



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”

November 2007

Update of Current Activities

- **RapidSpot Fuel Reduction Training Workshop.**

In collaboration with WO Fire and Aviation Management, WWETAC sponsored a 3-day workshop in Portland OR, November 6-8, to provide training in a consistent, systematic approach for evaluating and addressing landscape level risk to integrate restoration and fuel management activities with multiple interacting threats. Over 45 participants from seven FS Regions attended.

- **Joint Fire Science Program Risk Roundtables.**

In collaboration with the Joint Fire Sciences Program, WWETAC will hold two, 2-day roundtables to gather information regarding the current knowledge and practices of evaluating wildfire risk and then prepare a scientific plan that identifies knowledge gaps and research needs. The first roundtable is scheduled for December 4-5, 2007 in Arlington, VA.

- **Workshop on Impacts of Climate Change and Forest Planning.**

WWETAC will host a workshop to explore the quantitative approaches for vegetation management and Forest planning under a changing climate. This workshop will bring together planners, land managers and climate change modelers to evaluate and document the purposes, limitations, strengths and weaknesses of the different classes of models that are being used to project future vegetation under different climate change scenarios. This invitation-only workshop will be held in Portland, OR January 23-25, 2007.

- **Joint EFETAC and WWETAC retreat.**

The Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center (EFETAC) and the Western Wildland Environmental Threat Assessment Center (WWETAC), recently convened their first joint work retreat – held September 10-14, 2007, on Pawley’s Island, SC. EFETAC hosted the event, which provided an excellent opportunity for both teams to connect across geographical boundaries and discuss projects of mutual interest as well as establish more open lines of communication.

New Activities

- **Forest Management and Climate Change.**

WWETAC is providing partial funding for this proposal developed by Pacific Northwest Station scientists and a host of other cooperators. The cooperators propose to evaluate how climate change will affect forest trees in the Pacific Northwest and then assess genetic and silvicultural options aimed at maintaining the adaptability, productivity, and value of northwest forests under a range of climate change scenarios.

- **Special Technology Development Projects.**

The Threat Assessment Centers are again providing support for special technology development projects that address needs highlighted by the Center’s goals and objectives. This national, competitive program is cosponsored by Forest Health Protection and Research and Development in the Washington Office. Terry Shaw, lead scientist at WWETAC, represents the Centers as a member of the evaluation team that reviews and selects project to be funded.

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