

IMPLEMENTING A NATIONAL PROCESS FOR ESTIMATING GROWTH, REMOVALS, AND MORTALITY AT THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST'S FOREST INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS'S REGION: MODELING DIAMETER GROWTH

Olaf Kuegler¹

Abstract— The Pacific Northwest Research Station's Forest Inventory and Analysis Unit began remeasurement of permanently located FIA plots under the annualized design in 2011. With remeasurement has come the need to implement the national FIA system for compiling estimates of forest growth, removals, and mortality. The national system requires regional diameter-growth models to estimate diameters on trees in situations where the initial or terminal diameter is not known at the beginning or end of a measurement interval. Examples of such trees are those classified as alive at the beginning of the measurement interval and subsequently died (mortality) or have been harvested (removal). This presentation provides an overview of how we adapted regionally specific models of diameter growth into FIA's national compilation system.

¹ Statistician, Pacific Northwest Research Station, Resource Monitoring and Assessment, USDA Forest Service, 620 SW Main St., Suite 400, Portland OR 97205. Phone: (503) 808-2028, email: okuegler@fs.fed.us