

Biophysical Settings Review in the Pacific Northwest

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LANDFIRE's mission is to provide agency leaders and managers with a common "all-lands" data set of vegetation and wildland fire/fuels information for strategic fire and resource management planning and analysis.



- -partner on LANDFIRE
- -education, outreach, bps models



Today's Agenda

BpS Models 101

Using the BpS Models

Improving the BpS Models

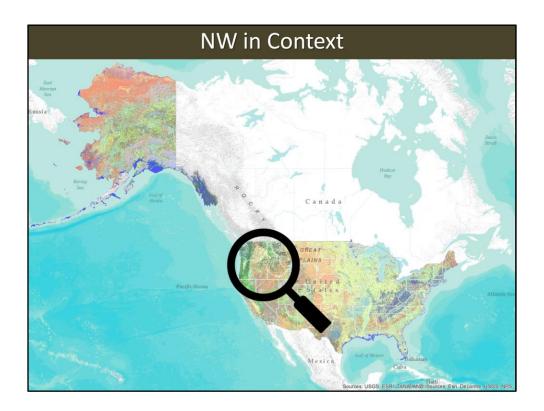
Take Home Message

BpS models are important because they:

- Help us to understand complex ecological processes and relationships
- Provide a framework for exploring management actions



- -focus on disturbance and succession dynamics
- -help us understand complex ecological processes and relationships
- -management, scenario testing, analyzing affects of alternative approaches to mgmt
- -looking at restoration opportunities

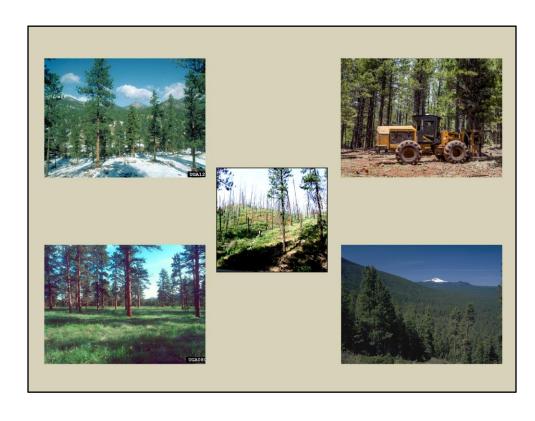


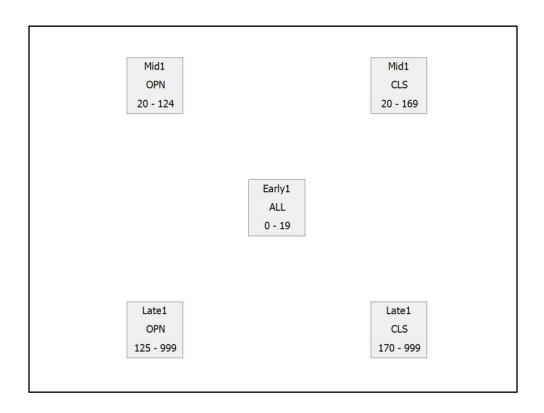
- LANDFIRE not the only data
 - NW is data rich
- Other STSM efforts: ILAP, FS NW research station, FS Eastside restoration strategy, Interior Columbia Basin
- LANDFIRE's role:
 - Coarser resolution geography and detail in the model
 - Easier to map, links well to FRCC
 - Provide reference conditions (e.g. ILAP models do not)
 - All lands, forest and rangelands
 - · Link to spatial data
- recognize that LF is not the only player in the data biz; we hope to educate about appropriate use so users can make informed decisions and choose the best data for their specific needs



Models have 2 parts: description and quantitative state-and-transition model Together they describe basic ecology of the bps prior to Euro-American settlement

SHOW DESCRIPTION

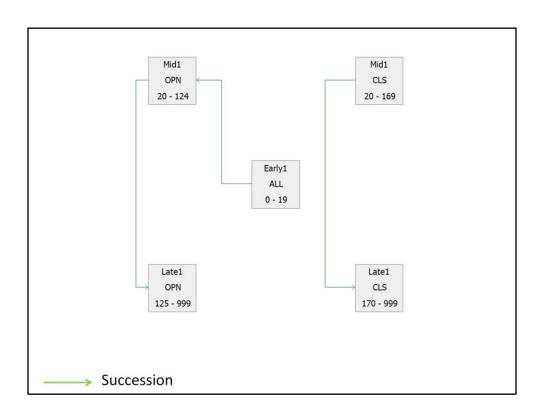


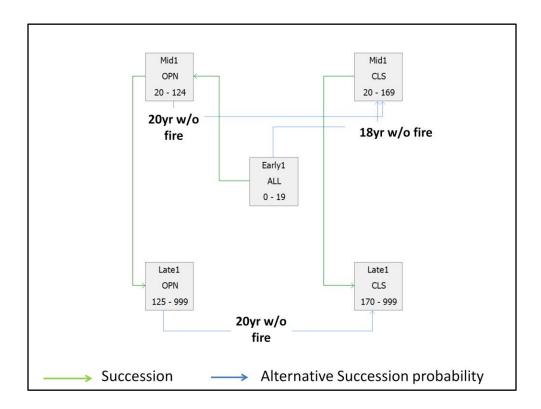


Model in ST-Sim

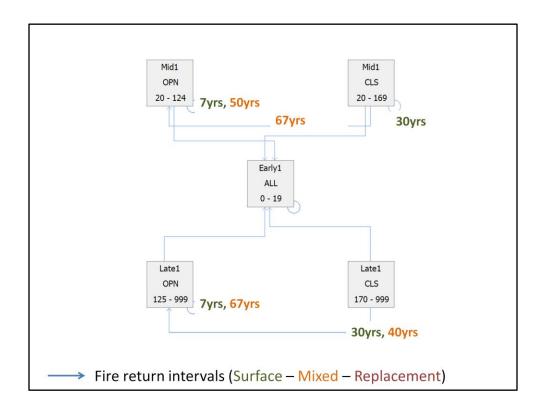
5 states

Show open vs. closed in description doc

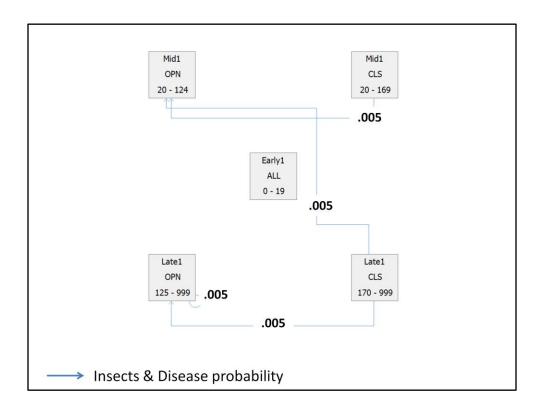




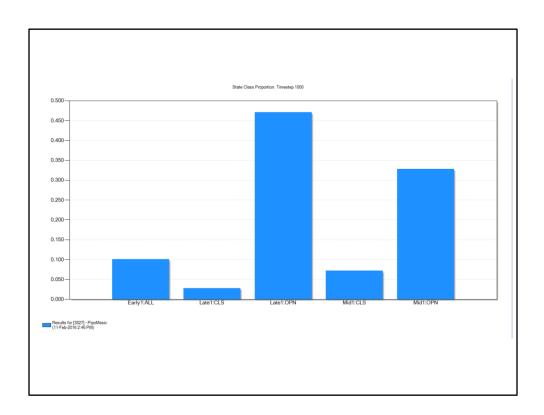
Succession and alt succession



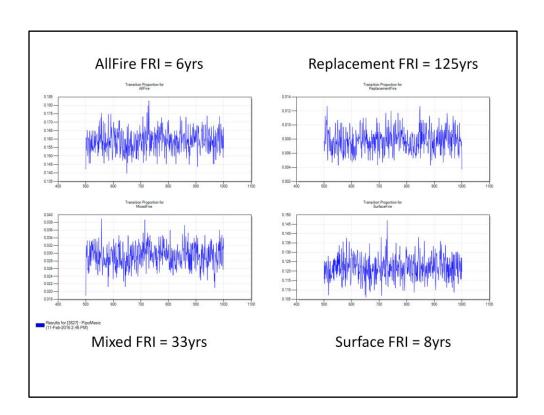
All fire Excluded less frequent replacement intervals



insects



Ref con can be compared to current con

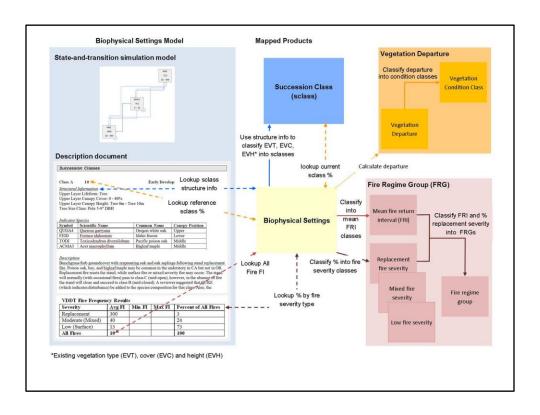




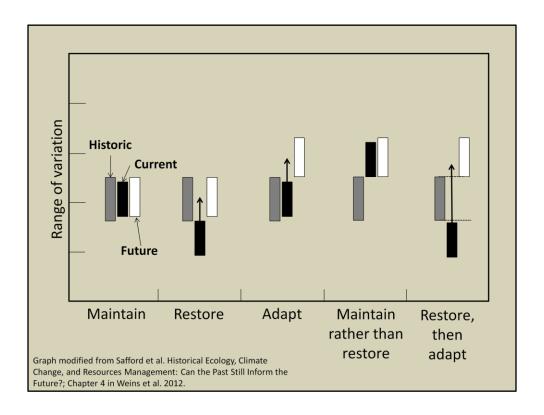
- -collaborative process facilitated by TNC-LF
- -represent collective ecological knowledge of hundreds of people around the country
- ->700 contributors to the models, >40 expert workshops plus individual meetings

Strengths	Limitations
Cover ~500 BpS	Don't include management or climate change
Connected to spatial data	Modeling constraints
Relatively easy to use, supported by LANDFIRE	Non-spatial
Good documentation	Difficult to validate, limited information
Suitable for large landscapes	Refine for local use

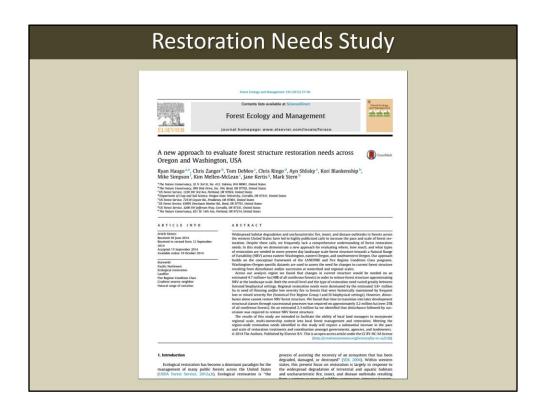
Support – tutorials, guides on line Documentation – state assumptions in the description, numbers in model are explained in the description



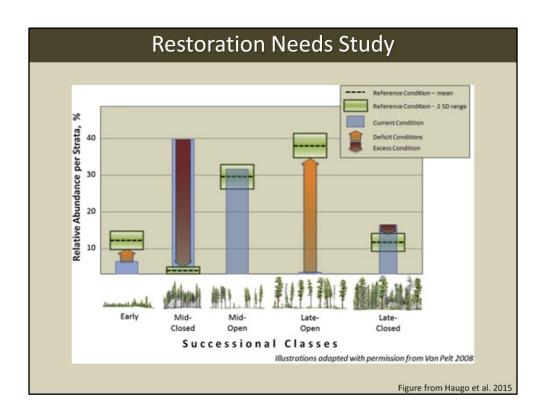
- -LANDFIRE use of model info
- -fire frequency and severity, FRG, succession class, VCC



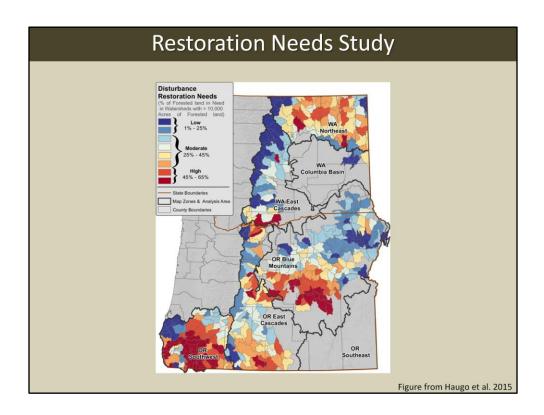
- -Historic condition is not necessarily desired condition
- -hx information provides important context when evaluated w/ current and expected future conditions



- Study demonstrates a new approach for evaluating where, how much, and what types of restoration are needed to move present day landscape scale forest structure towards a Natural Range of Variability (NRV) across eastern Washington, eastern Oregon, and southwestern Oregon.
- · Used LANDFIRE models to define the NRV



Example of how the comparison of excess and deficit s-classes to natural range of variability reference conditions (NRV) are determined for a strata (biophysical setting × landscape unit). This example depicts the <u>Dry Douglas-fir</u> biophysical setting within the Oregon Blue Mountains – Upper Tucannon watershed (HUC 1706010706).

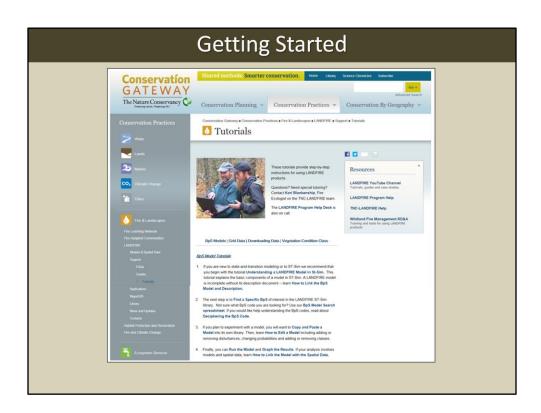


All disturbance restoration needs as a percentage of forests within 10-digit/5th level hydrologic unit watersheds. Includes the thin/low fire, opening/high fire, overstory thin, thin/low fire + growth, and other disturbance + growth transitions.

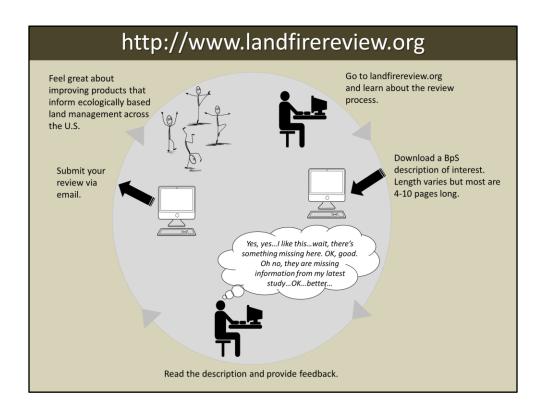


Disturbance alone can't restore forests

All succession restoration needs as a percentage of forests within 10-digit/5th level hydrologic unit watersheds. Includes the thin/low fire + growth, other disturbance + growth, grow with fire, and grow without fire transitions.



• TNC-LANDFIRE team can help too



- · No review since the models were delivered
- Review offers chance to improve models
 - incorporate new science, correct errors and inconsistencies

3 Good Reasons to Review

- 1. Multiply your impact
- 2. Improve the data used to manage land
- 3. "Fun"

- 1. translate your knowledge into vital products that are used in all sorts of applied and research settings
- 2. Models have been used in dozens of land management applications and we want to make sure that we have the best data available to support these efforts
- 3. Think about ecology and disturbance and succession
- 1. Please help if you can and if you are not sure how to get started contact me

Take Home Message

BpS models are important because they:

- Help us to understand complex ecological processes and relationships
- Provide a framework for exploring management actions



- LF models are not perfect
- useful: focus on ecological processes, tie to spatial data, cover forest and range systems
- Haugo et al. demonstrates how LANDFIRE data can compliment local data and enable broad scale analysis

Online Connections





LANDFIRE Program Home http://www.landfire.gov



Conservation Gateway: http://nature.ly.landfire



Twitter: @nature LANDFIRE



YouTube: LANDFIREvideo



Bulletins/Post cards via e-mail

- Opt in: http://eepurl.com/baJ_BH



Email: LANDFIRE@tnc.org

BpS Review website: http://www.landfirereview.org/

Questions? Comments?



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