

FCAT
Inventory Sub-Committee Briefing
6-15-15

Activities

- The inventory sub-committee is working to identify specific forest carbon pools and flows and recommend which land base needs to be accounted for (as in the briefing from George Gentry (BOF) at the February full FCAT meeting) and what data sources or methods are feasible.
- Data from FIA will be the main source for carbon pool estimates and trend analysis. Carbon pools **A** through **E** are the main components suitable for rigorous statistical analysis of ‘in forest’ trends by standard FIA reporting units such as forest type, ownership type, or ecoregion. Methods for estimating carbon in harvested wood products (pools **F**, **G**, and **H**) utilize other sources of aggregated information and modeling, with associated uncertainties.

Table: 1 Candidate Forest Carbon Pools

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
Owner	Soil Carbon (C)	Below ground Carbon (C)	Down Dead Carbon (C)	Above Ground Standing Dead Carbon	Above Ground Live Tree Carbon	Harvested Wood: Products Pool	Harvested Wood: Energy Pool	Harvested Wood: Landfill Pool (post use)	Harvested Wood: Substitution Benefits?	Harvested Wood Leakage?
Family Commercial Forestland	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Aggregate with all private ownership	Aggregate with all private ownership	Aggregate with all private ownership	Aggregate with all private ownership	Aggregate with all private ownership
Corporate commercial Forestland	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Aggregate with all private ownership	Aggregate with all private ownership	Aggregate with all private ownership	Aggregate with all private ownership	Aggregate with all private ownership
Private Non-commercial Forestland	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
NFS Commercial Forestland	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Aggregate with all Govt. ownership	Aggregate with all Govt. ownership	Aggregate with all Govt. ownership	Aggregate with all Govt. ownership	Aggregate with all Govt. ownership
NFS Non Commercial Forestland	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Other Federal Commercial Forestland	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Aggregate with all Govt. ownership	Aggregate with all Govt. ownership	Aggregate with all Govt. ownership	Aggregate with all Govt. ownership	Aggregate with all Govt. ownership
Other Public Commercial Forestland	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Aggregate with all Govt. ownership	Aggregate with all Govt. ownership	Aggregate with all Govt. ownership	Aggregate with all Govt. ownership	Aggregate with all Govt. ownership
Other Non-Commercial Forestland	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

NFS – National Forest System

Main points

- There is broad agreement that items **A – E** are well represented through FIA data, and are suitable for reporting trends.
- Meaningful ‘granularity’ of reporting by forest types, ownerships, and regions will vary with sample size and in accordance with FIA confidentiality rules. Statewide reporting by forest and ownership types generally satisfies desired statistical confidence and privacy protections.
- Reporting by standard FIA categories fits within PNW-FIA business operations: customized reporting for non-standard categories requires special effort and may entail delays.
- FIA data affords for consistency between FCAT inventory estimates, AB 1504 inventory estimates, and underlying data supporting the ARB GHG inventory.
- Proposed analysis currently envisions reporting only stocks and change (gains, losses) in Metric tons of Carbon or CO2 equivalents (unit of measure), does not parse to ‘sinks’ or ‘emissions’.
- Carbon accounting for Harvested Wood Products (items **F, G** and **H**) require additional data and supporting information. For these categories, uncertainties are likely greater than for ‘in-forest’ carbon pools.
- ‘Substitution’ or other indirect benefits, and ‘leakage’ associated with Harvested Wood Products (columns **I, J**) are likely important considerations in formulating strategies for the Plan. Data are limited however for these topics and there may be disagreement over quantification or accounting methodologies.

Desired Outcomes

- Complete estimate of pools with 95% confidence intervals with meaningful standard deviations (for ABG Live Tree biomass).
- Complete estimate of forest land base (all owners and Forest types)
- Ability to conduct trend analysis on an annual basis
- Consistency between FCAT, AB 1504 and AB 32 estimates of stocks and change.

Next Steps

- Inventory Subcommittee will work with BOF and ARB to discuss alignment of FCAT inventory, AB 1504 inventory and ARB estimates underpinning development of GHG inventory.
- Draft anticipated by September 2015.