



United States Department of Agriculture
Forest Service

Forest Inventory and Analysis Budget and Strategic Plan Implementation

Gregory A. Reams



A simplified overview of the annual FIA budget allocation process with an example

this basic model has been used since 2003





BASIC FIA ALLOCATION MODEL

- **Receive budget from Congress**
- **Cover fixed costs**
- **Fairly distribute the balance**

based on principle of all boats rise equally on the budget tide relative to their strategic plan target (which incorporates differential operating costs by region)

Allocation of a \$77 Million Budget

- percentages may vary year to year and by total budget -

Process Step	Share	Balance	
1. Initial budget total from R&D Budget Officer		100.0%	
2. Deduction for WO staff/overhead costs	1.1%	98.9%	
3. Holdback for ASC charges	8.5%	90.4%	
4. IRDB funds for program use	3.2%	87.1%	< This all goes to field >
5. Interior Alaska national priority	3.2%	83.9%	
6. Unit National responsibilities*	2.5%	81.4%	
7. Holdback for contingencies, unused to field by June	1.3%	70.1%	
8. Remaining balance distributed to field by target share	80.1%	0.0%	

* These are items such as indicator and portfolio leads and QA leads, national data coordination/reporting, NRIS support, special studies, etc. Step 5 holdback is added to step 7 allocations by unit to derive final unit allocation.

FIA Budget and Strategic Target Budget

YEAR	BUDGET	TARGET
1997	\$20M	\$72M ALL STATES 7-east/10-west cycle
1999	\$33M	\$72M
2001	\$48M	\$72M
2004	\$56M	\$72M
2009	\$65M	\$72M
2011	\$71M	\$78M Target updated for inflation
2015	\$70M	\$78M Original Plan (Option A and B in 2015 Plan)
2016	\$75M	\$78-92M (Option C is \$14million)
2017	CR (PB-\$77M)	\$78-92M (TPO, Carbon, Ownership, LU/LC, Urban)

Tracking Budget & Field Costs/Agreement

2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016

FIA Appropriation in Millions

65.5 71.8 71.4 69.1 65.5 66.8 70 75

Field Expenses in Millions

28.2 29.7 30.9 28.4 26.7 27.6 26.5 30.9

State Grants and Agreements in Millions

6.9 7.3 8.0 7.5 5.3 7.1 5.2 8.4

Business Report Time Stamp

	NRS	SRS	IW-RM	PNW
2001	14 states	10 states	2 states	2 states
2005	24 states	11 states	5 states	3.5 states
2011	all 24	all 13	all 8	3.5/5
2016	same	same	same	Add interior AK

Appropriation in 2011 was \$71.4M, in 2016 \$75M

In FY16 FIA station distributions reflect first area update since early 2000's (reflects more acres in SRS and interior AK)

2011	\$17.16M	\$16.44M	\$14.7M	\$14.89M
2016	\$16.9M	\$17.65M	\$13.8M	\$15.96M

FTE's & 2015 Strategic Plan Expectations

YR/Option	Label	Total	Feds	States	% Partner
2010	Actual	597	392	205	34
2011	Actual	598	397	201	33
2013	Actual	550	366	184	33
2015	Actual	523	338	185	35
2016	Actual	565	352	213	37
A	Is 2013 baseline at \$66.5M				
B	Is 2011 baseline at \$71.4M				
C-TPO, LU/LC, Carbon, NWOS, Urban			408	228	36

Federal Hiring Freeze Impact

SRS	11 FTE's	Panel creep in LA
IW-RMRS	20-25 FTE's	Panel creep
NRS	7 FTE's	Reductions in Carbon, LU/LC, NWOS
PNW	12-15 FTE's	Panel creep

Looking to alternatives to federal hiring

Immediate impact is doing less with more money

More funding for data collection agreements

SRS looking to upfront state agreements at full annual level

FY 2017 FIA Budget Example (000 \$)

Process Step	Share	Balance
1. Initial budget total from R&D Budget Officer		77,000
2. Deduction for WO staff/overhead costs	875	76,125
3. Holdback for ASC charges	6,550	69,575
4. IRDB accounts	2,500	67,075
5. Interior Alaska national priority	2,500	64,575
6. Unit National responsibilities*	1,900	62,675
7. Holdback in R15 for contingencies, unused to field by June	1,001	61,674
8. Remaining balance distributed to field by target share	61,674	0

**Step 5 National responsibility holdback added to step 7 allocations by unit to derive final unit allocation*

Step 6 Contingency holdback funds that are unallocated must be distributed to units by June each year



Role of Executive Leadership

- **Advocate for value of FIA and need for full funding** *this means for the entire national program*
- **Acknowledge the limits of less than full funding** *there is NO MORE WITH LESS option in the Strategic Plan*
- **Acknowledge with partners and clients the fair distribution of resources** *if you want your boat to rise then you must fully support all boats rising...*

Questions on the Path Forward????