

Andrews Forest LTER Monthly Meeting Minutes

Friday, December 7, 2012, 9 – 11 AM

NEXT MEETING: Friday, January 11, 2013. 9 – 11 AM. RH313

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

ATTENDEES

Sherri Johnson (lead), Lina DiGregorio (notes), Michael Nelson, Mark Schulze, Al Levno, Hal Salwasser, Cheryl Friesen, Lisa Helmig, Adam Kennedy, Dave Myrold, Bruce Caldwell, Randy Wildman, Dana Warren, Julia Jones, Fred Swanson, Steve Perakis, Evan Jackson, Tom Spies, Rob Pabst, Rebecca Hutchinson, Fox Peterson, Theresa Valentine, Christina Murphy, Don Henshaw, Ivan Arismendi, Linda Ashkenas, Chris Daly, Greg Downing, Alba Argerich, Jay Sexton, Kari O'Connell, Julie Pett-Ridge

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION (9 – 10 AM)

“Digging Deeper: new soil and stream biogeochemistry research at the HJ Andrews”
Presented by Dr. Julie Pett-Ridge, Dept of Crop and Soil Science, OSU

Long-Term Records History and Story Time (10 – 11 AM)

Commemoration of 60th Anniversary of the Experimental Watersheds at the Andrews Forest.

Michael Nelson read two poems that highlight the value of long term studies.

Don Henshaw shared archives from the vault, including the first paper chart from the water chemistry done in 1952. Don also shared hand-written memos from the mid-50s, which was both a peek into the records from the Andrews at the time, but also a sample of how business was done at that time (hand-written memos, hand-drawn graphs, paper records). Digitizing began in the 1960s through the 1980s. Raw records at that time were printouts that had been digitized. Some data were stored on punch cards. The data on the punch cards was extracted and is now part of our long-term records (which are accessible online). Change went to electric recorders and then sensors with uploads. Thanks to Don Henshaw for his history with the long-term datasets of the Andrews program!

Fred Swanson spoke about the history of the Andrews Forest. He referenced “Necessary Work: Discovering Old Forests, New Outlooks, and Community, on the HJ Andrews Experimental Forest, 1948-2000” a technical publication by the Forest Service. Fred also referenced the timeline

http://andrewsforest.oregonstate.edu/lter/about/site/history/HJA_Timeline_0708.pdf. We

are working with the balance of maintaining long-term records while funding new science. Fred then shared a few stories and suggestions. The Andrews is a stage, with actors that are practiced at performing on this stage. Powerful symbol of institutional intent to engage in long-term research. Lessons learned included road construction and road hydrology (and failure in flood), road and stream networks, value of large wood in streams, sediment yield after clearcutting, water quality and biogeochemistry, nutrient budgets.

We heard audio clips of Al Levno, recorded in 2012 at the Andrews, in the pouring rain, describing history of the programs and watershed measurements. Al started with the program in 1963 when the program was housed in a small room at the bottom of the ranger station. There were no paved roads, no electricity, no automated records. No snowcat, only snowshoes. Al clocked 500 miles on snowshoes in on season. Al commented that he has observed a great period of change in the 50 years.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- HJA Holiday Celebration at the Headquarters. Dec 12, 5pm at the possibly wintery Headquarters.
- Check out the new webcams and streaming data:
- <http://andrewsforest.oregonstate.edu/about/weather/hjawebcams.cfm?topnav=265>
- New Rates for HJA Facilities.
<http://andrewsforest.oregonstate.edu/iter/about/facility/reservation.cfm?topnav=224>. Requests for use of the HQ for research and education are increasing. Please fill out a reservation request as soon as you know your research schedule.
- New Publication? Please share your new research papers with us so that others know what you have learned and the Andrews web bibliography stays updated.
- Send pdf or citations to: HJApubs@fsl.orst.edu
- Need a suggestion of text for acknowledging use of Andrews Forest data and/or facilities in publications?
<http://andrewsforest.oregonstate.edu/iter/acknowledgements.cfm>
- Planning for new research? Please talk with Dr. Mark Schulze (mark.schulze@oregonstate.edu).³

BRAINSTORMING AND BRIEF DISCUSSION ABOUT LONG TERM RESEARCH AT THE ANDREWS FOREST

- What surprising findings have been brought to light at the Andrews because of the continuation of a long term study?
- What are good examples of societal benefits and applications of our site's long term research?

- How can we best communicate the importance of continuous long term data?

GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

- Chrissy Murphy has been appointed as the new (one of two) graduate representatives for the Andrews Forest program. Chrissy replaces Sarah Frey who has served as rep for two years. Chrissy will serve with Kathleen Miles.