From:	Abraham Wheeler
To:	Cheyne N Rossbach; Jake Winn; Jay Carlson; Paul Ausbeck; Craig Kintop
Subject:	Fw: informal comment for Roseburg Pilot
Date:	07/25/2011 07:00 AM
Attachments:	don_LANDTYPEASSOC.pdf

FYI

----- Forwarded by Abraham Wheeler/RBFO/OR/BLM/DOI on 07/25/2011 06:58 AM -----

Don Morrison
<dmorrison200@gmail.com>

07/22/2011 11:02 AM

To	abe wheeler <abraham_wheeler@blm.gov>
cc	Stan Vejtasa <svejtasa@dcwisp.net>, Javier Goirigolzarri <rms@rosenet.net>, Jim Caplan <jim_caplan1@msn.com>, buzz long <buzzbike@msn.com>, mike bormuth <mikebo@rfpco.com>
Subject	informal comment for Roseburg Pilot

abe,

I just noticed that i missed the scoping period for the Roseburg Pilot so i send the following comment to you informally just to get it off my chest:

On a pilot fieldtrip i asked Jerry Franklin the question, "what percentage of the landscape do you envision being occupied by the early serial (young <50-year-old) vegetation? With qualifications and discalimers, he responded, "around 20 %"!

I don't believe there is a right answer to this kind of question, but i do suggest that defining the affected landscape ecologically and disclosing the desired condition of vegetation structure and composition in that landscape area for the foreseeable future should be core objectives for your NEPA process.

I attach a copy of one landscape mapping scheme for an adjacent western Cascades province as an example of one way to stratify the ecosystem at the landscape scale. We (Umpqua NF) used this scheme to define landscape areas for vegetation analysis at that scale...needless to say, it helps to define the landscape ecologically to analyze vegetation and specify the Desired Condition.

It is my hope that public discourse on the management of public lands start to focus on the central question, "what do we want the distribution of mature and old forest to be in the

future?" I think it's important to provide an landscape context for answering that question and then propose how forest management and succession can lead us in the desired direction at the landscape-scale?

good luck with your project...i respect your initiative, BLM leadership and Jerry's intentions.

I look forwared to following the progress of NEPA for the Pilot, don don_LANDTYPEASSOC.pdf

LANDTYPE ASSOCIATIONS OF THE UMPQUA CASCADES

Map Units for Evaluating Landscape-scale Vegetation Potential and Fire Behavior

Don Morrison, Umpqua National Forest

March 2006

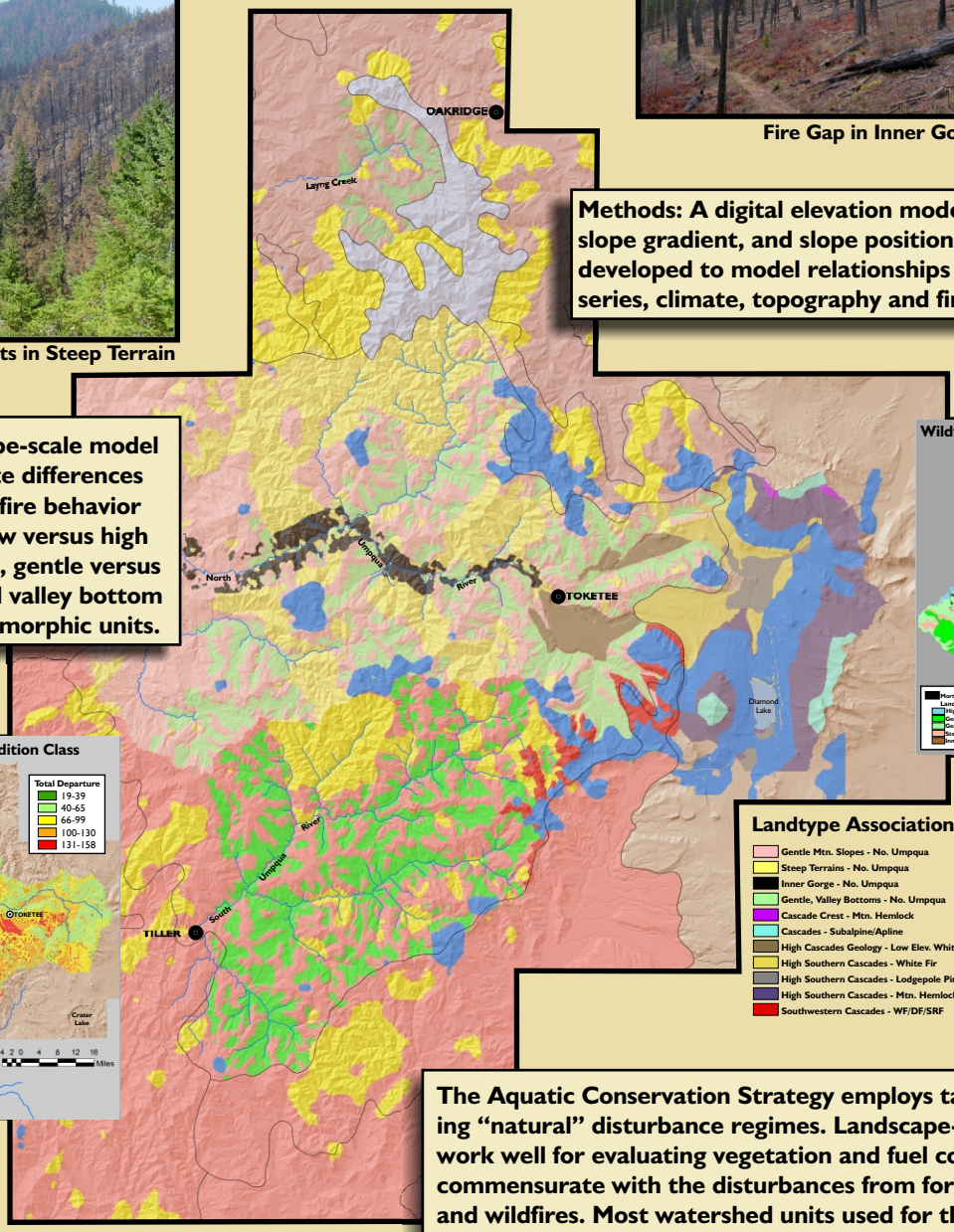
Landtype Associations were developed as a framework for Forest Planning and Fire Regime Condition Class reporting.

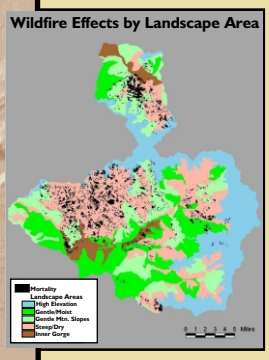
Wildfire Effects in Steep Terrain

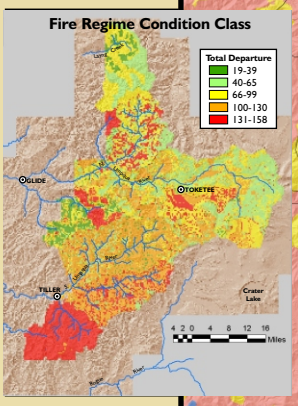
Fire Gap in Inner Gorge

Methods: A digital elevation model with elevation, slope gradient, and slope position attributes was developed to model relationships between plant series, climate, topography and fire regimes.

A simple, landscape-scale model is used to delineate differences in vegetation and fire behavior associated with low versus high elevation climates, gentle versus steep terrains and valley bottom versus upland geomorphic units.







Landtype Associations

- Gentle Mtn. Slopes - No. Umpqua
- Steep Terrains - No. Umpqua
- Inner Gorge - No. Umpqua
- Gentle, Valley Bottoms - No. Umpqua
- Cascade Crest - Mtn. Hemlock
- Cascades - Subalpine/Apline
- High Cascades Geology - Low Elev. White Fir
- High Southern Cascades - White Fir
- High Southern Cascades - Lodgepole Pine
- High Southern Cascades - Mtn. Hemlock
- Southwestern Cascades - WF/DF/SRF
- Western Cascades - DF/SF
- Cascades - Silver Fir
- Gentle Mtn. Slopes - So. Umpqua
- Steep Terrains - So. Umpqua
- Gentle, Valley Bottoms - So. Umpqua
- Gentle Mtn. Slopes - Willamette
- Steep Terrains - Willamette
- Gentle, Valley Bottoms - Willamette
- Diamond Lake
- Sub-Ecoregions

The Aquatic Conservation Strategy employs tactics for maintaining "natural" disturbance regimes. Landscape-scale map units work well for evaluating vegetation and fuel conditions at a scale commensurate with the disturbances from forest management and wildfires. Most watershed units used for this purpose do *not* have the appropriate scale or boundaries.