

Biodiversity response to burn intensity and post-fire restoration

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Annual Accomplishments Update (October 1, 2008-September 30, 2009)[†]:

As outlined in the schedule, an additional 30 sites were selected and sites were sampled as per the proposed sampling. A total of 72 sites were surveyed for birds using bird point counts, and nest searches were conducted on the 72 sites. We located and described nest site characteristics for ~ 70 woodpecker nests of the three most common species: white-headed woodpecker (n = 21), black-backed woodpecker (n = 17), and hairy woodpecker (n = 30). We also located ~ 30 nests of secondary cavity nesters and described their nest-site characteristics. A total of 80 foraging observations were conducted on primary cavity nesters. We conducted small mammal trapping on 50 sites, and invertebrates were collected on the 30 new sites for a total of 72 sites sampled. Vegetation data was collected at all new sites, including wildlife use. Some additional data collection needs to occur at pre-existing grid sites to complete the data set for all vegetation variables for all sites, which will be completed in 2010.

Progress Report: October 1 to December 31, 2009

During this time period, we built databases for the new components of the project that are integrated with the preexisting databases from 2008 and the University of Montana database. All the small mammal, bird, and vegetation data are entered into the database and validated.

[†] This document is an intermediate progress report, not a final report; consequently, any results should be considered preliminary and should not be cited. Please contact the principal investigators or the Tahoe SNPLMA Science Program Coordinator if you have questions.