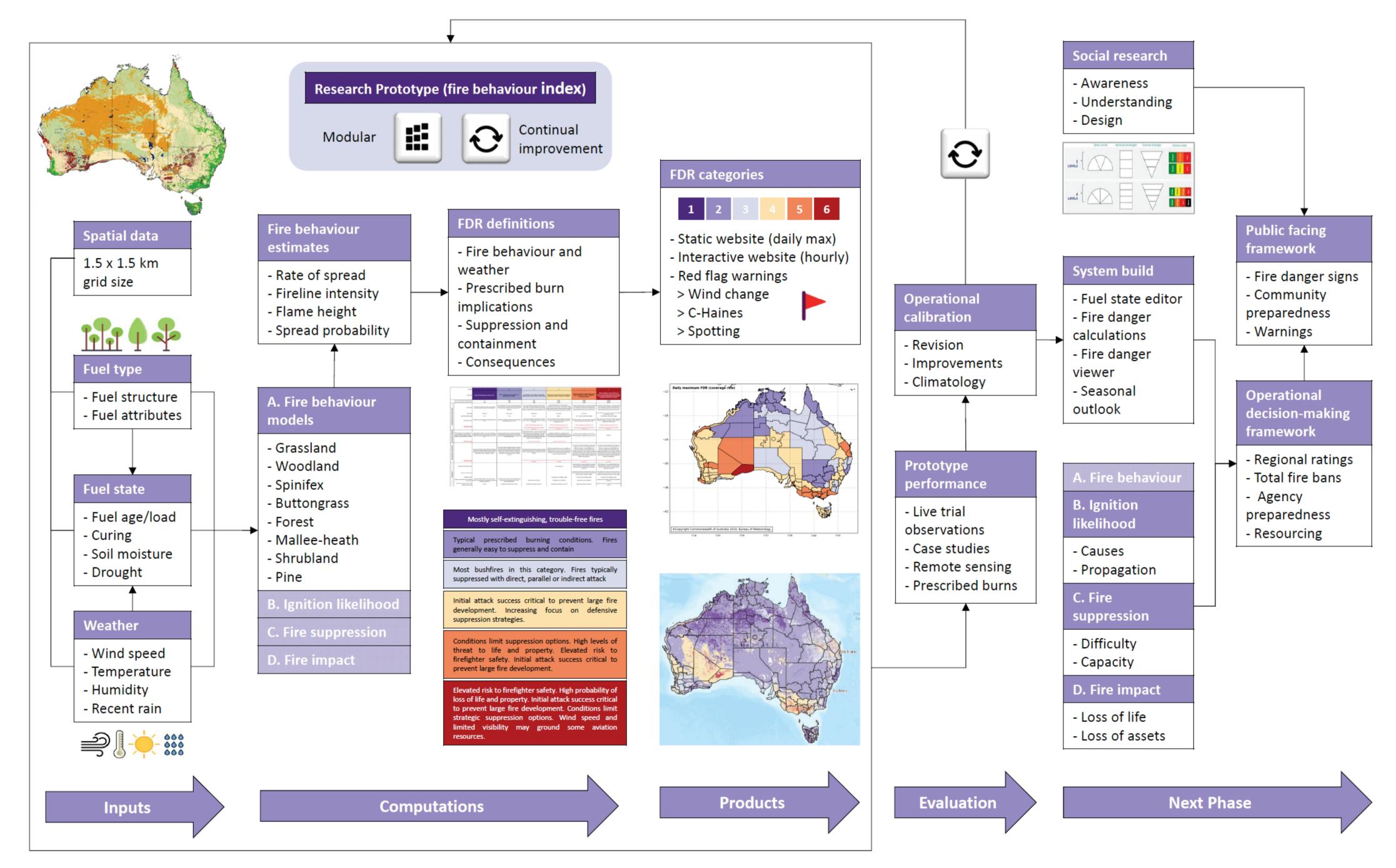


The Australian Fire Danger Rating System

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- The Australian Fire Danger Rating System Program is building a new fire danger rating system.
- The initial stage of this program saw the build of the Research Prototype; a newly created Fire Behaviour Index based on calculations from operationally ready fire spread models.
- It meets the criteria of being national, modular and open to continuous improvement.



A NATIONAL SYSTEM

The AFDRS is a spatially explicit system which uses multiple spatial data inputs, including:

- A fuel type grid linked to detailed fuel attribute data;
- Grids representing the current state of fuel; and
- Weather forecast grids.

A MODULAR SYSTEM

- Fire Danger Rating definitions and calculations are the first component to be implemented.
- Future work will expand the system to include ignition, suppression, and impact indices.

A BETTER SYSTEM

- A trial of the Research Prototype showed that the system was more accurate than the current rating system.
- Lessons from future fires will be used to continually modify and improve the system.









