

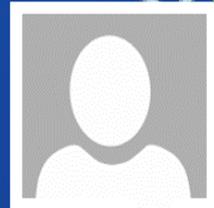
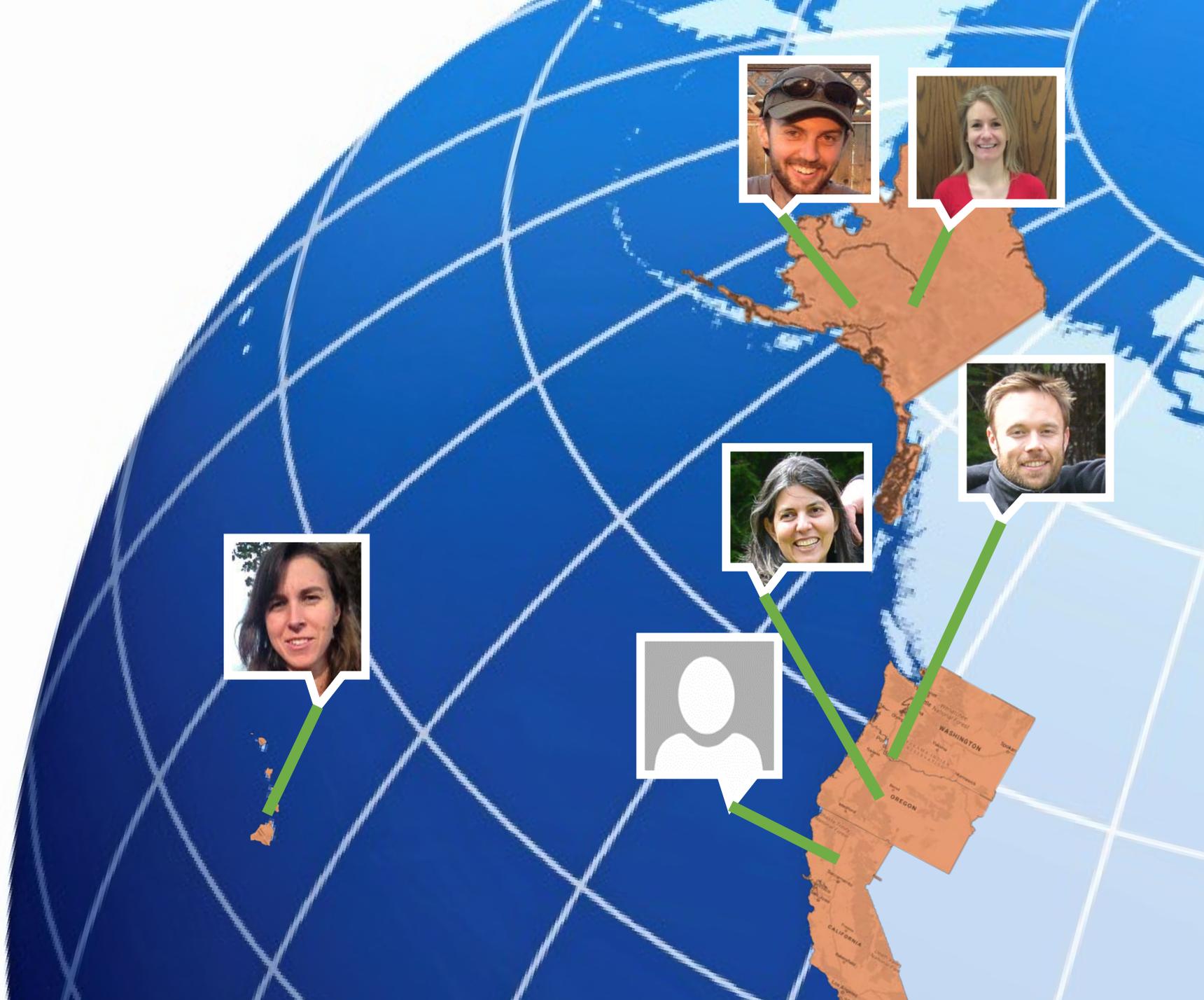


Life on Plot: a view from the field

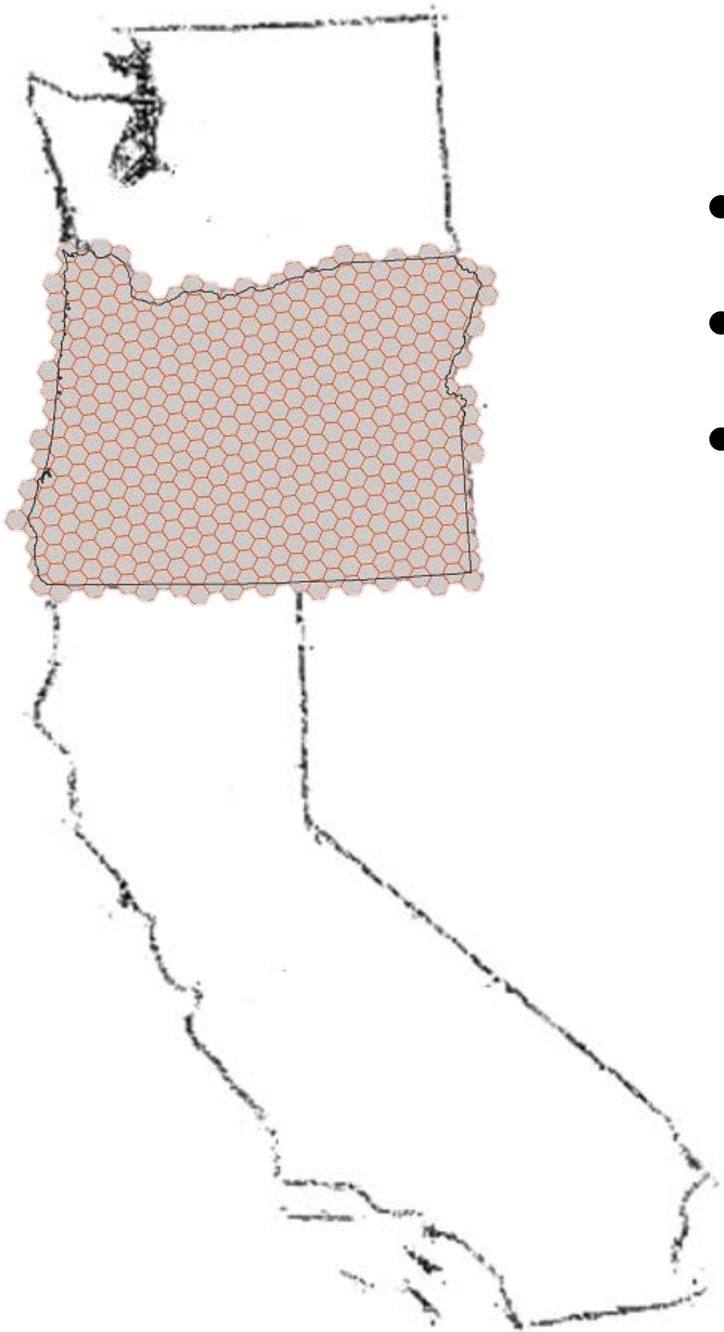
PNW-FIA Client
Meeting
Gresham, OR
October 11, 2017



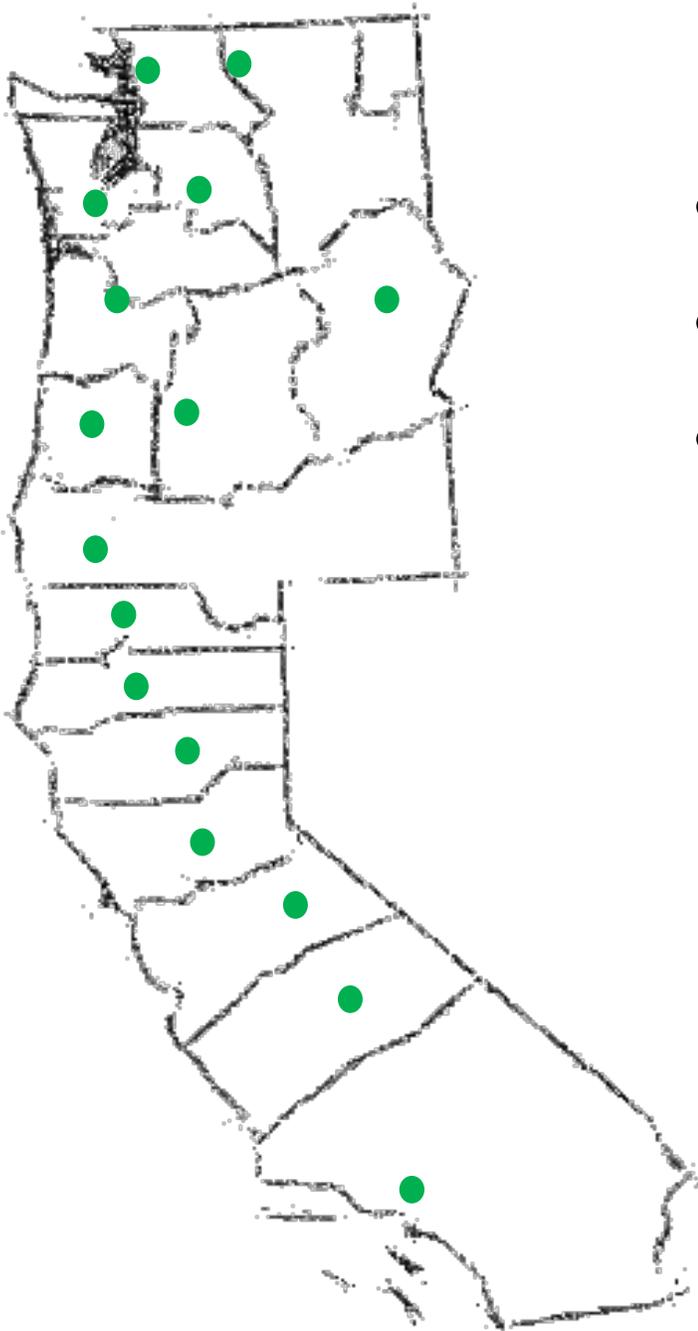
To safely collect high quality forest inventory information







- Nearly 36,000 plots on the grid
- Approximately 1800 field visited each year.
- Plots are remeasured every 10 years



- Divided into “duty stations”
- Crews of 2-4
- 80-120 plots each field season (April-Nov)

Duty stations provide crews the opportunity to really know their territory; to know roads, plants, landowners and managers, and the local national forest staff and technical experts. They live, work and play and become part of a community; we believe this enriches our ability to collect quality data.



60% permanent staff 20% temporary 20% intern/trainee

Predominately graduates with a bachelor's degree in forestry, biology, ecology, natural resources, or environmental science

Many are very experienced in forest inventory – currently 9.7 years of FIA experience on average in OR among permanent staff

Cultivating a pool of future FIA program support and management

Before the field season even begins...

- Field guide editing
- Plot “Jacket” file preparation
- Plot review (forest/nonforest determination)
- Electronic data entry program and testing
- Land owner contact (permission letters, permits, keys)
- Risk management and safe work planning
- Hiring, contracting
- Field protocol training and calibration – safety training

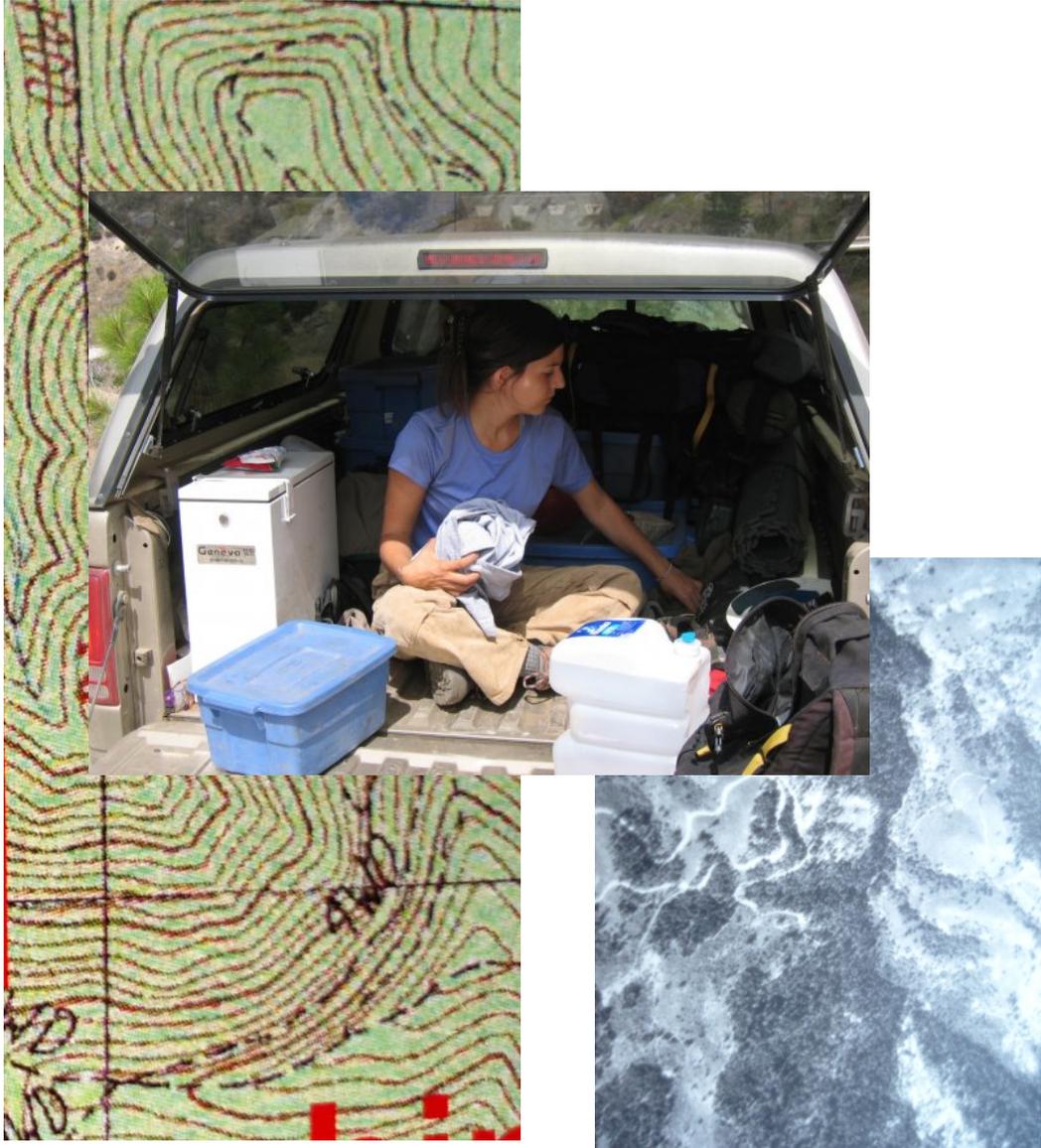


Before heading out to the field... the night before



- stage at office/home/motel/campsite/trailhead
- review the plot selected for tomorrow for access/ safety considerations - discuss as a crew
- charge electronic devices
- go to bed early – you'll probably need to be up by 5:30am

Before heading out to the field... the morning of the field day



- wake up early to pack a field lunch and fill water bottles
- dress for the conditions and bring extra gear for unanticipated changes in weather
- double check field equipment
- confirm owner contact
- meet up with rest of the crew
- have a safety tailgate session
- “check out”
- navigate to the plot



On Plot...



work with your crew partner(s) to:

- relocate the plot
- divide up the roles for taking measurements
- record data on site per field manual using data recorder program
- complete initial data edits in the field
- monitor pace/quality and assess risk throughout day



After Plot...



- navigate out from the field site
- return home/motel/campsite
- “check back in”
- clean and maintain equipment

- back up data from the field data recorder to the laptop
- run final edits on the data
- submit files electronically

