts (LTANs), are important in developing strategies and contribute to decision documents for long duration fire incidents. WFDSS is the repository for developing strategies and documenting decisions made on fire incidents. This document discusses these topics that relate to incorporating risk assessment information into WFDSS decisions and decision documents:

- [Collecting Long Term Assessment Inputs for a Decision Document](#)
- [Adding Long Term Risk Assessment Inputs to a Decision Document](#)
  - [Accessing the Decision Document](#)
  - [Editing a Decision Document using the Decision Editor](#)
- [Decision Document Examples](#)
- [Long Term Assessment Analyses and Decision Support](#)

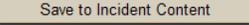
Historically, Long Term Risk Assessments have been developed as stand-alone documents or incorporated into a Wildland Fire Implementation Plan (WFIP), Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (WFSA) or Long-Term Implementation Plan (LTIP). These systems are no longer available. They are replaced by WFDSS. Now, the Long Term Risk Assessment information is uploaded into a WFDSS decision document to support the decision and course of action.

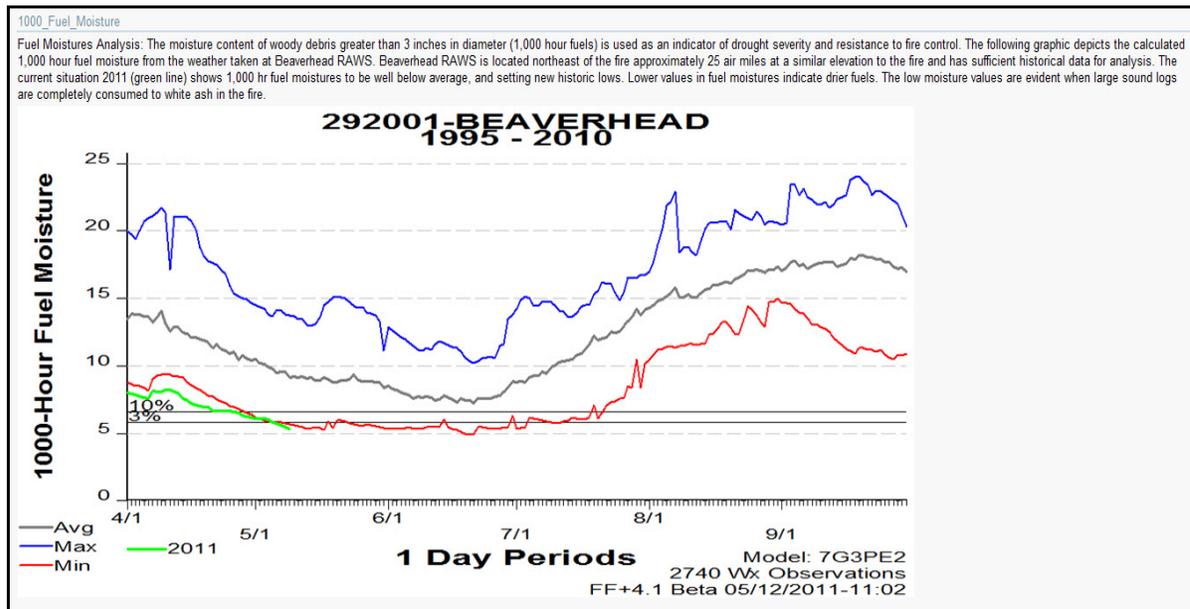
Generally, Long Term Risk Assessments consist of graphics and text that convey to Fire Managers and Line Officers what current fire conditions are and what might be expected as far as fire severity, potential duration, and spatial extent of the fire. There are no set rules; the assessment should paint a picture of current and expected fire conditions and aide the decision maker. For example climatology, long range weather outlooks, and fuels assessments might best support the WFDSS decision document assessment, whereas fire behavior assessments and perhaps the season end assessment may best support WFDSS decision document rationale. Each Incident has its unique concerns so WFDSS adapts to a variety of situations.

## Collecting Long Term Assessment Inputs for a Decision Document

Long Term Assessment images are captured from the internet or from fire programs such as Fire Family Plus and fire behavior programs, or within WFDSS. This content can then be included in the decision document.

- Fire Family Plus has a feature that allows you to save a graph to various image file formats in various sizes. These images should be saved as a .JPG, .GIF or .PNG image format for uploading into WFDSS. The images are then uploaded into WFDSS using the Image Upload feature from the Menu List. These WFDSS Online help topics provide additional information:
  - [Uploading Images](#)

- [Adding Text to a Decision Document](#)
- Fire Behavior Analysis results completed in WFDSS can also be added to the decision document. These WFDSS Online Help topics provide additional information:
  - [Including Analysis Results in a Decision](#)
  - [Adding Text to a Decision Document](#)
- Images from fire behavior programs or the internet can be captured using add-on programs such as Snagit®, Printkey®, or by using the Print Screen feature on your keyboard. The images are then uploaded into WFDSS using the Image Upload feature from the left menu. These WFDSS Online Help topics provide additional information:
  - [Uploading Images](#)
  - [Adding Text to a Decision Document](#)
- The Camera () tool captures map images from within WFDSS. Display the map image you want to capture and click the Camera Tool. You can then title the image and provide a detailed description of the image. This information is included when an image is uploaded to Decision Content. Image processing will take a few minutes and the image is saved to the Images folder in the Incident Content where it is available for use in the Decision Content. The [Capturing Map Images](#) topic in the WFDSS Online Help provides additional information.
- Within WFDSS some graphics such as the fire danger graphs can be uploaded directly into Incident Content by using the  on the screen. When an image is captured using this method it can be located in the Incident Content in the Assessment Folder in the Fire Danger Folder. The: [Saving Fire Danger Rating Graphs to Incident Content](#) topic in the WFDSS Online Help provides additional information.
- When using the Image Upload feature or Camera button, text can be added as seen in the 1000 Hour Fuel Moisture example below. These images and text are then moved from the Incident Content to the Decision Content when completing the decision document. The [Adding an Image to a Decision Document](#) topic in the WFDSS Online Help provides additional information.
  - Type text or copy and paste text in the Image Description box that explains what the image means, what its implications are, or how to interpret it.
  - The text appears above the image when it is viewed in the WFDSS decision editor as seen below. Formatting of text in the Image Description box may change from what shows in the Image Description box and what is displayed in WFDSS.
  - The image label displays with underscores where spaces were included in the text typed into the image label box (1000\_Hour\_Fuel\_Moisture).



- Images can be added from the Incident Content to the Decision Content and text is added by typing or copy/pasting within the editor. Formatting and labeling can also be added at this time. These WFDSS Online Help topics provide additional information:
  - [Uploading Images](#)
  - [Adding Text to a Decision Document](#)

Adding long term risk assessment text into a WFDSS decision document can be completed by:

- Typing directly into the Decision Editor, or
- Copying/Pasting text from another document.

These WFDSS Online Help topics provide further information:

- [Adding Text to a decision Document](#) or
- [Copying/Pasting Text into a Decision Document](#)

## Adding Long Term Risk Assessment Inputs to a Decision Document

When developing the Long Term Risk Assessment the analyst must have access to WFDSS and incident privileges to edit. The analyst can then add the content directly to the decision by editing a “Pending Decision” from the Decision tab.

When an analyst does not have WFDSS access or does not have access to a particular incident, the analyst needs to work with an incident owner or editor to insert the necessary information. Typically this requires that the analyst provide a document and separate, individual images to the owner or editor. The owner or editor can then upload the images and text to WFDSS and insert them into the decision document.

### Accessing the Decision Document

You access a WFDSS decision document from the Decision Tab. Navigate to the pending decision, mark the radio button next to the pending decision, and click Edit. The images below show the Decision Tab and then the Decision Editor.

Wildland Fire Decision Support System National Preparedness Level: 3 Incident: test / 2011- Marlena Hovorka

My Home Incidents Analyses Intelligence Data Management Administration

Information Situation Objectives Course of Action Validation Decisions Periodic Assessment Reports

Decision "Pending Decision" created.

Decisions List

Set Decision List Preferences

Create Copy View Info View Decision Pending KMZ Begin Review/Approval Process

Decision	Section	Status	Editor	Created (CDT)	Last Modified (CDT)	Relative Risk	Org Needs
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Pending Decision		Available	Hovorka, Marlena	07/11/2011 13:39	07/11/2011 13:39		
<input type="radio"/> Pending Decision	Assessment	Available	Hovorka, Marlena	07/11/2011 13:39	07/11/2011 13:39		
<input type="radio"/> Pending Decision	Objectives	Available	Hovorka, Marlena	07/11/2011 13:39	07/11/2011 13:39		
<input type="radio"/> Pending Decision	Course of Action	Available	Hovorka, Marlena	07/11/2011 13:39	07/11/2011 13:39		
<input type="radio"/> Pending Decision	Validation	Available	Hovorka, Marlena	07/11/2011 13:39	07/11/2011 13:39		
<input type="radio"/> Pending Decision	Rationale	Available	Hovorka, Marlena	07/11/2011 13:39	07/11/2011 13:39		

Page 1 of 1 Rows per Page: 20 Edit Check In Download... Delete...

Create Copy View Info View Decision Pending KMZ Begin Review/Approval Process

## Editing a Decision Document using the Decision Editor

My Home Incidents Analyses Intelligence Data Management Administration Help | Feedback

Information Situation Objectives Course of Action Validation Decisions Periodic Assessment Reports

Menu Decision

Decision Document Content

5-Click SAVE

4- Insert WFDSS content

3- Place cursor in this window to type content for the decision document.

2- Select Decision Content location

Incident Content

1- Select Images to insert

To preview image, click +

Decision Editor

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

Incident Information

Incident Content (Missouri Ridge NAFRI : Images : Photo : Hovorka : Fuel>Loading\_2)

### The Decision Editor Quick Overview-

1. Select Fire Incident Content to insert content;
2. Navigate to section in Decision Document Content;
3. Place cursor in Decision Editor window;
4. Click Insert WFDSS content icon;
5. Click SAVE

The [Adding Incident Content to a Decision](#) topic in the WFDSS Online Help provides additional information.

## Decision Document Examples

Some examples of incorporating risk assessment into WFDSS decision documents include:

- Horseshoe: Southwest 6/17/2010 decision
- Jarhead: Southern 6/6/2011 decision
- Miller: Southwest 5/12/2011 decision
- Honey Prairie: Southern 6/23/2011 decision
- Wallow: Southwest 6/19/2011 decision
- Monument: Southwest 6/21/2011 decision

## Long Term Assessment Analyses and Decision Support

The table below lists information that might be used to support a WFDSS Decision. Some items may not be relevant to the fire while this list is not all inclusive and other information may be relevant. Each fire is unique and has its own set of concerns that should be addressed whether it is in the Assessment, Validation, or Rationale.

<b>Type of Analysis</b>	<b>What might be Included in the Assessment, Validation, or Rationale</b>
Fuels Analysis	Evaluation of fuel types, arrangement, and flammability, 1,000 hour Fuel Moisture, Live Fuel Moisture, Herbaceous Fuel Moisture, Woody Fuel Moisture, National Fuel Moisture Database (NFMD) Graphs, Vegetation Greenness – NDVI Images, (Alaska, Minnesota & northern States) CFFDRS Charts
Drought Analysis	Drought discussion and prognosis, Drought Monitoring Map, Drought Forecast Map
Fire Danger	Narrative of current fire danger, ERC Graphs, Burning Index, Spread Component or others (Alaska, Minnesota & northern States) CFFDRS Charts
Weather Outlooks	Weather Narrative, Long Range - 6-10, 8-14, 30, 90 day Temperature and Precipitation Outlook
Season End Analysis	Term Graph, Other fire slowing or ending analysis
Wind Analysis	Wind Rose, Event Locator Report for winds of concern
Fire Behavior Analysis	Fire Behavior Summary (Current & Expected) Basic Fire Behavior Analysis (BFB), Short Term Fire Behavior Analysis (STFB), Near Term Fire Behavior Analysis (NTFB), Fire Spread Probability - FSPro FlamMap Analysis, FARSITE Analysis
Historic Fires	Fire History Review, Historic fire size and intensity
Values	Narrative regarding values and fire behavior Values Inventory & Values at Risk
Smoke & Air Quality	Point Forecast, Smoke Trajectories, Wind Pattern Analysis