

Techniques Research Band charter

Charter

Last Revised: 2/7/2008

Purpose:

Improve the efficiency, timeliness, and quality of the Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) program by addressing appropriate problem areas outlined in the FIA strategic plan [FIA Strategic Plan](http://fia.fs.fed.us/library/fact-sheets/overview/FIA_Strategic_Plan2.pdf) (http://fia.fs.fed.us/library/fact-sheets/overview/FIA_Strategic_Plan2.pdf) or identified by the Program Managers and National FIA leadership. Expand the existing methodologies and product lines by identifying and testing new technologies and techniques in a nationally coordinated fashion.

Structure:

Chartering Authority:

FIA Management Team

Membership:

Membership of the Techniques Research Band will include employees of regional methods & techniques teams and invited cooperators, as needed, to serve as consultants, advisors, and task team members. Invited cooperators will be solicited from State agencies, the Forest Health Monitoring program, the National Forest System, the Remote Sensing Applications Center, and non-governmental organizations as appropriate. The leadership (Core Band) of the Techniques Research Band will be made up of the methods & techniques team leaders from each region.

Adjunct member:

Remote Sensing Research Leader, Zhiliang Zhu

Roles:

Techniques Research Band Leadership (Core Band):

- Based on input from the full band, develop annual Techniques Research Band work plan that addresses both long and short-range goals of the FIA program
- Solicit, review, and recommend the formation of task teams and collaborative projects
- Implement works plan by forming task teams and allocating appropriate resources in coordination with the program managers
- Monitor task team and collaborative project progress
- Coordinate intra-band activities

- Communicate R & D activities of individual regional Techniques Teams to the Techniques Research Band and Program Managers

Techniques Research Band (Full Band):

- Submit proposals for new task teams and contracted projects, and contribute to review and ranking forum for the proposals as input to the annual work plan
- Review the annual Techniques Research Band work plan
- Serve on task teams as assigned
- Champion, review, and make recommendations on National change proposals

Decision Methodology:

Decisions among band leaders will be made by consensus, meaning that all members support the decision.

Resource Requirements:

Techniques Research Band leadership, in consultation with the other FIA band leadership (Analysis Band, Information Management Band, Data Acquisition Band) and Program Managers, will allocate resources (time, money, and personnel) to address problems identified in the Band's annual work plan.

Communications/Reporting:

Internal Communications:

Communicate with Techniques Research Band members via regional briefings, wiki, and distribution of Techniques Research Band leadership meeting and conference call minutes. The need for task team or Techniques Research Band meetings will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

External Communications:

Communicate with the Program Managers via regional briefings, Techniques Research Band Leader participation on Program Manager calls, wiki, and distribution of Techniques Research Band leadership meeting and conference call minutes

Success Measures/Evaluation:

Task Teams and Collaborative Partners will adhere to pre-approved budgets and timelines as outlined in the individual task plans. Teams will be required to not only conduct R & D activities, but publish results or recommendations in a timely fashion, transfer the new technology to appropriate internal and external partners, and assist in implementation.