

Density Management Studies
Site Coordinator/Principal Investigator Conference Call
8/29/03

Present: Paul Anderson, Sam Chan, John Cissel, Art Emmons, Craig Kintop, Larry Larsen, Andy Moldenke, Dede Olson, Peter O'Toole, Klaus Puettmann, Hugh Snook

Updates

1. John Cissel

- Treatment tags have been ordered
- Have created and will maintain a tours and event spreadsheet and a publications tracking document for the DMS. Please send notice to me whenever you participate in an event or create a publication, report, or poster.
- CFER will be providing support to the DMS, especially through Janet Erickson (CFER outreach specialist), including an article in the upcoming CFER newsletter
- BLM 2004 budget process (PTA) will include funds for the DMS vegetation, microclimate/microsite, and aquatic vert work, and will include language in the directives for host districts to continue supporting the DMS as outlined in the DMS Roles document, and some language specific to the need to get our GIS coverages put together and site histories cleaned up. More on both to come later.
- Have been unsuccessful so far in coming up with the electronic version of the DMS poster; one more person to try
- Steering Committee is interested in having a structured look at how well our ongoing measurements match with our objectives. I'll be working on that this fall as well.

2. Andy Moldenke

- Finished pitfall trapping and removed traps
- Discussed effects of thinning on soil biota and work needed on this topic; i.e., thinning increases soil moisture & soil metabolic rate, which is a major driver of plant growth in late summer and fall. Potential to couple soil moisture work to gap and leave island gradient work Klaus is leading on some sites. Sam is also working on this as part of his Headwaters work.
- Could use funding to support analysis of aquatic invertebrate response to thinnings; Andy collected the data while he was on site, even though he wasn't funded to do so.

3. Sam Chan

- Completed all microclimate measurements & working on datasets
- Will have summary report on initial findings by 9/30/03 on the microclimate work
- Almost finished microsite measurements, will complete Green Peak this fall
- Would like to have more topographic data along transects

- Recently presented the DMS work to a IUFRO working group on large-scale experiments in Davos, Switzerland. This group will have a large workshop in Portland in 8/04, and likely will visit a DMS site at that time.

4. Dede Olson

- Year 5 measurements now completed on 13 sites, 5 measured this year
- Two publications just came out: Chris Sheridan (Coos Bay BLM ecologist) & Dede on headwater amphibian assemblages in the Coast Range, and Dave Rundio and Dede on Pacific Giant Salamander and cutthroat trout interactions
- Three other publications are submitted or almost ready for submission (upslope amphibian response to thinning, salamander habitat associations, and in-stream sampling methodology)
- Dave Rundio has a new job with NOAA Fisheries in Santa Barbara
- Dede has hired a new post doc, Nobe Suzuki, to partially replace Dave Rundio. Nobe will be working on two manuscripts on the effects of thinning on small mammals and amphibians from his previous work, then start right in on DMS work
- Stephanie Wessell, with Andy's help, have finished her invert ID work. Stephanie is working on data management and analysis and hopes to defend her thesis in December
- Loretta Ellenburg's term appointment has ended, and she was hired on a new term appointment for PNW. Dede anticipates (hopes) that Loretta will be able to continue some DMS work next year
- The funds for the Coop Agreement with Klaus may have fallen victim to "fire transfer"
- Working with Ed Reilly and Dave Clayton on a proposal for the Applegate AMA looking at the effects of thinning and fuels reduction on Siskiyou Mt. Salamander, to be submitted for the S&M strategic survey program
- Participated with Sam and Hugh on a field trip to Green Peak with a Chinese science and management delegation

5. Klaus Puettmann

- New, randomly located plots (21/treatment) have been installed at OMH, BL, and KM
- Vegetation measurements are complete on these plots; tree measurements are underway, hope to complete by the end of October
- Will also remeasure the trees on the old plots for these sites
- And will remeasure trees on 2 rethinning sites (KF, SC)
- Gap gradient work initiated at BL, from gap centers out on the 3 largest and 3 smallest gaps
- New post doc, Shanti Berryman, will arrive on 10/7; Shanti will be working full-time on DMS work
- Vegetation crew did GPS plot centers
- Need to work on defining future treatments

6. Paul Anderson

- Sam covered his interests; Paul expects to get engaged in the microclimate and microsite analysis

7. Larry Larsen

- Larry has some year-end dollars available (NOTE - he and I are working on a couple of DMS needs relative to these funds)
- Do we have a shared vision? (there was an analogy with the space shuttle Challenger in there somewhere.....maybe Larry can clarify at some point??)

8. Hugh Snook

- Regular lock has been returned to Green Peak gate
- Will be a thinning sale on the road to Green Peak that will be operating in 2004 (a second thinning designed to attain ~80 TPA); should not significantly affect access
- SC botany contract work complete
- Working on GIS product

9. Peter O'Toole

- BL and OMH botany contract complete
- Art Emmons provide three dataloggers and debugging assistance to the vegetation crew
- What is needed for the GIS product? Standards, accuracy? (Answer - we are working that out now with Green Peak as test site - will need follow-up work session with all site coordinators when this work is complete)
- How many workmonths are needed for DMS in 04? (Answer - plan on 1 month per initial thinning site)

10. Craig Kintop

- Also concerned with GIS work - should he wait to proceed until the Green Peak work is settled? (Answer - yes)
- OMH and LW were used as templates for density management for two local field tours this summer

Follow-up - John Cissel

What do folks think about the frequency of meetings, whether they should be face-to-face or by conference call, and whether folks would attend several two-day meetings over several years so folks could get out to visit field sites on all four districts??

Consensus - one face-to-face meeting a year is good, and one conference call a year. Field visit only when it would be useful to make some decisions about a topic, e.g., next treatments. If folks want to visit sites on other districts then contact the site coordinator on the host unit to arrange an opportunity.

Next major topic - GIS coverages, will have a conference call with the site coordinators and GIS coordinators when the Green Peak work is complete.

Thanks to all for participating,
John C