

Project Proposal Form

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Submission Date:

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Proposal Number:

YT-2015-02

Champion:

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David Finn Fire Behaviour Specialist, ESRD, dave.finn@gov.ab.ca, 403 845-8362

Background:

Many fire agencies have embraced proactive fuel management projects with the aim of mitigating wildland fire risk. These hazard abatement projects have not been rigorously scientifically validated and often come at high expense. There are sparse and infrequent guiding operating procedures and dedicated resources for documenting fire behaviour in these scenarios.

Issue:

FireSmart fuel prescriptions, though often implemented, have had few case studies written up on their efficacy in a wildland fire incident. Developing a rapid-response kit / protocol that FPInnovations member agencies could employ to capture relevant data as a wildfire is breaching a treatment would be of great utility in validating agencies risk mitigation efforts.

Objective(s):

1. Conduct a literature review / survey on the best practices on wildland fire documentation. This should include both tools and instrumentation used as well as procedures.
2. Develop a paper that Agencies could use to provide guidance to develop a rapid response kit (the instrumentation necessary e.g. wind anemometer, cameras, etc...) to document the event and suggested protocols / procedures for the observer to follow.

Approach:

Colin Urquhart (YT agency rep for a number of National fuels engineering / prevention working groups) and Dave Finn (Fire Behaviour Specialist, ESRD) will assist FPInnovations with refining the approach should this proposal be picked up. Results will be disseminated through FPInnovations members through a paper and web report.