

Geo-Spatial Record Keeping Letter Clarification Questions and Answers

Question: What does “as appropriate” mean in the letter referring to all KV funded activities? It first mentions just established and improved accomplishments, and then it gets into the weeds with “all KV funded activities” as appropriate.

Answer: There are certain K-V funded activities that CANNOT realistically be represented geospatially, i.e. noxious weed treatments where the treatment is to individuals, bird boxes, etc.

Question: Will we need to attach shapefiles with FACTS SUIDs for FACTS spatial reporting for every activity planned/accomplished within the same polygon (i.e. FACTS activity unit)? For example a cutting unit that is regenerated and then has multiple connected activities in the following years such as site prep, tree planting, release, survival checks, PCT, etc. If we attach polygon with FACTS SUID to the cutting unit that initiates regeneration and we report this in FYx, will we have to then again report spatially with a new polygon of the same unit when we site prepare in FYy, then plant in FYz, the release in FYzz, etc; or, will the attribute table for this polygon just account for all of the additional activities?

Answer: A single polygon has a single SUID. That SUID can be linked to multiple activities over multiple fiscal years and no new polygon needs to be created. For accomplished activities, you would end up with one spatial GIS polygon with a SUID identifying it, then related tabular a record with the SUID and many activities listed. A SUID may be replicated within the FACTS activity layer under each subtype (planned, NEPA lay out and accomplished, accomplished). These polygons for each subtype would have the same SUID but different geometry based on changing conditions. Accomplished polygon is used to link to activities by default (FACTS looks there first, then layout, then planned).

Question: From the Geo-spatial reporting letter, what is intended by “Additional protocols, business rules, and standards will be available at <http://fsweb.wo.fs.fed.us/fm/silviculture/facts.shtml>”?

Answer: We are in the process of cleaning up our business rules and organizing them more cohesively. FAQs (such as these) may be posted there over time to help clarify requirements.

Question: Is there a minimum polygon size for silviculture activities? What about for group selection?

Answer: For silviculture activities, only polygons that are 5 acres in size or larger need to be mapped. Something like group selection does not need to be mapped.