

FAQs - IFTDSS

Interagency Fuels Treatment Decision Support System

Is IFTDSS required? Will it be?

As of now IFTDSS is not required. However, integration of Fuels Treatment Effectiveness Monitoring (FTEM) into IFTDSS is currently under development and FTEM is required for reporting wildfire interaction with fuels treatments. Eventual integration with other currently required applications and processes is likely with a development goal to ensure that users need only enter fuels treatment data once and systems will share the information.

Can I do a Risk Assessment in IFTDSS?

Yes, users can complete a risk assessment in IFTDSS using first approximation of Risk (Calkin 2010) along with an IFT-Flammap hazard analysis. Development is currently underway to improve the IFTDSS risk module including updating underlying models and simplifying the workflow process for field users.

How large of a Landscape can you assess in IFTDSS? Can I upload my own Landscape data?

IFTDSS currently limits landscapes to 400,000 acres. Future enhancements will likely include allowing users to analyze much larger landscapes. It is possible to upload or import LCP files created outside of IFTDSS up to 400,000 acres.

Who can see my projects? Can I collaborate on a burn plan or other project with someone else?

Only you can see your projects unless you choose to “publish” them within IFTDSS which then makes them visible in read-only format to all other IFTDSS users. Collaboration is possible within IFTDSS. To do this users have set up a shared account to work on projects using the same login information. Development is underway to establish User Roles and Access Privileges which will provide more collaboration options in the future.

Can I use my local burn plan template rather than the interagency template?

Using the prescribed burn plan module in IFTDSS is not required. However, the burn plan template contained in the Prescribed Burn Planning module in IFTDSS meets the interagency 2014 Rx Fire Implementation Guide standards and can be exported at any time during burn plan development and tailored to the local unit’s needs.

Can I upload my own vegetation and/or stand data into IFTDSS?

It is possible to upload or import LCP files created outside of IFTDSS. However, IFTDSS currently does not accept other sources of vegetation/stand data. Future plans include incorporation of Feat FireMon Integrated (FFI) and Fuelcalc allowing use of local data. Certain workflows in IFTDSS currently do use Forest Vegetation Simulator (FVS) data. LANDFIRE Existing Vegetation, Type, and Cover layers will be available soon.

How does IFTDSS handle uploaded shapefiles?

Users can currently upload shapefiles into IFTDSS via the Data tab to use within all of the spatial workflows. However, only one shapefile can be imported into each module at a time, requiring the user to merge polygons into one shapefile externally. Improvements to this functionality are being developed.

Can I make maps for my fuels projects in IFTDSS?

Map images can be captured at any point within an IFTDSS module and used in external documents as PNG files. Major developments to improve mapping capabilities in IFTDSS are underway.

Can you access RAWs data in IFTDSS?

IFTDSS contains a static RAWs dataset that can be used in the IFT-Fire Family Plus module. Integrating and connecting outside data sources to IFTDSS is currently under development. In the future, the user will likely be able to import more complete datasets directly from RAWs into their IFTDSS projects.

Does IFTDSS do smoke modelling?

Not yet. Short Term plans involve links to existing BlueSky tools and longer term plans include continued enhancements with regards to emission calculations and smoke dispersion modelling.

Where can I get IFTDSS training?

Several sources of self paced training materials are available including [Help content, supporting information, and tutorials](#) within the application itself. Short how-to videos are available on the [IFTDSS Help YouTube Channel](#).

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