Sampling and Management for Down Coarse Woody Debris in New England

Project scientists have been working with other US Forest Service scientists at the Durham Lab and at the Rocky Mountain Research Station, and with scientists from universities to improve sampling techniques for coarse woody debris. We have developed a one-day workshop of presentations and fieldwork to inform forest landowners, scientists, wildlife biologists, forest managers, and all interested people how to sample and measure down coarse woody debris. The details for our last workshop, presented at University of Maine, are below.

Contact Jeff Gove: 603-868-7667 for more information and to schedule a workshop in your area of New England.

Sampling and Management for Down Coarse Woody Debris in New England: A Workshop

100 Nutting Hall

University of Maine

Orono, ME

June 12, 2003

Motivation and Purpose

In recent years down coarse woody debris (CWD, aka down coarse woody material (CWM), down dead wood (DDW)) has become a topic of some note in the management of New England forests and beyond. It enters into the management equation in myriad ways: logging debris, seedbeds, carbon pool, wildlife habitat, fuel, etc. Unfortunately, we are still relatively uninformed and unsure just how important CWD is, and how much is "enough" in a healthy forest. More basic is the question of how best to estimate amounts of CWD, as part of a forest inventory to make informed decisions for management. While we still may not be able to answer all of the questions on the subject, recent research has made some advances in our knowledge.

The purpose of this one-day workshop is to cover the basics of what you need to know about the CWD resource in New England forests based on research accomplished to date at the Northeastern Research Station (USDA Forest Service), the University of New Hampshire and the New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands. The workshop will begin with morning presentations covering the basics of defining the CWD resource and its importance (i.e., why we should be concerned with it-why not just burn it!) on up through a look at "how much is enough" and methods for sampling CWD in the field. The afternoon session will adjourn to the field where we will measure a number of plots in crews using two different techniques. Then we will return to the "office" to analyze our results and wrap it up. The goal is for participants to take home knowledge of the importance of the resource as well as some tools for quantification. Computer programs available for analyzing simple CWD inventories will be provided and available to take home.

Agenda

8:00 - 8:25 Registration, coffee, etc.

8:25 - 8:30 Welcome - Tom Brann

8:30 - 8:50 The What and Why of CWM - Mark Ducey

8:50 - 9:10 New Hampshire's Logging Efficiency - Ken Desmarais

9:10 - 9:30 The Regional Level: Characteristics of DDW in Maine, NH and VT - Linda Heath

9:30 - 9:45 Break

9:45 - 10:05 The Effects of Management on CWM for Wildlife Habitat - Mariko Yamasaki 10:05 - 10:30 How do Silvicultural Methods Affect Amounts of CWM? - Bill Leak

10:30 - 11:00 Methods for sampling CWD: LIS - Mark Ducey

11:00 - 11:30 Methods for Sampling CWD: The Relascope Connection - Jeff Gove

11:30 - 12:00 Perpendicular distance sampling of downed CWD - Mike Williams

12:00 - 12:45 Lunch

12:45 - 2:30 Form into field crews of 3-4 individuals and head out for some sampling

2:30 - 3:30 Data entry and computer processing of field results

3:30 Final questions and comments

Adjourn

Registration

To register, contact the Office of Professional Development, University of Maine,5755 Nutting Hall, Room 201,Orono, ME 04469-5755 or http://www.forest-resources.umaine.edu/opd/workshops.htm If special accommodations are needed due to a handicap or for further information call (207) 581-2887 or FAX 581-2875. Registration deadline is five days prior to date of workshop (June 7, 2003). Cancellation deadline is ten days prior to date of workshop (No refunds will be given after June1, 2003).

We do plan to have this workshop again at other locations if there is demand for it. Please let Jeff Gove or Mark Ducey know if you have any suggestions as to future venues.

Continuing Education Credits: Usually one hour of class time is considered one hour of credit, and two hours of lab or field work is considered one hour of credit.

Instructors

- Tom Brann, Professor of Forest Resources, University of Maine, Orono, ME
- Ken Desmarais, Forester and Researcher, Fox State Forest, Hillsboro, NH.
- Mark J. Ducey, Assistant Professor, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH.
- Jeffrey H. Gove, Research Forester, US Forest Service, Northern Research Station, Durham, NH.
- Linda S. Heath, Research Forester, US Forest Service, Northern Research Station, Durham, NH.
- William B. Leak, Research Forester, US Forest Service, Northern Research Station, Durham, NH.
- Mariko Yamasaki, Research Wildlife Biologist, US Forest Service, Northern Research Station, Durham, NH.
- Mike Williams, Mathematical Statistician, US Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station, Fort Collins, CO.