

## **Suggestions on FIMT Editing for Combined GDBs on Multiple Fires (Complexes)**

### **Question:**

What are your recommendations for managing a developing complex in FIMT? Should a new GDB be created for each new fire, or should they be additional records in the existing GDB? The transition from a single incident to a complex is often a confusing time for everyone.

### **Answer:**

Below are descriptions of handling the problem both ways with advantages and disadvantages for each scenario. Since this is not an easy, one answer fits all cases, please read thoroughly to be sure the information is fully understood.

### **Separate GDBs**

Recommendation is to handle individual fires in separate GDBs for the short term. This is not too much trouble if there is only a handful. However, this gets very hard with more incidents. From personal experience, the break off is either three or four fires.

#### Advantages:

- All reports are for only the one incident GDB
- If a new team is assigned one of the fires, data is transferred easily
- Fire FTP site can have separate data for the specific incident
- FIMT defaults work well

#### Disadvantages:

- Have to ensure which GDB is being edited (using FIMT tools)
- Ensure work on each fire is completed separately
- Have to load data separately for combined maps

### **Combined GDB**

When there are many fires (more than 3), separated GDBs begin to become too much of a management issue. Loading all data into one GDB is the best way to conduct business. This can be a problem, but can be done without too much work. Users have to be careful because of the linking between Polygon / PerimeterSector / AssignmentBreak feature classes. Need to be sure no Polygon\_IDs are the same before loading or users have to copy polygons in and recreate PerimeterSector and AssignmentBreaks.

#### Advantages:

- No issue with determining what GDB to edit
- No management issue

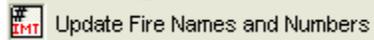
#### Disadvantages:

- Reports are for all fires totaled
- Handoff to new team for some fires would be more complex
- No ability to store FTP data for each fire - one set of data
- FIMT defaults will have to be changed
- Management of feature metadata fields must be maintained manually

## FIMT Editing for Combined GDBs on Multiple Fires (Complexes)

In order to change default settings, the automatic loading of the Fire Information on each feature needs to be turned off. Process steps are:

- Ensuring Editing is on
  - Click on the FIMT pull down
  - Click on the Update Fire Names and Numbers
- Under the FIMT menu pull down, the Update Fire Names and Numbers is displayed as:



the icon shows it is depressed (enabled)

- Next a window will appear
- Uncheck the Auto Update box
- Click OK button



the icon is not depressed and shows red as a warning

The editor can now edit the fields manually for selected FirePolygons, PerimeterSectors, FireLines, FirePoints, and AssignmentBreaks.

- ✓ Unit\_Id
- ✓ Fire\_Num
- ✓ Fire\_Name