WASHINGTON
HARDWOODS
COMMISSION

COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

December 9, 2015
DNR – Olympia
1111 Washington Street SE, Olympia, WA

Next Meetings: *1/27/16; 4/27/16; 7/27/16; 10/26/16 (teleconferences)*
3/9/16 (DNR Castle Rock); 6/16/16 (annual symposium); 9/7/16 (DNR Olympia); 12/6/16 (DNR Castle Rock)

Commissioners Present	**Commissioners Absent**
Michael Johnson, Chairman	Ed Orcutt
Joe Monks, Vice Chairman	
Randy Bartelt	
Alex Dobkowski	
Tom Fox	
Steve Witherspoon	

Attendees:

Matt Comisky, Diann Lewallen, Mark Spogen, Dave Sweitzer.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Johnson at 10:00 a.m. Introductions were made and the Commission was reminded of the legal limitations of the anti-trust laws in Commission meetings.

AFRC REPORT- Comisky reported:

WA Dept of Commerce – Created Forest Products Sector with Brian Hatfield as Sector Lead.

DNR Aquatic Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) re: log booms is dead. Aqua Culture is still in.

Marbled Murrelet Long Term Conservation Strategy – 10/16 release 5 alternatives and draft EIS

Sustainable Harvest Calculations (SHC) – Draft in mid summer 2016; arrearage spread over 5 years or placed in SHC. AFRC constructing a verifying model. West side harvest = 550 mmbf until new SHC, therefore building more arrearage.

Olympic Experimental State Forest Plan – Draft in 2nd Qtr 2016. Once approved it could help hardwood harvesting in RMZs and blocked off upland hardwoods.

AFRC and WHC join forces to educate DNR on hardwoods infrastructure and long term supply.

AFRC annual meeting is March 29-31 at Skamania Lodge.

Invite new AFRC president Travis Joseph to March 9th meeting in Castle Rock.

It was MSP to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2015, meeting as emailed.

FINANCE REPORT

Lewallen presented the financial report dated November 30, 2015, showing cash and CD's of $28,955.89 with no accounts payable. The cash flow spreadsheet shows a projected estimated reserve and estimated available reserve of $26,970.33 through June 2016. Sweitzer presented the Logs Process Summary, Dollar and Volume reports. It was MSP to approve the financial report and the draft FY2016-17 budget (copies

attached). It was MSP to have Lewallen move our funds to Heritage Bank. It was MSP to approve Dave Sweitzer as the Executive Director at the same pay for 2016. It was MSP to donate $100 and have an exhibit at the Forest Products Legislative Reception Jan 21st in Olympia. It was reported that Defiance Forest Products took over for Rainestree, Inc. Each March the Commission will review the list of companies reporting. Each quarter an audit will be made and a report given to the commission. Talk to Orcutt about procedure to increase rate paid by affected processors.

NRCS – Johnson reported talking to Sherry Copeland, regional coordinator for RCPP, and together with Bartelt and Dobkowski, they will prepare a draft of how hardwood projects would enhance conservation direction. Another idea was seed source movement research. Copeland will be invited to the March 9th meeting.

DNR ECONOMIST – David Chertrudi was unable to make the meeting but sent his presentation. (copy attached)

WFFA HARDWOOD CONVERSION PROPOSAL – The full proposal is couched with TFW Adaptive Management for review.

THEORY OF CONSTRAINTS – Dobkowski reported his analysis of comments re: why landowners are reluctant to plant and manage alder. The core conflict is the biological and financial risk is too high for landowners to justify the investment. The challenge is how do we solve the core conflict. Commissioners were asked to reply to the WHC office on suggestions for solving the core conflict by January 15th.

2016 ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

The date for the symposium is June 16th. A one day/all day field trip to various alder plantations on Weyerhaeuser land in and around the Castle Rock area. Dobkowski and Bartelt will visit the sites in January to map out a plan. Limited to about 50, so we need to invite those who make the decision of what to grow to the meeting. Representatives from these groups would be some of the invitees: DNR, industrial land managers, small forest land owners, WFFA leadership and chapter presidents, USFS, BLM, extension agents, forestry consultants, DF&WL, DOE. It is planned to be a show and tell excursion covering site preparation, planting, silviculture, management, harvest, and markets.

OTHER PROJECT REPORTS – Witherspoon reported on his experience representing WHC at the WSU extension forest products exhibition in Vancouver, WA. Many small landowners attended and visited the WHC display.

Seedlings propagation – It was MSP to send a letter of support to WSU that WHC needs alder seedlings that will grow well in the forest environment.

OTHER BUSINESS – OSU Hardwood Silviculture Coop dues. A letter will be sent that WHC is not in a financial position to pay the dues at this time.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m. to meet with Commissioner Goldmark.

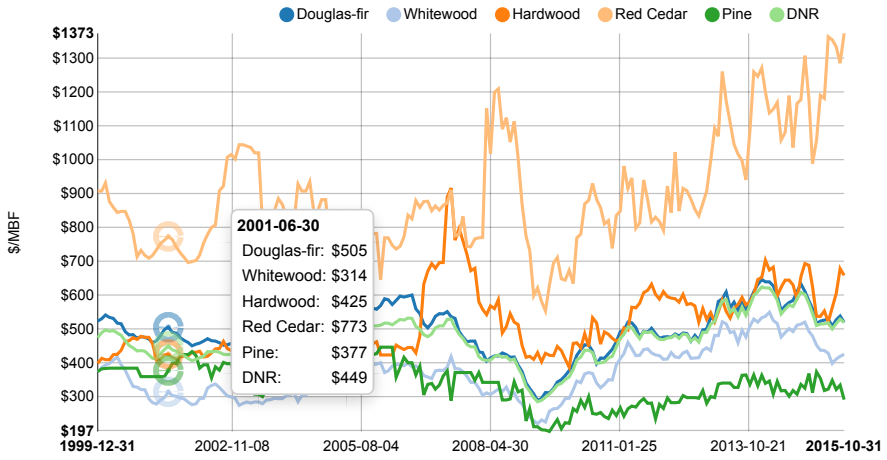
COMMISSIONER GOLDMARK MEETING – The commissioner was unable to attend but we met with Kyle Blum and Angus Brodie who had prepared handouts for the first two agenda items. (copies attached). The first handout shows how many acres of alder have been planted on DNR-managed lands. The second handout describes the development of the alder suitability site index. One question to be quantified was how much field verification has been completed. Suggested that a model be developed by Brodie and his team, then to Luke Rogers at UW. It was suggested that the completed model be hosted by DNR. This and most of the rest of agenda items will be discussed with Commission Goldmark present. A meeting has been requested in January.

Minutes prepared by Dave Sweitzer

DNR Hardwoods

David Chertudi
Lead Economist, DNR

'DNR' log prices



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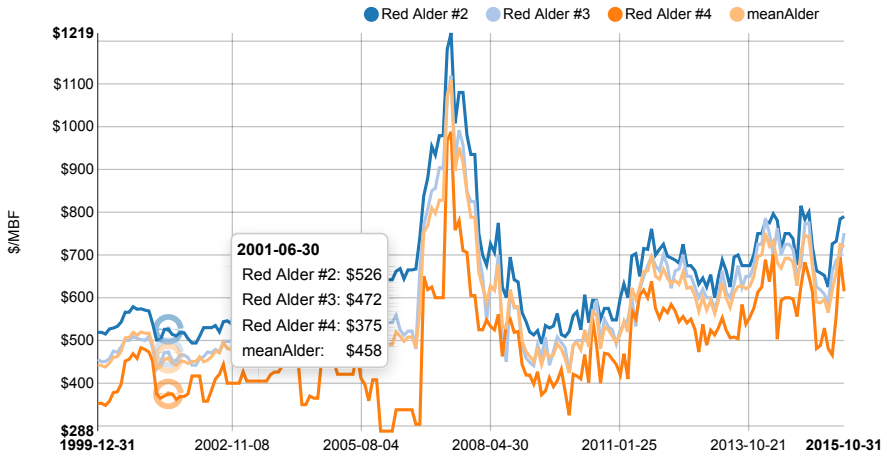
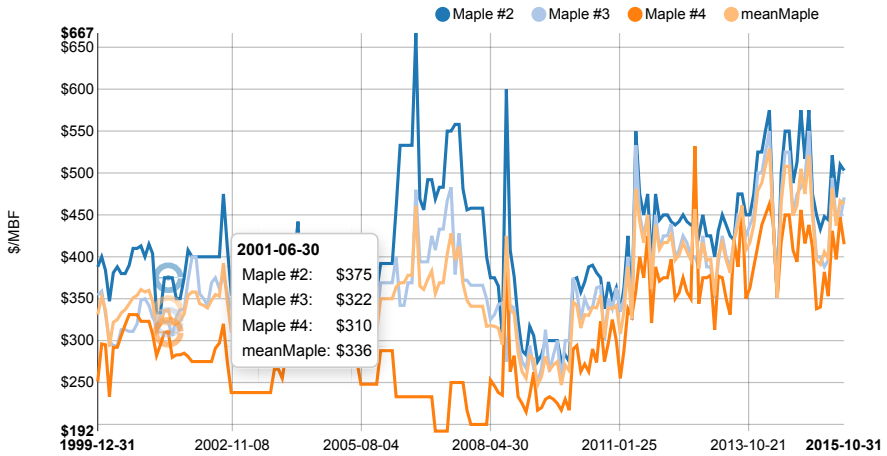
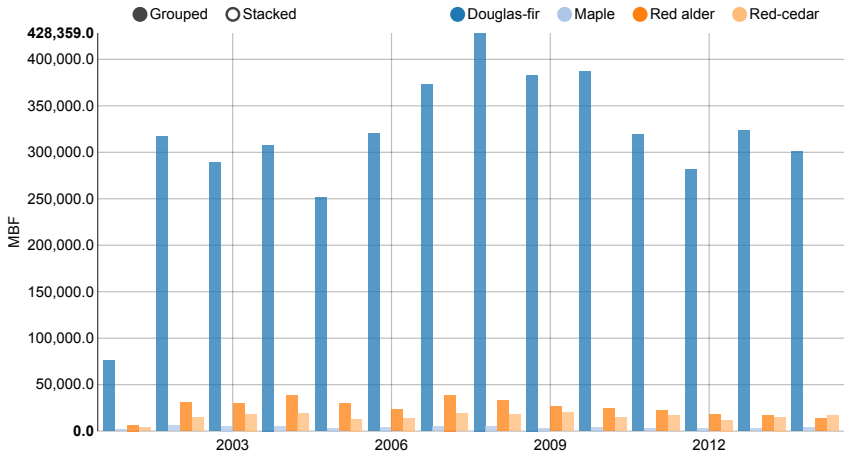
'DNR' log prices: Alder



'DNR' log prices: Maple



DNR sale volumes by species (annual)



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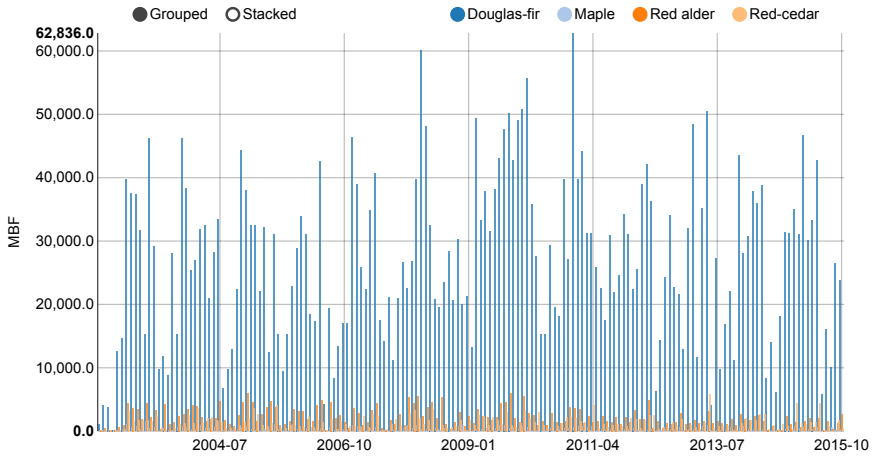
DNR sale volumes by species (monthly)



Species composition of DNR stumpage sales

SPECIES	WESTSIDE	EASTSIDE	TOTAL
Douglas-fir	52.55%	6.83%	59.4%
Hemlock	27.50%	1.26%	28.8%
Red Alder	5.19%		5.2%
Maple	0.84%		0.8%
Red-Cedar	2.70%	0.26%	3.0%
Ponderosa Pine		2.21%	2.2%
Lodgepole Pine		0.66%	0.7%
White Pine		0.01%	0.01%
	88.77%	11.23%	100.00%

From January 2003 through December 2012

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Washington red alder harvest by ownership

OWNERSHIP	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Private - Industrial	29056	24399	33151	18388	16479	13668	1143	16714	16195	23521	30085
Private - Large	41598	37729	40077	42501	17451	18091	2677	22457	13511	24744	19247
Private - Small	19588	13379	13518	20011	4154	2002	23298	5622	20043	11560	7471
Private - Unknown	6319	1993	786	4746	13045	4992	493	4519	4940	2909	2758
Total Private	96561	77500	87532	85646	51129	38753	27611	49312	54689	62734	59561
State	26976	31116	22466	18712	20050	20963	8543	40568	17797	14707	15904
Federal	369	444	1210	468	299	149	3155	145	187	195	1174
Other Public	1433	2149	693	492	1023	962	51	623	618	153	853
Total Public	28778	33709	24369	19672	21372	22074	11749	41336	18602	15055	17931
Total All Owners	125339	111209	111901	105318	72501	60827	39360	90648	73291	77789	77492

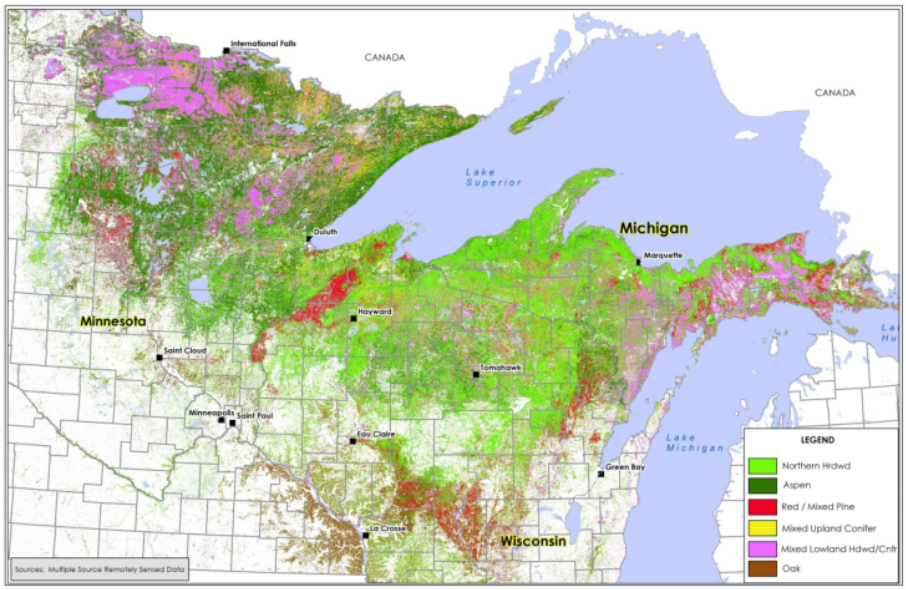
From DNR Timber harvest reports (2004-2014)

Washington 'other hardwood' harvest by ownership

OWNERSHIP	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Private - Industrial	1512	1229	2270	1306	478	568	1143	2167	1720	3125	2061
Private - Large	7088	5880	4656	3868	2374	1058	2677	2429	1701	2845	2346
Private - Small	27307	39345	36045	33402	33066	15689	23298	36312	28453	83478	38355
Private - Unknown	933	95	387	205	759	287	493	101	267	146	312
Total Private	36840	46549	43358	38781	36677	17602	27611	41009	32141	89594	43074
State	5395	5316	3284	3654	3758	3766	8543	4913	2690	4903	2274
Federal	45	1042	739	410	335	72	3155	1088	2606	806	2780
Other Public	740	229	82	385	49	87	51	0	691	32	41
Total Public	6180	6587	4105	4449	4142	3925	11749	6001	5987	5741	5095
Total All Owners	43020	53136	47463	43230	40819	21527	39360	47010	38128	95335	48169

From DNR Timber harvest reports (2004-2014)

Midwest forest cover



Presented by Steigerwaldt at 'Who Will Own the Forest' Conference (Sept. 2015, Portland, OR)

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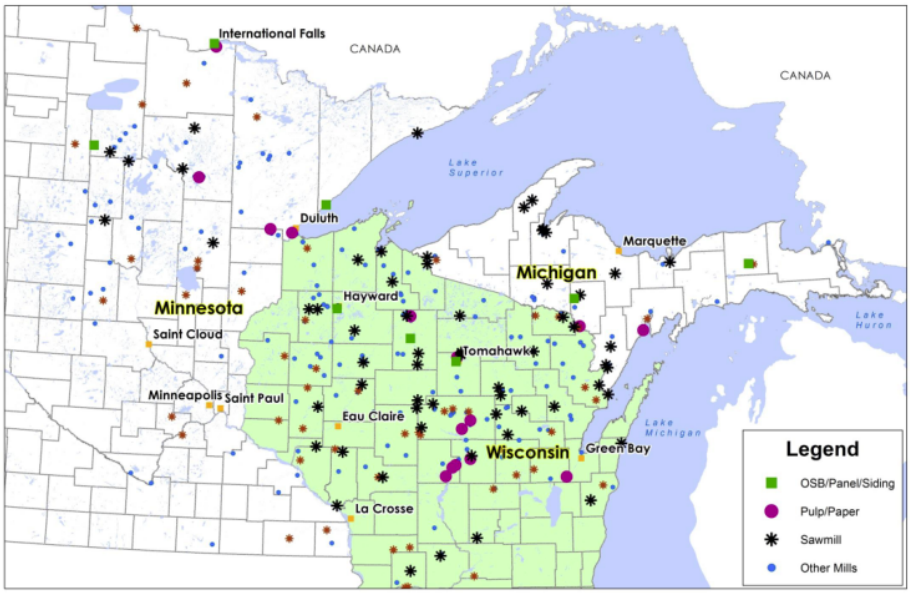
Midwest mill types



Presented by Steigerwaldt at 'Who Will Own the Forest' Conference (Sept. 2015, Portland, OR)

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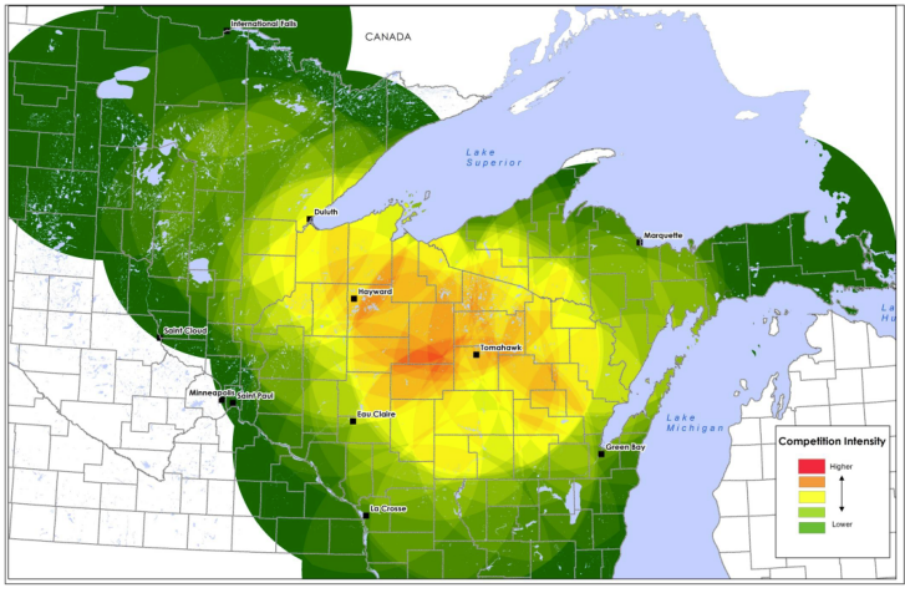
Midwest competition overlay (aspen)



Presented by Steigerwaldt at 'Who Will Own the Forest' Conference (Sept. 2015, Portland, OR)

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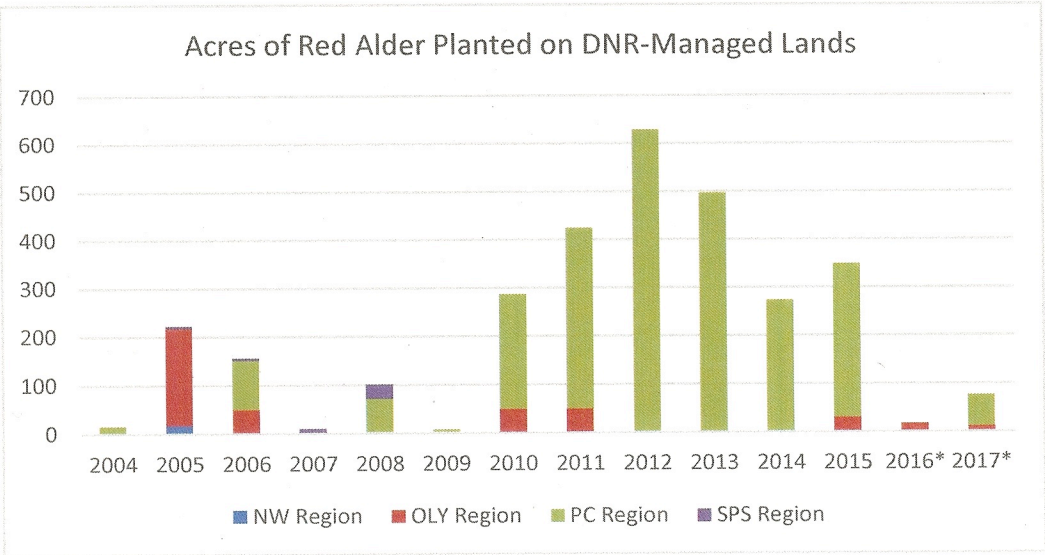
Acres of Red Alder Planted on DNR-Managed Lands

Plant Year	NW Region	OLY Region	PC Region	SPS Region	DNR Total
2004	0	0	16	0	16
2005	17	200	0	5	222
2006	0	50	101	5	156
2007	0	0	0	10	10
2008	0	0	71	30	101
2009	0	0	7	0	7
2010	0	50	236	0	286
2011	0	50	373	0	423
2012	0	0	628	0	628
2013	0	0	496	0	496
2014	0	0	273	0	273
2015	0	30	318	0	348
2016*	0	17	0	0	17
2017*	0	11	64	0	75
Totals	**17**	**408**	**2,583**	**50**	**3,058**

Data are from P&T database and communications w/regions as of Dec. 8, 2015.
*Acres for 2016 and 2017 are projected.



DNR Managed Lands - Red Alder Site Suitability Index

This map displays the Red Alder Site Suitability in 2 layers: Alder Index - LIDAR DEM 6ft and Alder Index - USGS DEM 10m

Web Map by skjj490
Last Modified: October 5, 2015

(0 ratings, 90 views)

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Description

The land base of the Pacific Northwest includes large areas that could support hardwoods or a hardwood component (HSC 2004). Often, however, site index, the most commonly used measure of a site's potential productivity, is not available for red alder as other species occupy the site. In order to make site-specific management decisions, the suitability for red alder production can be assessed by geographic and topographic position, soil moisture and aeration during the growing season, and soil fertility and physical condition (Harrington 1986). The difficulty of weighing these physical factors to determine site suitability appears to be a major impediment to the establishment of red alder plantations. Additionally, forest managers are lacking a planning tool that would consider red alder in the landscape for long term management plans. To assist forest managers in their planning and site selection efforts, we developed a GIS-based Red Alder Site Suitability Model based on physical criteria identified by Harrington (1986) as most influential on the productivity of red alder. The major components of the model are elevation, topographic position, slope, aspect, site index, soil type, and soil depth. The model was implemented in a GIS raster environment extracting topographical criteria from a 10-meter USGS digital elevation model (DEM), then categorizing topographic position as Valley, Lower Slope, Flat Slope, Middle Slope, Upper Slope, or Ridgetop using the Weiss method. The soil and site index information were derived from the corporate soil data layer. Each pixel was then classified and assigned one of four suitability categories: High, Medium, Low, and No Potential. Because of the level of spatial detail of the model, forest managers can assess the potential of red alder management on any given site, such as planned timber harvest. Additionally, the model can be used at a larger scale, i.e. planning for future product diversification in a watershed. We chose to publish two versions of the alder model. One based on the 6-foot LiDAR DEM (what was available as of early 2010, with the exception of the Clark County LiDAR project) and one based on the 10-meter USGS DEM. The topographic position model was based on the 10-m USGS DEM for both versions to limit data processing time. The topographic position index raster to be used in the LiDAR-based model was resampled to match the LiDAR's 6-foot pixels. Providing two different datasets will allow people to chose which one is better suited to their needs. When looking at a large area, the 10-m DEM version might be more useful. When zoomed into a small area, the 6-foot version might offer more information. When looking at these datasets, remember that they are models, not necessarily representations of the real world. The models are constructed with great care, but are only as good as the quality of the input datasets, the availability of input data, and current knowledge about alder. The model has been cursorily field-verified on existing red alder plantations and compared with locations and site index of natural red alder stands for DNR's forest inventory system. Initial results indicate that the model is accurate in identifying sites with potential for intensive red alder management. Local knowledge will still be an important factor in the application of the model. Frost pockets or areas susceptible to other physical damage such as ice damage (i.e. within the east wind drafts of the Columbia River Gorge) are not identified in by this model. The usefulness of this model will be determined by the experience of the field staff over time.

Access and Use Constraints

The Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) provides these geographic data and scripts "as is." DNR makes no guarantee or warranty concerning the accuracy of information contained in the geographic data and scripts. DNR further makes no warranties, either expressed or implied as to any other matter whatsoever, including, without limitation, the condition of the product, or its fitness for any particular purpose. The burden for determining fitness for use lies entirely with the user. Although these data have been processed successfully on computers of DNR, no warranty, expressed or implied, is made by DNR regarding the use of these data and scripts on any other system, nor does the fact of distribution constitute or imply any such warranty.

Map Contents

WADNR_Alder_Index:

https://fortress.wa.gov/dnr/arcgis102/arcgis/rest/services/ForestManagement/WADNR_Alder_Index/MapServer

Terrain with Labels:

http://services.arcgisonline.com/ArcGIS/rest/services/World_Terrain_Base/MapServer

Terrain with Labels:

http://services.arcgisonline.com/ArcGIS/rest/services/Reference/World_Reference_Overlay/MapServer