

My name's Victoria Saab; I'm a research wildlife biologist
for Rocky Mountain Research Station in Bozeman, Montana.

Well, I started working on the project known as the Columbia River Basin Project,
back in the mid '90s and I was -- it was a large scale assessment mostly driven by the
changes
in our forests and it was focused a lot on the increases
in frequency and intensity of wildland fires.

As a result of that project, I have maintained collaborations with those folks
on those forests in three states and beyond.

And they are using our data and science based information on managing snags,
both after wildfire and in green forests.

We have recently developed a GIS tool that can apply our habitat models
for a specific landscape and what the habitat model does is it maps the suitability
of the landscape for nesting woodpeckers of concern.

And it will help identify areas, locations to reserve for the woodpeckers,
as well as other areas that will minimize impacts to nesting woodpeckers.

Well, I think the role of collaboration is the key to our success in the Forest Service.
Collectively, we can do so much more than we can individually.