

Andrews Forest LTER Monthly Meeting Minutes

Friday, February 1, 2013, 9 – 11 AM

NEXT MEETING: Friday, March 1, 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>

Presentation: “Cloud-ecosystem interactions in the California Channel Islands and some possible new measurements at the Andrews Forest”

Presented by Chris Still, Assistant Professor, Forest Ecosystems and Society. Chris' work is centered upon interactions between terrestrial ecosystems and the atmosphere at a variety of spatial and temporal scales, with a particular focus on interactions between clouds and forests, and on carbon cycle-climate interactions at a variety of spatial scales in tropical grasslands and savannas.

ATTENDEES

Michael Nelson (lead), Lina DiGregorio (notes), Sherri Johnson, Mark Schulze, Theresa Valentine, Fox Peterson, Dave Kretzing, John Moreau, Cheryl Friesen, Lisa Helmig, Adam Kennedy, Chris Daly, Tom Spies, Jong Hwan Lim, Steve Wondzell, Stan Gregory, Don Henshaw, Chris Still

Discussion: Continuing the conversation on possible LTER7* themes and planning

ATTENDEES

Michael Nelson (lead), Lina DiGregorio (notes), Sherri Johnson, Mark Schulze, Suzanne Remillard, Dave Kretzing, Fox Peterson, Don Henshaw, Steve Wondzell, Charles Goodrich, Jong Hwan Lim, Tom Spies, Mark Harmon, Dana Warren, Chris Daly, Adam Kennedy, Paige Fisher, Rebecca Hutchinson, Chris Still, Greg Downing, Julia Burton, Stan Gregory, Klaus Puettman, Lisa Helmig, Cheryl Friesen, John Moreau

Michael Nelson presented a short review and synthesis of last month's conversation at the monthly meeting, then lead a conversation aimed at refining that review and synthesis.

The theme serves to inspire goals and objectives

The theme is not totalizing—not all research needs to fit within theme

The theme should not be inconsistent with central question

If the theme is too narrow, we risk losing or alienating people

If the theme is too broad we risk being overly vague

The preference is to err toward being too broad. Then be more specific with goals and objectives.

The theme can spark our imaginations.

As a group, we are interested in transference. So no matter what we do, our work will also include transference/ science communication

We were struck by the central notion of connectivity.

Connectivity is a feature of a system. Not only ecological, but bio-cultural.

It allows us to stay connected to other elements of the Andrews program (education, arts and humanities, science communication, social science, management and policy)

Possible cross LTER-site comparisons are invited

Open and inviting—prompts our imaginations.

Group Discussion

- Connectivity is a good umbrella
- What is the difference between adaptability and resilience?
 - There is an attempt to carve a distinction. But the definitions do seem to overlap.
 - Some try to avoid adaptability since that is now part of resilience. So it's still fuzzy. It's a backward-looking stability basis. Resilience implies returning back to an original state. Adaptability does not imply that.
 - We can talk about networks, which helps with adaptability but not resilience
- Connectivity is being used as a theme in urban hydrology at CAP. And it seems to be successful in reaching out across groups.
- When we talk about connectivity we can also think of spatial connectivity. Can complex topography fall into that spatial connectivity?
- What is it about the Andrews site that is unique? Longevity of organisms.
- More important is that we come up with compelling ideas than to try to identify what makes us unique
- Connections in the local community are grass-roots types of organizations. In the Andrews we're in the National Forest system, federally controlled. We can look at how policy on land use are developed. What are attributes in terms of stability and adaptation? Are they rigid or are they flexible?
- Connection between connectivity and future scenarios. Part of the challenge is coming up with the assumed set of actions and policies that you then roll forward in time to see what the outcome would be. So as soon as you start doing that you realize that there are connections that are or are not being captured. So we ask what are the connections and assumptions? Understanding the connections would really help inform that process.
- Also relates to connectivity through time. When policy carries through time and shows up even 50 and 100 years into the future. So that connectivity relates to future scenarios.

- There are many parallels from social science and ecology world in connectivity.
- The reason why the writers in residence at the Andrews has been so successful is because of Fred making the time to connect them to the stories from the Andrews. The more the writers learned about the place the more connected they became.
- Stan and Fred were talking about the story, the wonder and the sense of place. In the early days there was this unknown landscape on which we were starting to create a story. There was a feeling of a sense of wonder. As we became successful and the program grew and the story became a thicker volume, there has been a tendency that we get more and more information and there are more pieces to add on, little bits, compartmentalized, but not as much that, as a group, we're creating a story together. How do we renew a sense of wonder and creating the story of the place as a group? Fred going down there with writers and others is part of him telling the original story. How do we renew ourselves as well as renewing our funding?
- Part of the strength of the group is the history and the story. Maybe we should look toward leveraging that. Assessment over time of story and themes.

Announcements *(shared via email in advance of the meeting)*

- The IM Team will be requesting feedback on current web functionality over the coming months. Comments regarding changes you would like to see on our webpage can be sent to Suzanne Remillard or to hja_admin@fsl.orst.edu.
- The Andrews IM Team is working with the Andrews Exec Team to prioritize database work over the next year in preparation for the LTER7 proposal. Many ongoing databases will be updated and several new LTER6-initiated databases will be established online.
- If there is anyone interested in working with an RET (Research Experience for Teachers) and 2 high school students this summer, please contact Kari O'Connell.
- Winter conditions at the Andrews Forest! Are you prepared? Before visiting the site, please check with HJA staff about current conditions and safety procedures.
- New Rates for Andrews Forest Facilities. Please fill out a reservation request as soon as you know your research schedule: <http://andrewsforest.oregonstate.edu/lter/about/facility/reservation.cfm?topnav=224>.
- 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/lter/acknowledgements.cfm>
- Planning for new research? Please talk with Mark Schulze (mark.schulze@oregonstate.edu).

Special Event

Just after our monthly meeting: **Environmental Art on Display.** Friday, February 1. 11 AM - 3 PM. Richardson Hall 107. With inspiration from science and from Nature, artists and creative writers depict the world from four Long-Term Ecological Research sites – Andrews Forest in Oregon, Harvard Forest in Massachusetts, North Temperate Lakes in northern Wisconsin, and Bonanza Creek in central Alaska. Please visit this one-day exhibition and share your thoughts on the value of arts and humanities in deepening our understanding of the natural and human-modified world. The works on display include paintings, fiber art, poetry, prose, and sculpture; the creators' intents range from simple, personal expression to public outreach.

*The Long-Term Ecological Research (LTER) program at the Andrews Forest is funded by an NSF grant titled "Long-Term Ecological Research at the H.J. Andrews Experimental Forest (LTER6)." The LTER6 grant is a six-year grant. Our renewal grant proposal, LTER7, is due in February 2014. We have begun the planning process for that proposal and refer to it as LTER7.