

## AERIAL SURVEY/DISTURBANCE TRACKING FOCUS GROUP

Welcome to Purgatory!

Standard Reporting for Aerial Survey

Review Focus Group Resolutions from 2008

Won't talk too specifically about the Standards, but about how the data is rolled up, reported and analyzed.

First will present

Review left off last year – Consistency, Coverage, Quality

Update of National Standards – tabled, picking up today

PTIPS list – review/renovate/maintain

Ground Checking

Flown/Not Flown,,,Surveyed/Not Surveyed

Coverage map

Differences in Mortality Coding

TPA or pattern and severity

Multi-Agent

Coding of similar phenomena different ways

PTIPS List—Manfred

Still a work in progress

Initial cleanup has been done, errors corrected, process for adding new

Multi-user/many uses, various programs

Committee will accept and decide on new additions, etc.

Can't start over, must revise due to historical use

May regroup agents but will crosswalk to past uses

Need to be able to match up organisms in any database that uses it

Over 900 entries currently on list

Frank Krist is keeper of the list

No blanks in common or scientific names now

Sci name changes and link to old name (number stays the same)

Multi-agents?

Metadata for DASM

Data assists users of ADS data—utility of the data for analysis or mapping

Some idea of the quality of data

Metadata software input screen (defaults would be valuable?)

Data must be attached to individual polygons

MODIS disturbance change—an aid to aerial surveyors

Envision a web site, Forest Disturbance Mapper, displays of normal greenup pattern; 8-day change

Hope to be operational next field season

Piloting in R6, GA, and MI

Noisy images, disturbance can be due to lots of phenomena

Resolution is 250

Can sensitivity of change detection be reduced? Bi-directional noise in MODIS is

high

Not intended to replace aerial survey, but assist and enhance it  
Reporting Standard “Problem”

Inconsistent roll-ups by different analysts

National and Regional roll-ups vary

Media and Congress understand different answers or complex biol. Issues

Single-Agent Issues

If other agents are actually involved, they are missed

Gypsy moth defoliation

Groups of Agents Issues

Complex Forest Resource Issues

Complexity may be recognized in codes, but inconsistent summaries could result

Decline of western 5-needle pine

Oak decline and mortality

Pinyon pine decline and mort

Subalpine fir decline and mort

Aspen decline and mort

Northern hardwood decline and mortality

How to deal with regulated pests?

Unverified SOD or oak decline?

EAB or ash decline?

Example—pinyon pine mortality, various agents, hosts, missing data

Example—5-needle western pine decline, various agents, hosts, etc.

Host/Forest Type coding, Focused survey blocks, trend tracking, etc.

FHTET writing a “booklet” with a description of the type, quality, utility of the

data

Process to sort out

Mother of all pivot tables?

How to record forest type, host spp, causal agent? How to roll up consistently?

Data analysis/reporting needs/uses for such things as Heinz Center report

**\*\*\*Data changes/corrections/clean-up needs 2-way communication from WO----  
Rs\*\*\*Rs need to use editing tool and data supplied to FHTET should be unchanged  
and just imported into the national database**

### **Resolutions**

Whereas it is difficult to consistently to roll up maps and reports of but a few forest health problems nationally be it resolved that:

1. The FHM MT, ASWG, and GIS specialists identify a list of important national forest health problems which are not now described nationally.
2. The FHM MT charter a committee to develop strategies for doing consistent, time tested roll-ups that addresses hosts and agents for these problems.

3. Review and update reporting standards (same as last year, not addressed)