

## Dispatch Location FAQs

Compilation of Questions from Geographic Area Briefings

NO.	FPA SUBJECT AREA	ANSWER BY	QUESTION / COMMENT ANSWERS
1.	Dispatch Location	FPA Core	<p>Can the system answer questions about station or airbase closures in terms the (state) legislature could understand?  <b>Yes.</b>  <b>FPA is an analysis tool that could be used in a planning context. The system has the ability analyze “what if” scenarios. Separate analyses with specific purpose can be run, and the results compared and displayed for decision makers.</b></p>
2.	Dispatch Location	FPA Core	<p>How will existing guard stations, dispatch locations, be looked at if they are in the same FMU?  <b>Dispatch Locations are associated to the FPU and not to any specific FMU. Fire Management Units can associate with any number of dispatch locations. An FMU may have only one workload point, but many dispatch locations.</b>            Should the FMU be subdivided?  <b>This is very situation specific. Additional guidance on FMU development is forthcoming.</b>            Is program leadership incorporated within Phase I or the preparedness analysis?  <b>Yes.</b>  <b>Program Leadership associated with initial response will be included in FPA-PM.</b></p>
3.	Dispatch Location	FPA Core	<p>The dispatch facility limitation does not appear to allow for identifying needs beyond the maximum capacity. How does this program allow for needed expansion of facility capacity and increased needs? With enough funding, you can build anything.  <b>The system accommodates the potential for expansion or addition of fire facilities. Extended capacity is defined in terms of both physical capability (how many fire resources) and capital cost for acquisition or construction. The fire planner inputs extended capacity and it gets analyzed through the optimization.</b></p>



4.	Dispatch Location	FPA Core	<p>What dispatch location is used for engines that are usually patrolling?</p> <p><b>Since you don't know where the patrolling resources will be at any given point in time, a simplifying assumption is that travel time is calculated from a single dispatch location to the various workload points.</b></p> <p>FPA optimizes everything including fire behavior. Is there a built in "fudge factor" that accounts for the fact that reality is never optimized?</p> <p><b>FPA does not optimize fire behavior. Fire Behavior is a simulation. FPA-PM is a strategic model to determine preparedness budgets, and is not tactical.</b></p> <p><b>If by fudge-factor you are referring to adjustments to input values that will improve confidence in the output values, we call this process validation.</b></p>
5.	Dispatch Location	Core Team	<p>Please confirm: WP is where the randomly chosen fire occurs within the FPU?</p> <p><b>I would say it this way... the workload point is used to calculate travel times.</b></p> <p>DL is location from which fire resources is dispatched from, not where dispatcher office is located?</p> <p><b>Correct. Please see the FPA glossary.</b></p>
6.	Dispatch Location	Core Team	<p>If we identify dispatch locations, will FPA move dispatch locations? For example, if two agencies now combined in a FPU each have a DL would FPA combine and move the DL to somewhere in between?</p> <p><b>The system does not move dispatch locations. The system has the capability to analyze various dispatch locations. If your purpose or objective of a specific analysis is to find viable dispatch locations this can be done through "what if" scenarios.</b></p>