



## 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”*

**August 2007**

### Update of Current Activities

- **Climate Change.**

WWETAC sponsored a "standing room only" workshop on Western Forest Insects, Pathogens and Climate Change this past June. Some 35 scientists and practitioners from across the western US and Canada examined and discussed likely outcomes of forest pest activity in a changing climate throughout the West over the next century. WWETAC is also working with R&D in the WO and the RMRS to develop and host a workshop later this year dealing with the "best available science" on climate change for forests managers and planners to access and use across the US.

WWETAC will be assisting region 6 in developing a climate change strategy for the region. A the group is working in concert with R6 and PNW leadership and employees to develop approaches to sustainable operations, managing forests to adapt to climate change, carbon management and mitigation, and ecosystem services.

- **Western Riparian Threat Assessment.**

WWETAC continues to work with the FS Streams Systems Technology Center, the RMRS, and Colorado State University to assess threats to riparian systems in the West. An annotated bibliography of 500+ publications on these threats is available on the WWETAC website.

- **GMWest model for the Pacific Northwest.**

A Workshop involving Users from the states, of Oregon, Washington and Idaho as well as APHIS and the Forest Service personnel was held in early August in Portland. All in attendance now have access to the new model which will be housed in FHP, R-6. The WWETAC-sponsored project to produce 30M resolution vegetation maps was a key database for this Gypsy Moth modeling effort.

### New Activities

- **Rapid Threat Assessment on Forest Pathogens and Climate Change in the West.**

As an outcome of the recent workshop that WWETAC sponsored on Western Forest Insects, Pathogens, and Climate change, WWETAC is supporting a Rapid Threat Assessment on Pathogens and Climate Change in Western Forests, involving several pathologists in R&D, FHP, and Universities across the West.

- **RapidSpot Fuel Reduction Training Workshop.**

In collaboration with WO Fire and Aviation Management, WWETAC is sponsoring a workshop 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.

- **Fire, Bark Beetles in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.**

WWETAC is working with Dr. Monica Turner at the University of Wisconsin, Madison to validate and expand current beetle-fire predictive modeling systems. The research will produce information for use in validating and expanding current beetle-fire predictive modeling systems and the annotated bibliography will be posted on the WWETAC website.

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