

Botany: Survey and Manage Program Support

Habitat Assessments/Habitat Modeling for Analyses and Reporting

Overview

The Northwest Forest Plan (1994) and subsequent decisions (2001) marked the beginning of new considerations and requirements for national forests within the range of the northern spotted owl. Among other key elements, six new categories (A-F) were created for plants and animals associated with old-growth forests. These categories outlined the guidance and how to survey for and manage these species. Category B includes more than 200 species per the last update to the official list, the vast majority of which are fungi.

These fungi are considered rare species for which all known sites must be managed. Additionally, for any projects that propose habitat disturbing activities in old growth and are not exempt from surveys under specific circumstances, national forests must complete either equivalent effort surveys which often require four field visits over two years or document that strategic surveys have been completed for the ecological province in which the project area falls.

Project Summary

The Enterprise Program has worked with Pacific Southwest Region (Region 5) botanists, primarily from the Six Rivers National Forest, over the last six years to assist in completing strategic fungi surveys for the Klamath and Cascades provinces. This effort has involved both a field component as well as analysis, and writing. Field surveys began in 2013 and most recently occurred in 2019 on the Shasta-Trinity National Forest.

Analysis and writing have included habitat modeling, evaluating past survey data, cross-walking element occurrence information in fungi databases, such as Mycoportal and Natural Resource Information System, as well as statistical analysis and assistance with the summary report.

This collaborative effort has involved four national forests in northern California, specialists from the Pacific Northwest Region (Region 6) Interagency Special Status/Sensitive Species Program, as well as several employees within the Enterprise Program.

Next Steps

This summary report will aid in adding to the much-needed information about the species range, distribution, and habitat requirements. It will also assist managers in making better recommendations and decisions about these fascinating fungal species.



Top left: *Ramaria largentii*
(photo credit: Wendy Boes).
Bottom right: *Boletus haematinus*
(photo credit: Christian Schwartz).

For More Information

Christine West
Botanist
530-370-4755
christine.west@usda.gov

Amanda Wright
Service Line Manager
435-300-0691
amanda.wright2@usda.gov