

Fire Emissions Joint Forum

The FEJF projects identified in the existing 2005 WRAP Workplan, and the proposed FEJF projects for the 2006 WRAP Workplan, fall into two main categories:

- 1) The first grouping includes Planning projects to directly support the development of policy and technical tools for SIP/TIP development under §308.
- 2) The second grouping includes Implementation projects to directly support the existing fire policies and programs applicable to the implementation needs for §309 and §308.

The allocation of funding for the ongoing and planned 2005 and proposed 2006 FEJF projects is presented below at the end of the FEJF workplan. In addition to reprogramming funds allocated to FEJF in the 2005 WRAP Workplan, additional 2006 Workplan funding in the amount of \$115,000 is identified.

PLANNING

FF“C” 2002 Inventory of Wildfire and Prescribed Fire: Phase I & Phase II - This project was funded and started in 2003 and will continue into early 2005. The 2002 base year inventories will be prepared for the contiguous WRAP region for wildfire, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use on wildland and rangeland. Agricultural burning is also included. Phase I developed an initial emission inventory to allow the RMC to initialize the 2002 modeling efforts. Phase II involves further refinement of the Phase I inventory with greater QA/QC and state/tribal review of the fire activity estimates. Data collection to support estimates of private rangeland burning and augmentation of agricultural burning will occur in Phase II. The 2002 emission inventory will include “anthropogenic” / “natural” apportionment to support the Attribution of Haze reports. These projects directly support the modeling for the §308 SIPs/TIPs.

At the request of WRAP states, statewide CERR Reports for US EPA will be developed for the Phase II inventory for all fire sources. This will allow WRAP states to submit to US EPA reports, which will partially fulfill the states’ emissions inventory reporting requirements.

The task of generating QC wildfire and prescribed fire notebooks specifically for Federal Land Managers was not included in the original Phase II scope of work. This task was requested by the FEJF in the fall of 2004. This portion of the project was funded by reprogramming 2005 funding.

FF6/3 Phase III and Phase IV Inventories & Assessment of Apportionment Methods - This project was funded in 2004 and will be started in early 2005. Phase III is for the Baseline Planning Apportionment and create a 2000-2004 representative emissions inventory. Phase IV is for the 2018 Planning Apportionment and will be a 2018 representative inventory. The 2018 inventory may include a range of potential control scenarios and possible ranges of emissions to reflect the high degree of uncertainty in this type of forecast. The inventories will be prepared for the WRAP region for wildfire, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use on wildland and rangeland as well as agricultural burning. This effort also includes development of technical approaches to apportion the impact of fire emissions between “natural” and “anthropogenic” source categories. These projects directly support the modeling for the §308 SIPs/TIPs.

This second portion of the project was funded by reprogramming 2005 funding and will be started after completion of the Phase III and Phase IV inventories. The additional assessment of apportionment methods is necessary to assess the impact of the various fire emissions inventories

and apportionment methods. This project directly supports the model assessment for the §308 SIPs/TIPs.

- FF7 2002 National Wildfire Emissions Inventory – This project was funded and started in 2004. The 2002 National emissions inventory for wildfire will be developed through an inter-RPO effort funded by EPA, based on a scope of work discussed amongst the RPOs. The FEJF has lead RPO responsibilities for this project. These projects directly support the modeling for the §308 SIPs/TIPs.

The 2002 National inventory is of the most benefit to the WRAP in performing a comparative analysis to the WRAP 2002 Phase II wildfire inventory. This comparative analysis would identify the specific changes and improvements between the two wildfire inventories. The implementation of FCCS for fuel loading for the WRAP region in the National inventory is being evaluated on its technical merits by the FEJF. The National inventory paired with a comparative analysis would also be beneficial to the WRAP for the 2018 inventory to reflect sensitivity to the specific changes and improvements between the two inventories. Upon further evaluation, this task may be requested by the FEJF in early 2005 with 2005 funding. This task directly supports the modeling needs for the §308 SIPs/TIPs.

- FF12 Smoke Management Technical and Policy Workshop – This project was funded in 2005 and will be started in 2005. Three-day workshop in late 2005 to assess technical work to date, §309 policy and SIP implementation and refinement of policy options under §308. This effort will build on the two FEJF workshops held in 2004 to ensure that the needed technical and policy tools are in place for SIP/TIP development under §308.

IMPLEMENTATION

- FF9 Regional Coordination of Smoke Management Programs – This project was funded in 2003 and was started with in-kind support in early 2005. Regional Coordination is a required element within the ESMP Policy as coordination of burning activity (ranging from passive to active) is critical to avoiding cumulative smoke impacts within and across source types in mandatory Class I areas. Avoiding cumulative smoke impacts to cultural resources is also critical. Methods for this inter-jurisdictional and regional coordination will need to be developed for wildland and agricultural prescribed fire smoke management programs, information sharing, and public notification. Proposed options will be developed, and then presented and reviewed at a facilitated conference, to be held in 2005. The task of developing proposed options may require a facilitated process. Upon further evaluation, the need for a facilitated process may be identified by the FEJF in early 2005 with reprogrammed 2005 funding. This project directly supports the implementation of the ESMP requirement in §309 as well as similar implementation issues for §308.

- FF5/8 Fire Tracking System – Portions of this project were funded prior to 2002 as well as in 2004, 2005, and 2006 and will start in 2005 and continue into 2006/2007. Evaluation of existing fire emissions inventory systems to develop a Fire Tracking System as identified in the Fire Tracking System policy to calculate emissions from fire activity data. Develop user guidance to support the FTS Policy identifying a specific format, parameters, defaults, structure and methods of emission calculation for required and optional FTS elements. Develop user guidance to support the tracking of ERTs and the calculation of emissions averted, which is an optional FTS Policy element. This project directly supports the implementation of the FTS and AEG requirements in §309 as well as similar implementation issues for §308.

In support of the AEG Policy, an annotated bibliography on ERTs was completed in the spring of 2004. Through the use of in-kind support, work was initiated in the fall of 2004 to develop technical guidance on ERTs applicable for wildland, rangeland, and agricultural burning for use in the establishment and support of AEGs. Upon completion of the technical guidance, it will become integral to the method to calculate the emission benefits of ERTs within the FTS.

FF“D” Sensitivity Runs Phase II: Regional & Mesoscale – This project was funded in 2003 and, now that the initial Model Assessment/Sensitivity Runs are complete, will be started in 2005. Conduct an air quality source/impact analysis with two scales of modeling: regional and mesoscale. The regional-scale modeling features chemistry capacity with regional and longer temporal scales. The mesoscale modeling features complex terrain capacity with smaller geographic and temporal scales. Together, these two approaches will provide a comprehensive analysis of potential de minimus levels to assist states and tribes with maximizing efficiency for fire tracking, public notification and regional coordination. This project directly supports the implementation of the FTS and ESMP requirements in §309 as well as similar implementation issues for §308.

FF2 User Guidance and Review of Feasibility Criteria for WRAP Fire Policies – This project was funded by reprogramming 2005 funding and will be started in 2006. Feasibility criteria for the implementation of smoke management policies and programs were identified in the RHR as efficiency, economics, law, emission reduction opportunities, land management objectives and reduction of visibility impact. Furthermore, as described in the IOC transmittal letter regarding the 2001 Fire Categorization Policy, implications to cultural resources will also be examined. Feasibility criteria were adopted into the WRAP Fire Policies which in addition to the RHR criteria include safety, technical and environmental concerns. As States and Tribes assess their program options for addressing smoke from fire under §308, additional guidance will be needed as to the application of these criteria for feasibility determinations. The WRAP called for further user guidance to be developed to support the existing WRAP *Policy for Categorizing Fire Emissions*. This project directly supports the implementation of the requirements in §309 as well as similar implementation issues for §308.

Code	Project Title	Funding*	
		2005	2006
<i>Planning</i>			
FF“C”	2002 Inventory of Wildfire and Prescribed Fire: Phase I & Phase II	25,000	
FF6/3	Phase III & Phase IV Inventories & Assessment of Apportionment Methods	163,224 25,000	
FF7	2002 National Wildfire Emissions Inventory (Inter-RPO)	26,500	
FF12	Smoke Management Technical and Policy Workshop	25,000	
<i>Implementation</i>			
FF9	Regional Coordination of Smoke Management Programs	50,000	
FF5/8	Fire Tracking System	85,000	100,000**
FF“D”	Sensitivity Runs Phase II: Regional & Mesoscale (RMC)	45,000	
FF2	User Guidance and Review of Feasibility Criteria for WRAP Fire Policies	60,000	

* Funding reprogrammed from FEJF allocation in 2005 Workplan (FFY04 Funding) combined with an additional \$115,000 allocated in the 2006 Workplan (FFY05 Funding).

** \$50,000 in 2006 and \$50,000 in 2007.