



FIA National Newsletter

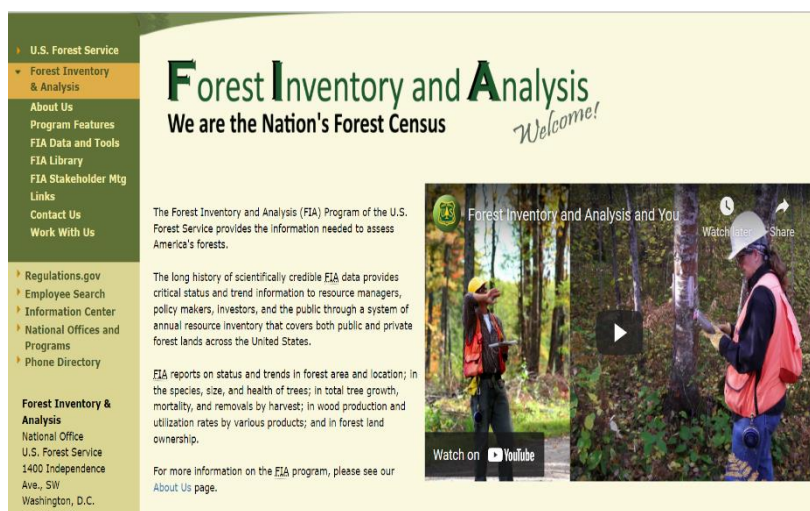
September 2021

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FIA National Website & Portfolio Updates

FIA’s Community Engagement Team has been working the last few years to update and maintain FIA’s national [website](#). Many updates have been made including the addition of recruitment and informational videos, addition of the *Work with Us* page and content, additional documentation, updated FIA Fact Sheets and most recently the addition of links to regional field guides. The goal of the national website is to be the main hub for all information regarding FIA. Similar to identifying the need for regional field guide links, if there is information that you’d like to see on the website that’s not currently there, please contact Mary Miller and Summer Dunn.



Portfolio and project leads have been asked to provide updated status summaries for the upcoming FIA Planning Meeting (see *Meetings* section). The *Portfolios* section at the end of the newsletter link to the updated status summaries.

Change Management

Current national issues that require attention to resolve are moving through the program's new change management process. There have been many questions concerning the new process, so a Standard Operating Procedure document was created. Though the SOP is no longer in draft form, it is updated as new the process evolves. The SOP document can be accessed through the FIA Resource Center [here](#).

Summer Dunn presented the new change management process to each of the bands and the Program Managers (PM's). However, if you were unable to attend the band meeting, a video of the presentation can be accessed at the FIA Resource Center under the *Posts* tab on the *General* channel, linked [here](#).

A number of questions were generated from these presentations. Some of the questions were addressed in last month's newsletter. Please follow the link [here](#) if you'd like to reference the Q&A's.

A complete list of national issues as well as supporting documentation (including timelines and deadlines) can be accessed through the FIA Resource Center under the Bands and National Consistency Channel.

For further information or questions concerning change management or the FIA Resource Center, contact Summer Dunn.

Updates: National Issues

Master Species List (MSL) v. 2.0

Most should be aware that there is an effort to update the Master Tree Species List from the way it was originally implemented in field guide version 9.0. The issue is national in scope thus has moved through the new change management process.

The next step in the process is to identify possible risks with the proposed solution. The issue is outlined in the *Risk Analysis* document [here](#) (please do not make edits or comments in this linked document but rather go through your Band Leader). The *Risk Analysis* document was distributed to each band for review and to solicit feedback on any potential risks associated with the proposed solution/COA (course of action). Possible COA's were identified by the team of SME's that have worked through the new change management process over last 6 months to determine the best COA to resolve the issue. Feedback from band members was due on 9/24 and the compiled band response is due on 10/1. After band responses on risks are received, the team of SME's will review those responses to ensure there are no major issues that weren't considered over the past 6 months. If no critical issues are identified, MSL v. 2.0 will move to be implemented in field guide version 9.2. More information on field guide timelines can be found [here](#). For those that would like to access all of the documentation concerning the process, decisions, phases, and steps completed thus far for MSL v. 2.0, please follow this [link](#).

The communication within this and previous newsletters, discussions/presentations during band meetings, emails from Band Leaders and the Band Coordinator/Conductor, and updates via the FIA Resource Center are all mediums in which this change is being communicated.

Bug Fixes for Field Guide 9.2

There are a number of Bug Fixes for field manual version 9.2 that have been distributed for band review. A reminder that a Bug Fix is changing field manual verbiage, illustrations, etc. to ensure

consistent national interpretation for implementation. Bug Fixes include understanding and agreement on *intent* of data item and thus Bug Fixes *do not* change intent associated with the collection of data item. The Bug Fixes for field guide v. 9.2 have been approved and changes will be incorporated according to field guide timelines (see link above).

Meetings, Presentations, StoryMaps, etc.

National Planning Meeting

The National Planning Meeting has been tentatively set for mid-October. The agenda for this meeting has not yet been set but attendance will be virtual. In the past, this meeting has consisted of reviewing accomplishments, setting goals for the coming year and discussing challenges to achieving those goals. Attendees usually include FIA Leadership and Band Representatives. More information for this meeting will be shared when available.

RMRS Research & Management: Research Note & StoryMap

Staff from the Rocky Mountain Research Station and from NFS Region 4 have been in collaboration in an effort to take science findings and utilize for active forest and rangeland management. A research note, *Rocky Mountain Research Station Science Partner Program: A roadmap to connecting Forest Service science and management* and companion [StoryMap](#) have been created to expound this effort. This effort has been used as a great example of R&D researchers and NFS land managers working together to find and implement practical on-the-ground land management strategies.

New Member of National Operations Team: Welcome Kendra Olsen!

Kendra Olsen is the newest member of the National Operations Team and will be filling a greatly needed Project Supervisor position.

A little about Kendra:

Kendra came to the Forest Service in 1998 as a Student Intern, earning job credits by implementing Recreation Fee Demonstration on the Prescott National Forest (NF) in Prescott, Arizona.

Kendra's first permanent position with the agency was as Secretary for the Forest Supervisor on the Prescott NF, where she supported the Forest Leadership Team for 3 years, while learning about the agency's programs.

In 2001, Kendra entered the Forest Service Reinvention Laboratory, which was based on then Vice President Al Gore's Reinventing Government Initiative. As "Owner" of an Enterprise Unit, Kendra led project teams and managed projects in a virtual environment. The projects revolved around Conservation Education, Interpretation, Market Research, Public Affairs and Communications.



From 2008 through 2013, Kendra served as a Realty Specialist on Prescott NF, where she managed projects like the Congressionally legislated Northern Arizona Land Exchange and the contentious Prescott Sportsmen’s Club Shooting Range Notice of Violation.

In 2013, Kendra began managing software development projects with NRM. She received the Project Management Institute’s Project Management Professional Certification in November 2015. She previously served as the NRM Travel Routes Application Portfolio Manager and most recently served as the NRM Engineering, Recreation and Real Property Management Application Portfolio Manager, leading a team of 19 personnel, and managing projects for 16 software applications.

Welcome Kendra!

Links and Updates to Portfolios, Social Media Posts, Treearch & FYI

To keep a consistent location where portfolios can be accessed as well as the latest FIA related social media activity, portfolio links and links to social media are included in the newsletter. Additionally, all FIA-related publications can be located at the link below using a tool that searches R&D’s *Treearch* database. Follow the links below for the latest information on portfolios and social media activity. And a reminder, any social media post related to FIA, please ensure to use the following handle: #USDA_FIA

Carbon: <https://usfs.box.com/s/g5awv86ym9c1lf1ijjpx049xk4ou4ejo>

Biomass: <https://usfs.box.com/s/ggrbtgjk8nkbmic79miochn9xpvlum>

Digital Engagement: <https://usfs.box.com/s/7n54qiqpbn5fqimfuuuqvyyvcx1n86z>

Land Use/Land Cover: <https://usfs.box.com/s/avnvyr0b7j4jkph7qbtppxxt5vppipqy>

National Landowner Survey: <https://usfs.box.com/s/qlblr2ocia7x9ny35mmwdkeq0blk37v6>

Small Area Estimation: <https://usfs.box.com/s/icm1mt8qhbxbxnp2vb75m9chzixp1mwxs>

Timber Products Output: <https://usfs.box.com/s/zx00b08gv0te6u1gxz3pgys8y6tq206p>

Urban FIA: <https://usfs.box.com/s/oq4ye6udgc94iq25iob4zvu56c4724n0>

FIA in Social Media: https://twitter.com/search?q=USDA_FIA&src=typd

FIA Publications in Treearch:

The tool to search FIA-specific publications within *Treearch* can be accessed at the following link:

<https://www.nrs.fs.fed.us/internal/treearch/>

To search FIA-specific publications using this tool:

- 1) Click on drop-down and choose “All Forest Inventory & Analysis Units”

- 2) Choose date range
- 3) Click Submit

For more information on the Community Engagement Newsletter, please contact:



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