

Project Management Plan

Project Interior Alaska Date 1/11/16

Project Goal

Goal Statement	Project Lead	Target Date
Implementation of the FIA inventory in interior Alaska	Hans/Brendt/ John C	2/2016

Expected Outcomes/Benefits/Measurable Results

Expected Outcomes & Benefits	Measurable Results
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full implementation of FIA in interior Alaska at a 1/5th sampling intensity • Establish first ever interior Alaska baseline dataset for future status and change analysis and reporting • Publication of reports summarizing status and trends of forest resource in interior Alaska • Answer key questions related to impact of climate change on vegetation of interior Alaska • Peer-reviewed science to support the ability to answer these questions • Strengthen relationships with external partners (e.g. NASA, USFWS, NPS) to enable collection of additional data (G-LiHT, full vegetation census) and support collaborative analysis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publish summary reports for interior AK inventory units • Produce xx – xx journal articles • Use journal articles to generate xx interesting articles for the public – include compelling photos and stories • State of Alaska builds capacity to conduct interior forest inventory with minimal involvement from FIA staff (PNW maintains QA/QC and oversight role) after initial 3 season ramp-up • Establishment of long-term mutually beneficial collaborative relationships with critical partners (e.g. NASA, USFWS, BLM, NPS, Native Corporations) • Incrementally publish QA/QC'd inventory unit data to the FIADB on-line for distribution to internal and external end users

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Project Deliverables

<p>Short Term Deliverables (1 year)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan 2016 field campaign (prefield, interaction with state cooperators, etc.) – 100+ plots in Tanana unit • Develop contracts and agreements necessary to transfer operating funds to State of Alaska DoF and other primary collaborators for the 2016 program of work • Evaluate imagery options to support prefield operations (ABoVE cloud, etc.) • Completion of GTR describing preliminary results from Tanana pilot project • Development of methods to use G-LiHT lidar and hyperspectral airborne measurements to improve FIA estimates • Work with CAPS to develop web page describing inventory, associated studies, publications, etc. 	<p>Long Term Deliverables (2 – 5 years)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop plans for implementation in next inventory unit (Susitna-Copper River) • Contribute to development of next generation G-LiHT instrument • Coordinate with NASA to acquire G-LiHT over next 2 inventory units • Complete the inventory of the Tanana unit by EOY 2018 • Publish GTR summarizing forest resources in Tanana inventory unit • Transfer primary management of inventory operations to AK DoF (PNW maintains QA/QC and oversight role) • Establish long-term framework and agreements for funds transfer to State of Alaska and other primary collaborators for a continuous program of work to complete subsequent interior inventory units
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Success Factors Critical to Project Success (Select 1 to 3)

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Success Factors Critical to Project Success (Select 1 to 3)

Who Is Impacted by or Invested in the Project? / Who should we collaborate with?

<p>Impacted</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public land managers (NPS, BLM, USFWS, AK DoF, AK Native Corporations) • ABoVE scientific community • National FIA program 	<p>Collaborate With</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alaska DNR Dept. of Forestry (Chris M, Doug H) • Univ. of Alaska-Fairbanks • USF&WS (John Morton, etc.) • National Park Service • NASA
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Challenges

Can Influence?	Challenges
Yes	Extreme logistical challenges – how to establish 1000s of plots, use of aviation resources, etc.
Yes	Collaboration with AK DoF – how to build capacity to establish 300+ plots per year for 10+ years
Yes	How to continue relationship with external partners (e.g. NASA) to collect state-of-the-art remote sensing data to support inventory
YES	Internal staffing deficits – Currently lack three or four (depending on how program of work is tasked) potentially critical positions; 1) Interior Operations Coordinator, Contracts and Unit Aviation Officer, 3) QA/QC

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Challenges

Can Influence?	Challenges
	Coordinator, and a dedicated Interior AK Analyst.

Assumptions

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding levels will be relatively stable (~\$2.5M/year) for 10+ years Alaska DoF will be able to hire staff to manage interior AK inventory long-term NASA partners will be able to commit to long-term collaboration and airborne collection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional analytical/scientific support provided by additional RMA hires (analyst, IM support) 2-3 interior field operations positions will be advertised and hired to support field work coordination, aviation/contracts and agreements and QA/QC requirements
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Keys for Successful Execution and Deployment

1. Develop a robust project management plan and provide dedicated project management staff support.
2. Hire or dedicate additional project staff (Interior AK Coordinator, COR/UAO, QA/QC Coordinator, Interior AK analyst, and IM personnel) as determined necessary and appropriate
3. Establish appropriate agreements for funds transfer to State of Alaska DoF, NASA, and other critical primary collaborators as determined.
4. Obtain additional funding to support science from external grants and collaborative agreements and ventures
5. Partner with FS entities (RSAC) for additional mapping and data processing support.

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Keys for Successful Execution and Deployment

6. Develop a proactive communication plan and visibility strategy to convey the relevance of project mission and results to the scientific community, end users and the general public to generate new and continued interest in and support for the project
7.
8.
9.
10.
11.

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Major Milestones (Leading Indicators for Project Completion)

Major Milestone	Milestone Leader	Due	Done
1. Develop comprehensive project management plan	John Chase	4/1/16	
2. Establish interagency agreement with NASA for G-LiHT flights and development of second generation G-LiHT instrumentation	Hans	6/15/16	
3. Submit GTR manuscript for Tanana pilot	Robert/Hans	4/15/16	
4. Set up contracts/agreements for field work in 2016 (and beyond?)	Brendt/interior coordinator	6/15/16	
5. Complete 2016 Tanana Mission (100+ plots)	Interior Project Team	09/15/16	
6. Complete Tanana Inventory Unit by EOY 2018	Interior Project Team	09/15/18	
7. Publish Tanana Inventory unit summary report	Interior Project Analysts	09/15/19	
8. Plan and complete Copper – Susitna and subsequent inventory units incrementally	Interior Project Team	??	
9. Publish Copper - Susitna and subsequent inventory unit summary reports incrementally	Interior Project Analysts	??	
10. Publish QA/QC'd inventory unit data to FIADB on-line as it becomes available for internal and external end users	IRAM/IM	As complete	

Leading Indicators for Results

Leading Indicator	Timing
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Leading Indicators for Results

Leading Indicator	Timing
1. Budget approval and timely availability of required funds	12/30/15
2. Sufficient and timely internal RMA staffing level attainment	06/01/16
3. Successful transfer of funds to State of Alaska DoF and other key partners	02/30/16
4. Realization of State of AK DoF staffing and ramp-up capability	04/30/16
5. Procurement of aviation and logistics resources for remote field operations	05/30/16

Proactive Recovery Planning

A) Brainstorm Potential Internal Breakdowns (circle 1-3 of most likely to surface)

- Staff changes (Brendt moving to TL position, timely hiring of interior AK coordinator and other critical staffing deficits)
- Budget uncertainty (funding arrives too late for setting up agreements, planning for 2016)
- State of Alaska unable to ramp up quickly enough (hiring freeze, etc.)
- Difficulty procuring sufficient accredited aviation resources

B) Recovery Plans (for 1-3 internal breakdowns most likely to surface)

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B) Recovery Plans (for 1-3 internal breakdowns most likely to surface)

- Contingency plans for interior AK coordination
- Develop plans to transfer funds quickly
- Develop plans to use existing AFSL, UAF personnel/resources in case of delays at DoF
- Explore multiple potential aviation resource providers early to ensure availability and accreditation

Next Actions

What	Who	Due	Done
1. Develop a comprehensive project management plan	John	4/1/16	
2. Submit Tanana pilot GTR	Hans	4/1/16	
3. Develop contract or agreement vehicle to transfer funds to State of Alaska DoF for 2016-18 Tanana inventory unit program of work initial ramp-up stage.	Brendt	?	
4. Place experienced detailer in Interior AK coordinator position to assist Brendt at appropriate time	Brendt	ASAP	

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Next Actions

What	Who	Due	Done
5. Determine staffing needs and begin the position qualification and hiring process to fill as soon as possible	RMA Management Team	ASAP	