Lesson 14 –Objectives and Requirements

Estimated time to complete: 45 minutes

In this lesson, you will learn about:

- The Objectives tab in WFDSS and what types of tasks are performed there.
- The role Fire Management Units (FMUs) play in decision making.
- Strategic Objectives and Management Requirements: what they are and where they come from.
- Incident Objectives and Incident Requirements: what they are and why you develop them.
- Publishing Incident Objectives and Incident Requirements.

The lesson contains 5 exercises that teach you how to:

- Determine which FMUs intersect the planning area you drew for your training incident.
- Identify what types of values and/or resources need to be addressed in the incident objectives and requirements by reviewing and evaluating the:
    - Strategic Objectives and Management Requirements for each FMU that intersects the planning area.
    - Values Inventory.
- Develop Incident Objectives and Incident Requirements for your training incident that:
    - Tier off of the Strategic Objectives and Management Requirements for each FMU that intersects the incident's planning area.
    - Address values identified in the Values Inventory.

Objectives and Requirements

The Objectives tab is where Incident Owners and Editors:

- View and evaluate Strategic Objectives and Management Requirements applicable to an incident's planning area.
- Develop Incident Objectives and Incident Requirements that tier off the broader Strategic Objectives and Management Requirements and address values identified in the Values Inventory.

FMUs for each federal agency and Strategic Objectives and Management Requirements, derived from a unit's Land, Resource, and Fire Management Plans and spatially linked to each FMU, are uploaded into WFDSS by a Data Manager well ahead of fire season.

When a planning area is drawn, the Strategic Objectives and Management Requirements for each FMU that the planning area intersects are auto-populated into the decision and available for reviewing on the Objectives tab. Decision makers develop decision content (Incident Objectives and Incident Requirements, Course of Action, etc.) that is commensurate with this direction, which ensures that decision content supports guidance provided in planning documents for the affected unit(s).

Changes in the planning area typically result in changes to the list of FMUs that the planning area intersects. If a different set of FMUs intersects the planning area, then a different set of Strategic Objectives and Management Requirements is likely applicable, warranting a review of each and potential additions and/or exclusions of Incident Objectives and/or Requirements.

Occasionally, values identified in Strategic Objectives and Management Requirements are not physically located in the planning area, and Incident Owners may decide to not address these values in the Incident Objectives or Incident Requirements. If you determine this to be the case, use the Decision Editor to document why a value is not addressed in the decision content. You can do this once a pending decision is created on the Decisions tab.

Determining Which FMUs Intersect the Planning Area

When you draw a planning area for an incident, you can determine which FMUs the planning area intersects in one of two ways.

- From the Situation map, an Incident Owner or Editor can view the FMU map layers for each unit that intersects the planning area, or
- From the FMU List menu option, any WFDSS user can view the list of FMUs that the planning area intersects.

Whichever way you choose, determining which FMUs intersect the planning area helps you understand how the list of Strategic Objectives and Management Requirements was generated for your consideration on the Objectives tab, and why you need to address each when you develop Incident Objectives and Incident Requirements.

Either option also provides a convenient way for you to quickly identify other units that might be affected by or have decision-making responsibilities for a particular incident. This is particularly important for incidents that cross jurisdictional boundaries, so that you can ensure that all the stakeholders are kept apprised of the situation and have the appropriate level of incident privileges.

Viewing FMUs included in a Planning Area from the Situation Map

Incident Owners and Editors can determine which FMUs intersect an incident's planning area spatially on the Situation map (only Incident Owners and Editors can view the current planning area for a pending decision). When viewing FMUs from the Situation map, WFDSS can only display all FMUs for one unit at a time. In addition, if you move the map to a different unit collapse and re-expand the FMU layer to view the FMUs for the new location.

If you determine the planning area to be the wrong size or shape, you can redraw the planning area to re-sample the pre-loaded FMUs. If you have questions about the pre-loaded FMU data or changes are required, contact the Data Manager for the unit.

To view the FMUs included in a planning area from the Situation map:

1. From the Incident List, select the incident that you would like to view the planning area and associated FMUs for.
2. Click **Assess Situation**. The Situation map appears.
3. Select the **Incident** Layers, and then select **Planning Areas > Current**. The current planning area will be visible on the map.
4. Select the **Boundaries** Layers, and then select the + sign beside **FMUs**. A list of units will appear that are applicable to the current zoom level of the map display.
5. View the **All FMUs** option for each unit in the list. You can only view the FMUS for one unit at a time.

6. Make a note of which units and FMUs you find that intersect the planning area.

Viewing the FMU List for an Incident

From the FMU List menu option, any WFDSS user can view the list of FMUs that intersect a planning area, as well as determine how many acres of each FMU the planning area includes. This is the quickest and easiest way to determine, at a glance, which FMUs are affected by a fire and which administrative units may have decision-making responsibilities for an incident.

To view the FMU list for an Incident:

1. From the Incident List, select the incident that you would like to view the FMU List for.
2. Click **View Information**. The Incident Information page appears.
3. From the left menu, choose **FMU List**. The FMU List page appears and the primary GA, agency and unit are listed.
4. To view all of the FMUs associated with the incident, scroll down to the **FMUs for Incident** section.

Creating Incident Objectives and Requirements

On the Objectives tab, Incident Owners and Editors develop Incident-specific Objectives and Requirements that are based on:

- Current policy
- Content in the Strategic Objectives and Management Requirements
- Values identified in the area of the fire

The intent of the Incident Objectives and Incident Requirements are to provide more detailed information specific to the area of the fire than the overarching Strategic Objectives and Management Requirements from the land, resource, or fire management plans for the unit(s) affected by the incident. Developing Incident Objectives and Requirements in this way 'anchors' your decision to the intent expressed in the Strategic Objectives and Management Requirements, and ultimately, the intent of your overarching land, resource, or fire management plan. Taking policy and local values into consideration in addition helps ensure that content is specific to the incident and the area of the fire.

When developing Incident Objectives and Requirements, do the following:

- Identify what types of values and/or resources need to be addressed:
  - Review the Strategic Objectives and Management Requirements
  - Review the Values Inventory
  - Obtain local knowledge
- Develop Incident Objectives and Requirements that:
  - Tier from the over-arching Strategic Objectives and Management Requirements
  - Address values included in the Values Inventory
  - Address values known by locals

You can also draw or upload objective shapes that provide a spatial link to Incident Objectives and/or Requirement. All Incident Objectives must be documented and achievable.

Although you can choose to include or exclude Incident Objectives and Requirements from pending decisions, you do not have the choice to include or exclude Strategic Objectives and Management Requirements. Values identified in each of these items must be addressed in a pending decision, either in the Incident Objectives and/or Incident Requirements or added to the decision content using the Decision Editor. You can add, as appropriate, supporting text, data and analyses using the Decision Editor, but only after a pending decision is created on the Decisions tab.

The tables below show examples of the types of information you might find in the Strategic Objectives and Management Requirements, the Values Inventory, and from local knowledge. It also shows types of Incident Objectives and Incident Requirements that you might develop to address each item. You will develop Action Items (together comprise the Course of Action) to address each Incident Objective and Requirement you create in a future WFDSS 101 lesson.

Strategic Objectives	Incident Objectives
Measures for the protection of cultural resources from vandalism & natural destruction will include regular inspection and, where necessary, electronic monitoring.	Minimize suppression related impacts to Sandia Wilderness Area, and natural and cultural resources in David Canyon.
Allow fire to play a natural role in Wilderness	
Protect public & private facilities to prevent loss through wildfire.	Provide for FF and public safety. Prevent loss and damage to all private and public facilities within and near the fire area that include the Visitor's Center and Cedro Campground.
Increase the public awareness of the necessity to use fire as a management tool. Accomplish through news releases, etc.	Ensure timely and accurate information on the fire status, strategies, and potential smoke impacts to local communities, the public, and adjacent land managers.
Management Requirements	Incident Requirements
Use of appropriate responses with the intent of minimizing the loss of natural resources & improvements, protecting cultural & historic resources & checking fire spread onto private property	Actions taken on the fire will minimize loss and damage to resources. Utilize MIST tactics. Get approval from District Ranger before using mechanical equipment in Sandia Wilderness.
Mechanical equipment in Wilderness must be authorized prior to use.	
Limit access to military withdrawal area to existing maintained roads.	To reduce risk to firefighters, do not leave maintained road system in the withdrawal area.
Smoke management & air quality requirements & reporting procedures for Bernalillo County & NMED where applicable will be followed.	Air quality and smoke management requirements and reporting will be met.

Table 1: Examples of Strategic Objectives and associated Incident Objectives

To Review Strategic Objectives and Management Requirements for your Training Incident:

1. From the Incident list, select the incident you want to develop review Strategic Objectives and/or Requirements for.
2. Click **View Information**. The Edit Incident page appears.
3. Select **Objectives**. The Objectives page appears.
4. Select the checkboxes beside Strategic Objectives and Management Requirements, and then click **Apply Filter**. The list of Strategic Objectives and Management Requirements for each FMU that intersects the planning area appears.

Values Inventory

Values identified in the Values Inventory can be addressed in new Incident Objectives or previously created Incident Objectives. The Incident Objectives below have been reused from the table above because each is general enough to address the values identified in the Values Inventory. Whether you take a lumping or splitting approach to developing Incident Objectives and Requirements is up to you. There is no 'right' way to do it.

Values Inventory	Incident Objectives
62 Communication towers	Prevent loss and damage to all private and public facilities within and near the fire area.
14 miles of Electric Transmission Lines	
Building clusters	
2000 acres of cattle allotments	Ensure timely and accurate information on the fire status, strategies, and potential smoke impacts to local communities, the public, and adjacent land managers.

Table 2: Examples of Values derived from the Values Inventory and associated Incident Objectives

To Review the Values Inventory Results:

1. From the Incident list, select the incident for which you want to develop review Strategic Objectives and/or Requirements.
2. Click **Assess Situation**. The Situation Map appears.
3. Click the + to expand the Incident Layers, and then the Planning Areas.
4. Click the expansion arrow beside Current.
5. Click Values Inventory. A separate window appears that contains the list of values that intersect the current planning area.

Local Knowledge

Local Knowledge is the third potential source of values that need to be addressed in the Incident Objectives and Incident Requirements. There may be local events planned that you are unaware of, or values that you've already addressed in the Course of Action that need to be addressed in the Incident Objectives. As local values are typically not identified in WFDSS, it is up to you to locate and identify these values.

Local Knowledge	Incident Objectives
Local bike race scheduled this weekend	Provide for FF and public safety. Ensure timely and accurate information on the fire status, strategies, and potential smoke impacts to local communities, the public, and adjacent land managers.
Annual Rainbow gathering scheduled for following weekend	

Table 3: Examples of Values derived from local knowledge and associated Incident Objectives

Using the examples above for guidance, and the information you gleaned from the Strategic Objectives, Management Requirements, Values Inventory, and local knowledge (if applicable) for your training incident, develop Incident-specific Objectives and Requirements that relate directly to your incident.

To create Incident Objectives and Requirements:

1. From the Incident list, select the incident you want to develop Incident Objectives and/or Requirements for.
2. Click **View Information**. The Edit Incident page appears.
3. Select **Objectives**. The Objectives page appears.
    a. To develop **Incident Objectives**, do the following:
        i. Mark the Strategic and Incident Objective checkboxes, and then click **Apply Filter**. The list of Strategic and Incident Objectives appears. No Incident Objectives appear in the list if none have been created.
        ii. Click **Create Incident Objective**. The Create Incident Objective page appears.
        iii. Enter a description of the objective and be specific. Incident Objectives contain incident-specific content that tier off of the broader Strategic Objectives.
        iv. Click **Save**. A message appears saying that the objective has been added.
        v. When finished entering Incident Objectives, click **Return**. The Objectives list reappears with the newly added objectives at the top of the list.
    b. To develop **Incident Requirements**, do the following:
        i. Mark the Management and Incident Requirement checkboxes, and then click **Apply Filter**. The list of Management and Incident Requirements appears. No Incident Requirements will appear in the list if none have been created.
        ii. Click **Create Incident Requirement**. The Create Incident Requirement page appears.
        iii. Enter a description of the requirement and be specific. Incident Requirements contain incident-specific content that tier off of the broader Management Requirements.
        iv. Click **Save**. A message appears saying that the requirement has been added.
        v. When finished entering Incident Requirements, click **Return**. The requirements list reappears with the newly added requirements at the top of the list.
4. To include the Incident Objectives and/or Requirements in your decision, ensure there is a YES beside each in the **Included** column. If there is not a yes, select the objective or requirement from the list, and then click **Include**.

Publishing Incident Objectives and Incident Requirements

When an Incident Objective or Requirement is published in a decision for the first time, it becomes activated and is time-stamped with the date the decision is published. Incident Objectives and/or Requirements can be reused in or excluded from future decisions. If an Incident Objective or Requirement is excluded from a future decision, the Incident Objective or Requirement becomes deactivated and is not available for use in future decisions. If you want to include it in a future decision, you must recreate it.

Deactivation is not the same thing as deletion. Incident Objectives and Requirements are deactivated by the WFDSS application when you exclude them from a decision, but they cannot be deleted because they were included in a previously published decision. You can only delete Incident Objectives and Requirements that have not been included in a published decision.

Search for these related topics in the Help

- Incident Objectives and Requirements
- Creating Incident Objectives and Requirements
- Decision Content: Objectives
- Editing Incident Objectives and Requirements
- Deleting Incident Objectives and Requirements
- Creating Objective Shapes
- Associating Shapes with Objectives and Requirements
- Viewing Objective Shape Associations
- Editing Objective Shape Associations