

2017
National FIA User Group
Meeting

April 4th-5th
Madison, WI

Background- FIA User Meetings

- The USFS FIA program has strong relationships with its users: these meetings are one of the reasons why
- For years, hosted annually by SAF and NCASI with strong support from USFS
- Recent meetings:
 - 2016 Charleston, SC
 - 2015 San Antonio, TX
 - 2014 Salt Lake City, UT
 - 2013 New Orleans, LA
 - 2012 Baltimore, MD
 - 2011 Sacramento, CA
 - 2010 Houston, TX

Example Results from Meetings:

- 2010: “FIA should attempt to put the National TPO dataset on the FIA Datamart site within 1 year (by March 2011)”
- 2011: “FIA should give a high priority to putting the National TPO data into a publicly available database that is analogous to the FIADB”
- 2012: “There is currently a bias that results from methods used by FIA to estimate growth and removals by diameter class. A white paper should be developed to describe the problem and the solution. The solution should be implemented in FIA online tools.”

Data and Other Tools



Example Results from Meetings:

- 2013: “Users encouraged FIA to develop a statistically sound TPO annualization method. Users also want TPO to be as active in all regions as it currently is in the Southern Region.”
- 2013: “Users value the NWOS, but would like to see it expanded to include information on all forest owners, not just family forest owners. In particular, TIMOs and REITs have become important forest land managers/owners and should be included in the NWOS.”
- 2014: “Use remote sensing to improve efficiency and enhance the core program”
- 2016: “Strengthen connections between high-resolution mapping of land use and land cover and the FIA field plot data”

Example Results from Meetings:

- Almost annually:
 - “Don't eliminate plots or change the basic design in response to budget cuts” (2012)
 - “Put a firewall around the core FIA program” (2013)
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 - “Don't change the design” (2015)
 - “Stick to the core program” (2016)
- Frequently:
 - “Foster collaboration between FIA and partners” (2014)
 - “FIA should continue to conduct outreach toward new users” (2010)
 - “Strengthen partnerships and contributions to the program” (2016)

Objectives

- To ensure that the FIA program is meeting the needs of its broad user community,
- To assist the FIA program in determining user needs to inform strategic planning,
- To communicate with the user community regarding new opportunities, programs, products, and challenges

Agenda Overview

- Tues PM:
 - Context: big picture
 - Brief Updates on Broad Scope
 - Modeling, Estimation, and Reporting
- Weds AM:
 - Applications
 - Ownership data
 - TPO
- Weds PM:
 - RPA
 - Remote Sensing
 - Synthesis & Recommendations