

Andrews Forest LTER Monthly Meeting Minutes

Friday, Nov 4, 2011, 9 – 11 AM

NEXT MEETING: Friday, Dec 2, 2011. 9 – 11 AM. RH313

Minutes from previous Andrews Forest LTER Monthly Meetings can be found at <http://andrewsforest.oregonstate.edu/lter/pubs/mtgnotes/monthmtg.cfm?topnav=42>

SCIENCE HOUR (9 – 10 AM)

Synthesis of Long-Term Stream Chemistry across Experimental Forests and LTERs.
Alba Argerich, Sherri Johnson, Stephen Sebestyen, Chuck Rhoades, Effie Greathouse.

SCIENCE HOUR ATTENDEES

Sherri Johnson (lead), Lina DiGregorio (notes), Barbara Bond, Mark Schulze, Ken Dribel, Suzanne Remillard, Tom Dietterich, Tallio Stocher, Anna Coles, Lisa Helming, Cheryl Friesen, Cam Jones, Al Levno, Mark Harmon, Fred Swanson, Jay Sexton, Julia Jones, Chris Daly, Tom Spies, Kari O'Connell, Adam Kennedy, Linda Ashkenas, Sarah Frey, Sarah Shafer, Fréd Saltré, Selina Chu, Judy Li, Julian Klaus, Ivan Arismendi, Greg Downing

BUSINESS MEETING (10 – 11 AM)

NEW FACES

Lisa. Forest Silviculturalist on the WNF, taken over for Norm Michaels. Came from northern Wisconsin. Originally from Illinois.

Julian Klause. Post Doc with Jeff McDonnell, working on hillslope hydrology. Two visiting students are working with him on isotopes on precipitation: Anna Coles, from the UK and Tallio Stocher from Germany, finishing masters degree with Jeff McDonnell.

Frederick Saltre. Working with Sarah Shafer as post doc working on veg modeling and will do some modeling for the Andrews.

Adam Kennedy, in a new role as he moves into the position of data manager at the site, currently done by Fred Bierlmaier. He will be working with climate data at the Andrews Forest. Will be based on site.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Spaniol Chair search has closed. The group will be notified when candidates come in for presentations and interviews. It will probably be January.

- Awards: Dietterich, in joint with the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Birdcast. Weekly bird migration forecasting across the US. May be trying to start a new citizen science network to track nighttime calls of birds.

SITE USE AND RESEARCH PROPOSALS

- Field deployment of a H2O laser vapor analyzer. Presented by Julian Klaus through Jeff McDonnell's lab. Streamflow sampling in WS1. Use water vapor instead of direct contact with stream water to observe isotopic signals. Dreaming of having continuous, unattended sampling (every second) in the field. In principle, same set up as used in 2009 for a four-week precipitation analysis; isotopes were sampled to show that we have short-term variability in precipitation and streamflow. Testing the sampling method this fall in WS1. Hoping to start in two weeks.
- Chris Daly. US CRN (Climate Reference Network). Looking at long term trends across the US. Push to put stations in places where land use around the area would not change for the next 50 years. It has been suggested that one CRN site be placed at the Andrews. They are interested in PRIMET and CENMET since they are lower in elevation. PRIMET may be problematic since it's close to the buildings. We would have to commit to do some veg management and some maintenance. This has the potential to put us on the map for long term climate measurements. Five-minute time step, and uploaded on the web. They have also talked with the WNF about Smith Ridge above trailridge reservoir.

WILLAMETTE NATIONAL FOREST UPDATES – Cheryl Friesen

- New district Ranger Terry Baker. Kathy Bulchis retired and is being replaced by Trish Wilson. Will get a new deputy forest supervisor in January.
- Regional Forester and Station Manager came to the Andrews in October. He enjoyed his time. It was a good opportunity to build relationships and highlight the Andrews. Jerry Franklin and Norm Johnson also came to make presentations.
- Climate change a main focus for the coming year. Will do workshops on wildlife and climate change and also human dimensions and climate change. A good connection would be with the OSU Cooperative Extension.

GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS – Sarah Frey

- We are searching for the new Grad Student Representative to replace Monica Hubbard who is completing her two-year term. Sarah Frey will continue for her second year. Nov 7 at noon is deadline for nominations. Then there will be an election soon after.
- Planning a pizza lunch to have new and current students meet each other

SITE NEWS – Mark Schulze

- Big leaf maple contest has been put off until Dec meeting. Bring your candidate largest big leaf maple leaf to that meeting.
- Limited winter hours for the front office on site. Call ahead if you need assistance.
- Looking for part time office assistance for the spring (or sooner). Send ideas to Mark Schulze.
- District has done road improvement work (1506, 1507, Mack Creek).
- We are getting snow at high elevations
- Large groups are making reservations for May and early September. If you have facilities reservations needs at that time send Kathy Keable your information soon
- Chris Thomas SODAR project. You may hear a pinging noise on site. It is not an alarm, it is a temporary study of cold air drainage patterns on wind direction and velocity.
- Small mammal crew with Mark Linnell are looking at flying squirrels. Finding high densities.
- Joe Smith(grad student from Cambridge) will be returning to sample in streams and analyze sediment.
- Mark Schulze is rep for organization for biological field stations: Peter McCartney was at their recent meeting (program officer for FSML program). NSF will be wary about counterpart needs and will only fund grants that can be built within the budget and are shovel ready
- Call for bids on the GREENHOUSE project at the Andrews (the green building to replace old director's cabin). Next Wednesday is the day for interested bidders to come tour the site. Dec 13 we will interview finalist.
- Tower project: Involves putting towers at headquarters and at sites going up to Roswell Ridge. That would allow wireless coverage across about 80% of the site. There are at least ten people who have contributed. Roswell site has been completed. They're trying to get radios up before the winter.

IM UPDATE – Suzanne Remillard

- The new wireless project at the Andrews will really change the way we can stream in data from the site
- Theresa Valentine is currently at the map workshop with the LTER network.
- Suzanne has been working on updating climate data
- Harmon: PSP vegetation program will have a retreat next October to look at data sets and come up with ideas for papers and concentrate on product.

EDUCATION UPDATE – Kari O’Connell

- The Oregon Board of Forestry recognized Dr. Kari O’Connell along with two other individuals and an organization at the Nov. 3rd Oregon Board of Forestry meeting. This award, named in honor of Mary Rellergert who was a tireless advocate for forestry education, recognizes significant contributions to the advancement of public information, education, and understanding of forestry. O’Connell will be recognized for her work in building teachers’ understanding and knowledge about Oregon’s forests; her ability to engage researchers with teachers in transferring field research into relevant field-based inquiry projects for students; her commitment to sustaining the application of learning through the creation of communities of practice; and her enthusiasm, energy, and passion for her work. O’Connell’s work has engaged 60 middle school and high school teachers (who reach over 5,000 students per year) in long-term professional development projects that support teachers in involving their students in field-based science inquiry. Currently, she and her collaborators have NASA funding to involve up to 30 middle and high school teachers in climate change research projects at the Andrews LTER and elsewhere.
- NASA program had 10 teachers total, 4 teachers worked at the Andrews with Mark Harmon and Olga Karinkana. Some are planning to come back again next summer. We have copies of the teachers plans on our website.