

# **Notes from the Density Management Studies (DMS) Steering Committee meeting**

June 5, 2003

## **Present**

Jamie Barbour, Nancy Diaz, Julia Dougan, John Hayes, Nancy Lankford, John Cissel

## **Study objectives**

- Reviewed the draft “DMS - Objectives” handout (dated 5/20/03)
- After discussion the group decided that study objectives at this level of detail are useful as an umbrella statement; greater detail may be needed to evaluate individual funding proposals
- Agreed to modify the objectives in the following ways: change reference to BLM lands to low-elevation managed west-side forests; clarify that the study is focused on stand-level effects; remove the social acceptability objective to focus on outreach and interaction rather than study; remove the economic effects objective since we are not doing anything to meet this objective at this time; clarify the educational objective by adding primary audiences and removing specific methods; and add more emphasis to the adaptive management objective
- Revised study objectives attached

## **Communication and outreach**

- Reviewed the draft “DMS Communication and Outreach Strategy” handout (dated 6/4/03)
- Clarified objectives 1) Education - share practices and study results, 2) raise program awareness among agency field and program managers about importance to future management. This second objective is of high importance over the next 6-12 months
- Clarified key messages 1) need to complete ongoing work, get peer-reviewed publications, 2) multiple partners involved, 3) many opportunities to add value to ongoing work and expand studies of density management effects
- Clarified that the primary audiences are agency land managers, regulatory agencies, and policy makers - this is where outreach energy should be focused, respond to other audiences on an opportunistic basis
- Added credit or non-credit courses to the methods section
- Discussed potential for having someone in the BLM or CFER develop a communication plan
- Revised outreach strategy attached

## **Funding**

- Discussed various approaches used by each institution
- BLM will employ multiple strategies - pursue FY03 year end dollars, FY 04 program requests, and FY 04 Applications of Science proposals; identify ways to

- integrate into long-term budget process; John C will convene state office program managers to coordinate
- Discussed PNW funding processes; Jamie will follow-up with affected program managers and report back on desired next steps and related timing

**Next meeting**

After considerable discussion concerning the topic of our next meeting we concluded that PNW funding and any necessary information sharing, discussion, and support actions are the highest priority. Jamie was to follow-up and report back to us on the timing of next steps. A field trip some time in August was discussed, but not scheduled before hunger overwhelmed the senses.

Your scribe,  
John C

P.S. I shared the above discussions and overall study status with Gary Larson (USGS) at a subsequent one-on-one meeting