

FIA 2011 National User Group Meeting Notes
Sacramento, CA
March 8-10, 2011

Meeting: 2011 FIA National User Group Meeting and Field Trip

Purpose: To learn about recent progress in the FIA program and to provide an opportunity for FIA staff to hear from users. There was a field trip to allow users to learn about FIA forest plot measurement techniques.

Agenda: Archived at <http://www.ncasi2.org/downloads/BWG/>

Attendees: Archived at <http://www.ncasi2.org/downloads/BWG/>

The Field Trip: The group was very impressed by the professional manner in which FIA staff organized and conducted the field trip. It gave the participants new appreciation for the logistical and time requirements of this critical FIA activity. Serious consideration will be given to having a similar activity at the next meeting. Data from the FIA national grid of forested plots are the foundation of the FIA program.

Presentations: Abstracts and presentations are archived at <http://www.ncasi2.org/downloads/BWG/sacramento/abstractSacramento.html>

Follow-up items suggested by the group:

- 1) FIA should give a high priority to putting the National TPO data into a publicly available database that is analogous to the FIADB. A state from each region should be selected for a pilot test so this process can begin as soon as possible.
- 2) A biomass data collection effort should be planned and implemented, if adequate funding can be found. The purpose would be to develop improved regional and national biomass estimation methods.
- 3) FIA should create a series of options that can be used to respond efficiently to budget fluctuations. The purpose is to minimize the impact of budget rescissions and to ensure that budget increases will have maximum benefit to FIA users. Users suggested that the P3 data be reconsidered, that the P2 intensity not be reduced, and to not change the design.