Your Fire Analysis Skills

Dust them off, tune them up, show them off

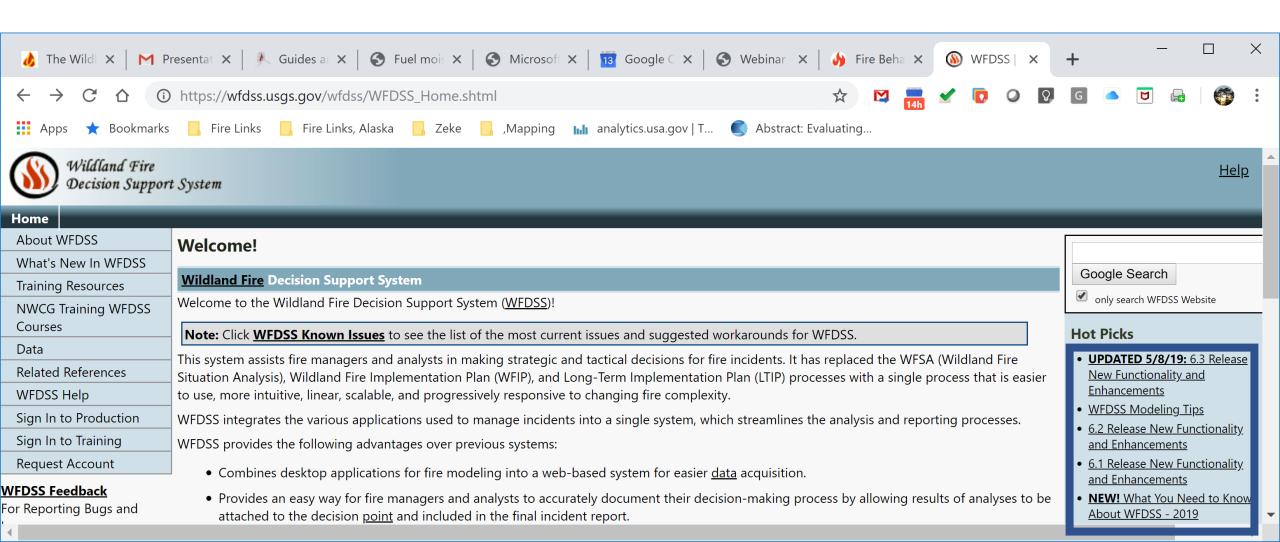
Outline

Information Resources

Tools to Apply

Producing an Alaska Analysis

 WFDSS Home PageLinks; WFDSS Modeling Tips, Updated 5/8/19, New! https://wfdss.usgs.gov/wfdss/WFDSS Home.shtml



 Advanced Fire Environment Learning Unit https://www.nwcg.gov/tags/afelu

Home / Tags / AFELU

AFELU



Mission Statement

The Advanced Fire Environment Learning Unit (AFELU) provides leadership and technical expertise to the Fire Environment Committee on continuing education, training on technical tools, and outreach of new research.

⇒ Primary Objectives:

2019 Getting Ready For the Season Doc

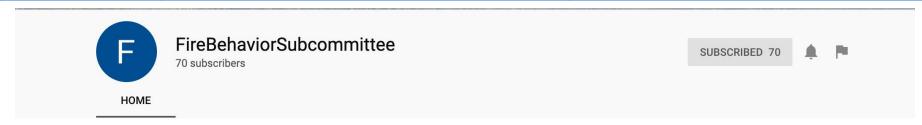
2018 Fall Webinar: Season AAR

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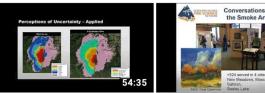
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hG2vwTLXYhs

Date: November 7, 2018

 NWCG Fire Behavior Subcommittee YouTube Library https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVjWo5OPMMIzkNDCbXn-aww



Uploads PLAY ALL



AFELU Nov2018 AAR Newman Pietruszka 416 Fire

5 views • 2 weeks ago



AFELU November 2018 Vita Wright Northern Rockies Fir...

8 views • 1 month ago



AFELU November 2018 AAR Dan McEvoy - DRI-...

12 views • 1 month ago



AFELU 2018 Webinar -Introductions. What is the ...

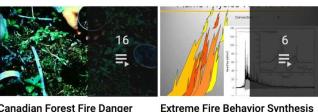
14 views • 1 month ago



Part4 NFDRS2016 Cross 2018

93 views • 1 year ago

Created playlists



Canadian Forest Fire Danger Rating System

VIEW FULL PLAYLIST

VIEW FULL PLAYLIST

AFSC Partner Sites/Fire Modeling & Analysis Cmte/Guides & Products

https://www.frames.gov/afsc/partners/fmac/guides-products



Alaska Fire & Fuels Users Guide 2018

Publisher: Alaska Fire Science Consortium

Year: 2018

Alaska Fire & Fuels (akff.mesowest.org) is the Alaska interagency Fire Weather (FWI) and Fire Behavior (FBP) monitoring system. It provides public access to fire weather that is collected hourly, processes FWI codes and indices, and provides them in a range of tools and displays to aid fire managers in assessing their fire potential each day. Data collected is stored in a database and is available for historic queries and data downloads as needed. This guide is reference for its users.



Fuel model guide to Alaska vegetation (2018)

Author: Jennifer L. Barnes, Peter Butteri, Robert L. DeVelice, Kato Howard, Jennifer L. Hrobak, Rachel A. Loehman, Nathan Lojewski, Charley Martin, Eric Miller, Bobette Rowe, Tom St. Clair, Lisa B. Saperstein, Bethany Schulz, Brian Sorbel, Wade Wahrenbrock, Larry Weddle, Alison D. York, Robert Ziel

Publisher: Alaska Fire Modeling and Analysis Committee

/ear: 2018

This guidebook contains fuels and fire behavior information and vegetation characteristics for Alaska. Each fuel type (taken from 4th level Viereck classification names) is associated with up to three illustrative photos, the most appropriate fuel models, the primary carrier of fire, fire behavior notes, vegetation characteristics, individual 4th-level Viereck classes, and fuel types with similar characteristics. This document also contains a crosswalk from vegetation classes to various fuel models.



Fire Behavior Field Reference Guide (2017)

Author: National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG)

Publisher: National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG)

Year: 201

The Fire Behavior Field Reference Guide describes a range of practices by which fire behavior assessments are conducted. It is a hands-on publication for use in the field, in training, and as a reference.

Auditorials State of Section and Free Section Annual Conference of Section

Fuel moisture, seasonal severity and fire growth analysis in the US fire behavior analysis tools: using Fire Weather Index (FWI) codes and indices as guides in Alaska

Author: Robert Ziel

Year: 2017

This guide offers recommendations for using Canadian Forest Fire Danger Rating System (CFFDRS) fuel moisture codes and fire behavior indices from the Fire Weather Index (FWI) system to provide objective guidance for initial settings for many analysis inputs to WFDSS and IFTDSS. The FWI system has been formally calibrated for northern boreal ecosystems and effectively identifies significant thresholds for the Alaska landscapes as well as important trends in changing fire growth potential.

 Alaska Interagency Coordination Center Spatial Data Resources https://fire.ak.blm.gov/predsvcs/maps.php

ArcGIS Online Resources

 Alaska Wildland Fire Maps replaces the old trusted ArcIMS map interface we've used in the past

AICC ArcGIS Server Services

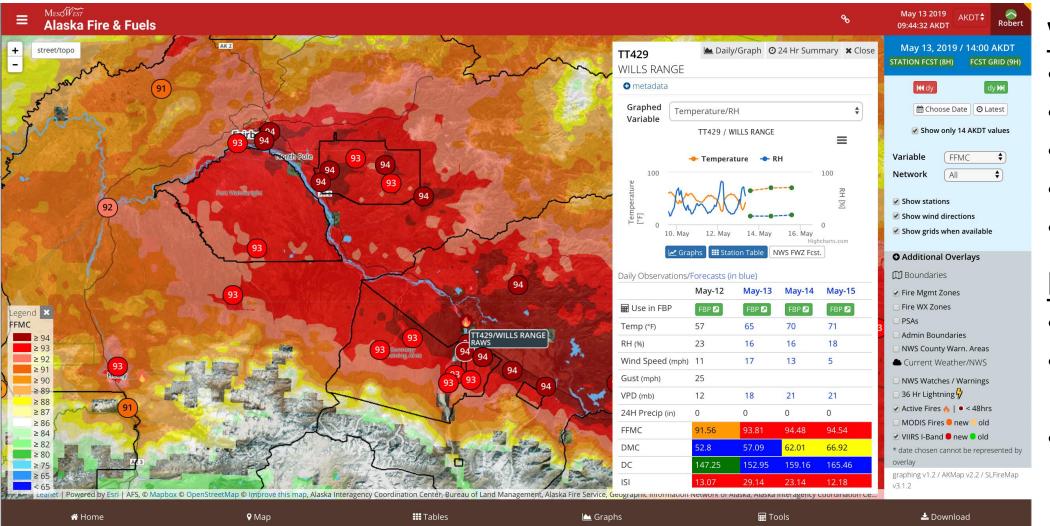
Access to all the layers you were used to on ArcIMS

Individual Fire Perimeters

Already zipped up. Should be current all season.



 Alaska Fire and Fuels https://akff.mesowest.org/



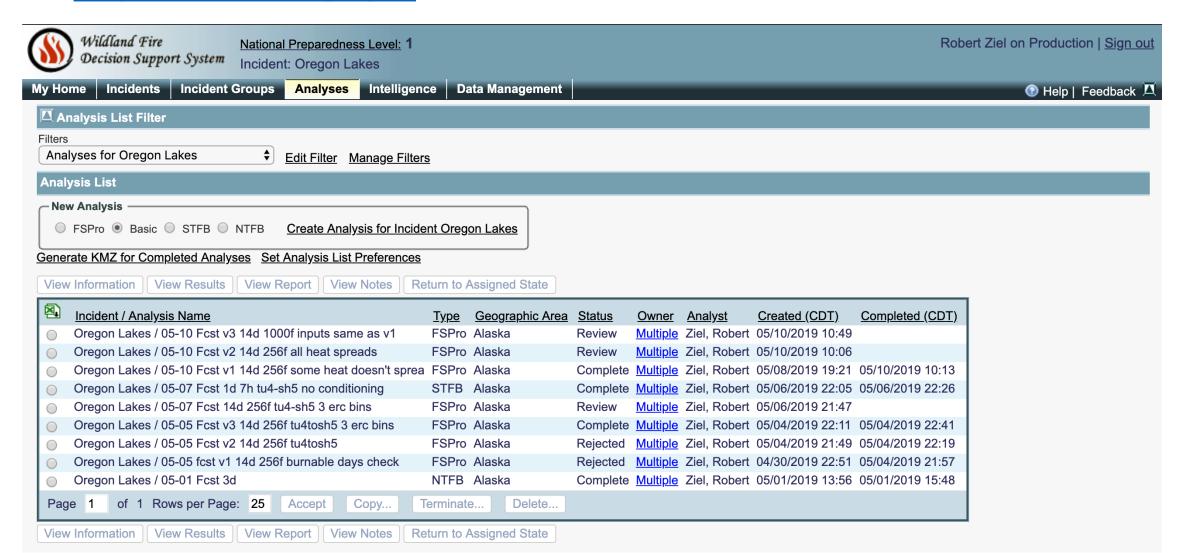
Views

- Map
- Tables
- Graphs
- Tools
- Download

New Tools

- RX Planner
- Adjective Grids
- Fuels layer later in yr

 WFDSS Short Term, Near Term, and FSPro https://wfdss.usgs.gov

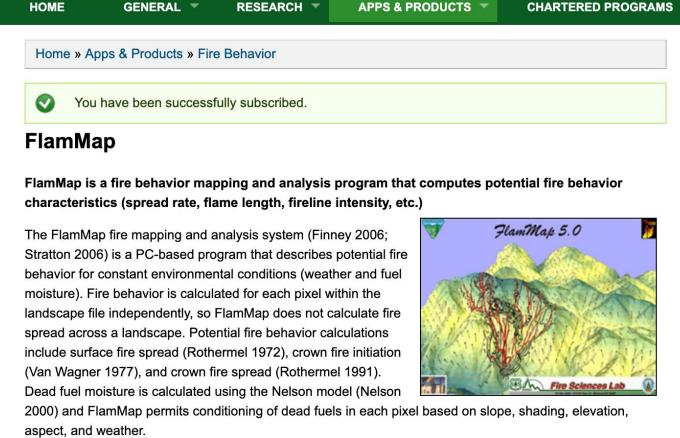


United State Department of Agriculture

S. FOREST SERVICE

 FlamMap 6 is coming...with landscape editing and Near Term module! https://www.firelab.org/project/flammap





Fire, Fuel, Smoke Science Program **Rocky Mountain Research Station CHARTERED PROGRAMS EXPERIMENTAL FOREST** Search Principal Investigator(s): Mark Finney Contact(s): Finney, Mark McHugh, Charles Contributor(s): FlamMap is being developed by: U.S. Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station, Fire, Fuel, and Smoke Science Program, and Stu Brittan; Alturas Solutions; Missoula, Montana

The following individuals are working on

FlamMap 6 resources to have on hand

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1V4VaUht TL5rShnZXYBrUuzKo ooaobQ

/view?usp=sharing

Obtaining Past Weather and Forecasted Weather for use in FlamMap6

- 1. From a completed Near-Term Fire Behavior Run in WFDSS
 - · Provides the previous days weather so one can condition fuels if needed
 - · Provides the forecasted weather used during the simulation
 - Provides the data so you can build a hourly weather stream
- 2. From the NWS NDFD Forecasts
 - Fire Weather Forecast Page
 - Map Point and Click Forecast data
- 3. FireFamilyPlus Database
 - · Provides the previous weather so one can condition fuels if needed
 - · Can be used for reconstruction events

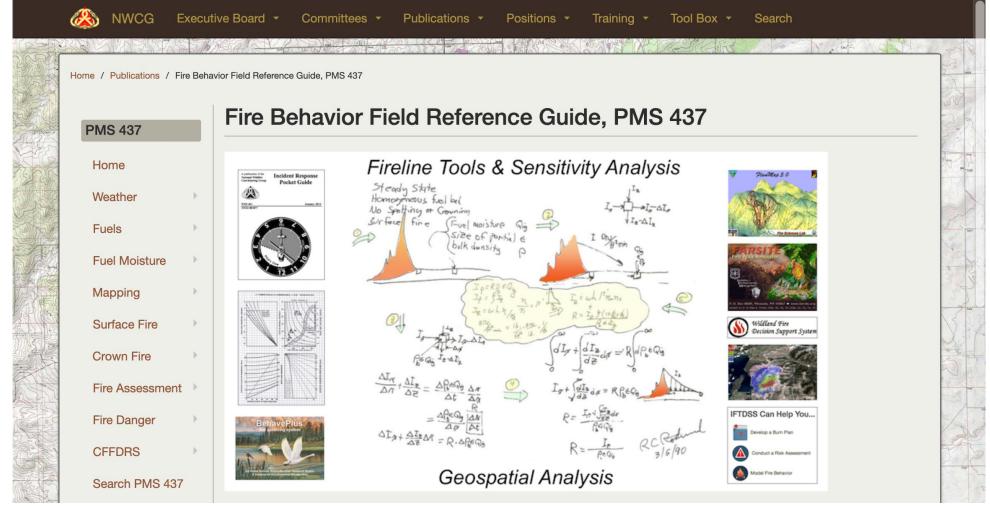




Producing an Alaska Analysis

Fire Behavior Field Reference Guide

https://www.nwcg.gov/publications/pms437/ or http://www.fbfrg.org



Fire Assessment Section

- Verification,
 Calibration and
 Validation page
- discusses key spatial analysis factors
- Discusses
 evaluating and
 adjusting spatial
 analyses.

Producing an Alaska Analysis

WFDSS Modeling Tips

https://wfmrda.nwcg.gov/docs/ Referen ce Materials/WFDSS Modeling Tips July -2018.pdf

- Landscape Extent and Resolution
- Spotting Differences between NTFB and STFB/FSPro.
- Ignition shapes, complexity and interactions.
- NTFB: Try not to predict past 3 days...usually. Tell the requester why.

WFDSS Modeling Tips

Compiled by WFM RD&A with help from many other practicing fire behavior specialists, July 2018, Feedback to WFM RD&A appreciated (Tonia Opperman, tsopperman@fs.fed.us).

Introduction

There is no intention to limit creativity-there are many ways to use models correctly. However, if you are unsure of how much you can push the system without breaking it, use the guidelines provided here. There is no shame in asking another fire behavior person (LTAN, FBAN) to look over your run and provide input! Ask someone you know, or call Analysis & Decision Content Support at 208-473-8107.

Content

- Modeling in General
- NTFB
- ESPro
- Getting Help & Giving Feedback

Modeling....In General

- Understand the question
- This is a surface fire spread model; attempting to replicate plume-dominated fire spread violates the assumptions and limitations.
- Talk to locals or **observe** fire behavior to help you calibrate the model.
- Yes, calibrate.
- If spread is inconsistent, consider not using models at all and arrive at decisions using "persistence," especially if you find the models continually over-predicting for small amounts of growth. Remember, each pixel is 30-240m and if the fire isn't growing a lot it may not even grow one pixel wide in a burn period.

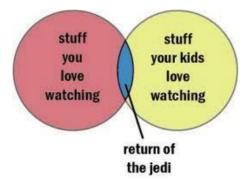


Figure 1. The Question: What movie should we watch tonight?

- Consider using Basic or ST to figure out what weather or fuel triggers are going to show active/passive crown fire before jumping right into NT modeling.
- Use Scott and Burgan's "Standard Fire Behavior Fuel Models" guide, Table 7 to remind you which fuel models are dynamic--the live fuel moisture values will impact how these fuels behave.
- The models assume no suppression.
- There is no modeled interaction among adjacent fires.

Landscape Extent and Resolution

- 30m is default resolution for STFB and NTFB, 90m for FSPro
- Use 60m if LCP is 10-20 miles in extent.
- Use 90m-120m (or more) for 20-30 mile extent.
- Use **270m if >30-mile extent**; start at 270m for the initial run, see how it goes, then consider 120m....or 90m (minimum).
- If >30 mile LCP edge, consider modeling flanks in separate runs.

Spotting Inputs

Short Term Fire Behavior (STFB)

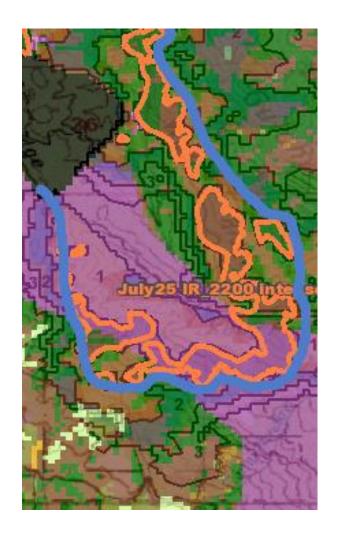
- Analyst sets spotting probability. Can be higher than allowed for NTFB, generally less than 0.25.
- For FSPro in AK under active burning analysis periods, we consider
 - .20-.25 for top Row
 - .15 for second row
 - .10 for third row.
- This can guide input for STFB run

Near Term Fire Behavior (NTFB)

- Analyst sets spotting probability. Maximum setting needs to be less than 0.15.
- For AK analyses, we recommend half of what is used for STFB and FSPro under similar conditions.

Ignition Shapes, Complexity and Interactions

- Polygons don't burn inward
- Don't use ignition polygon as landscape mask for unburnable. Only about 20% of ignition perimeter will ignite
- Don't let ignition shape cross barrier
- Don't use IR heat shape as ignition file. Display and simplify with manually drawn shape
- Use polygon that dips in and out of masked area instead of short lines for ignitions.





Include only what you think could grow over analysis period in your ignition shape

Producing an Alaska Analysis

Fuel Moisture, Seasonal Severity, and Fire Growth Analysis

https://www.frames.gov/catalog/56054

- Dead Fuel Moisture considerations.
- Live Fuel Moisture considerations.
- Fuel Moisture conditioning in Basic, STFB, and NTFB analyses: Review weather streams. High cloud cover, high overnight rh recovery, and precip amounts push fine fuel moistures (1hr and 10hr) up, impede spread predictions. Edit them down or consider "0" conditioning days in STFB
- ERC trends, streams, classes, and fuel moisture climatology

ERCg performs several critical functions in the FSPro analysis. First, as a default, it provides a frequency distribution of 5 fuel moisture and fire behavior scenarios based on its whole season climatology. Second, that climatology provides day-to-day streams of those fuel moisture and fire behavior scenarios to model fire spread probabilities weeks into the future. The process explained below will demonstrate how knowledge of observed FWI elements can inform adjustments to both the frequency distribution and the ERCg streams used in those analyses.

3.2 Editing the ERC Stream to Reflect FFMC and BUI Trends

In FSPro analysis, the ERC Stream is displayed as a sequence of days in the recent past and the estimated ERCg values for those days. A forecast stream, based on the National Digital Forecast Database (NDFD) weather forecast, can be included. And after those days, climatology approaching the average ERCg trend provides a range of ERC sequences further into the future for the analysis period.



In this example, with the minimum burnable ERCg value at 38, all of the observed and forecast ERC stream falls below that threshold. Given that, the map shows the result, with a very low probability of any significant fire spread. That may be correct in this case, but with ERCg exaggerating the influence of live fuels, it may be a serious underestimate.

Setting ERCg Levels for FSPro Analysis

	92+	89 to	86 to	83 to	80 to
BUI		91.9	88.9	85.9	82.9
110+	Тор	2 nd	2 nd	4 th	5 th
110+	Bin	Bin	Bin	Bin	Bin
90 to	Тор	2 nd	2 nd	4 th	5 th
109.9	Bin	Bin	Bin	Bin	Bin
60 to	2 nd	3 rd	3 rd	4 th	5 th
89.9	Bin	Bin	Bin	Bin	Bin
40 to	3 rd	3 rd	4 th	4 th	5 th
59.9	Bin	Bin	Bin	Bin	Bin
< 40	3 rd	4 th	4 th	5 th	5 th
< 40	Bin	Bin	Bin	Bin	Bin

%ile M	%ile Min ERC			
96 Тор	61			
89 2nd	54			
76 and	49			
67 4th	43			
58 5th	38			

Use FFMC and BUI to adjust/set ERC values in ERC stream, both observed & forecast

Accurately portraying the observed and forecast ERC stream are critical to the accuracy of FSPro output. It is possible to use FFMC and BUI from the FWI system to adjust the ERC stream when preparing initial analyses. The table to the left shows FFMC and BUI classes and suggests how they are combined to identify where in the ERC frequency distribution each day falls.

Analysts should evaluate ERC values using FFMC and BUI values observed from representative local weather stations and find the cell that represents that combination of values. ERCg levels can be derived from the class level the table suggests.

For example, if the FFMC is 91 and the BUI is 80, the combination suggests that the ERC value should be in the third ERC Class, with a value between 49 and 53. Because 91 and 80 are both intermediate within their classes, the ERC might be best represented as 51 or 52. Consider estimating ERC values for up to 3 days in the observed ERC stream and all the forecasted ERC values before conducting the initial FSPro analysis.