



Western Wildland Environmental Threat Assessment Center



“Early detection and prediction of the potential effects of multiple, interacting threats and stresses across a range of spatial and temporal scales”

July 2006

Background

- Since July of 2005, the Western Wildland Environmental Threat Assessment Center has made significant progress in its mission to provide early detection and prediction of the potential effects of multiple, interacting threats and stresses across a range of spatial and temporal scales.
- The Center currently has a dozen collaborative projects in place with scientists from PNW, PSW, RMRS, RSCA, FHTET, OSU, WWU, CSU, Cornell, FOTP, and Crook county, OR.

Current status

- Requesting Exec team approval to fill an Operations Research Analyst position.
- Evaluating how the shared program manager position (with Ochoco Forest Supervisor) has worked over the past year with the goal of continuing the shared position or filling a permanent position for the Center alone.
- Alan Ager, Umatilla NF, is completing his detail as operations research analyst working primarily on modeling wildfire risk.
- The Eastern and Western Centers joint MOU for collaboration with Stennis Space Center, MS, to acquire up-to-date remote sensing, spatial data and technology is nearing completion.
- The collaborative effort to produce west-wide vegetation maps (30 meter resolution) with FIA and OSU has produced the first product: a 30 meter vegetation map for Northeastern Oregon.
- Completed second meeting with potential users of Center products (Sacramento, CA).
- The National Forest Threats Conference, jointly sponsored by the Western and Eastern Centers takes place in Boulder, CO, July 18-21, 2006. On line Encyclopedia for Conference papers.
- The report on the State-of-the-Science assessment of risk assessment activities and methodologies, a product of an agreement with Cornell University, will form the basis of two invited presentations (publications) at the Threats Conference. A 2007 PNW Science Update on environmental risk assessment also will be based on this report.
- A comparison of 30 m & 250 m data resolution to be presented at Threats Conference.
- The decision support system for fire and equipment risk to soils is ready for transfer.
- Results of our joint study with Crook County GIS on weed mapping was presented at the recent FS-wide invasives conference, is available on line, and appeared in a recent media publication.
- Financial support provided for the recent PNW Biodiversity Conference and for Mexican bark beetle collaborators to attend Threats conference.

New Projects

- Five Buttes analysis w/Deschutes NF for fire and owl habitat and Air/Fire team to pilot FCCS.
- Invasive weeds and P-J expansion into sagebrush threat assessment analysis.
- Forest and range land development modeling.
- Private versus public risks & values projects.
- Relative risk assessment project In INLAS area.
- West-wide, multiple threats risk mapping.
- Environmental threats to riparian vegetation and Ecosystem Services at risk.

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