Hardwood Silviculture Cooperative

Summer Management Committee Meeting Minutes

June 15, 2018

Business Meeting

Attendees: Andrew Bluhm, Glenn Ahrens- OSU; Brian Morris- WA DNR; Florian Deisenhofer- Hancock; Dave Sweitzer- Washington Hardwood Commission; George Harper- BC Ministry of Forestry; Darrel Alvord- Cascade Hardwoods

The meeting started at 8:30 AM at the DNR Castle Rock, WA office with a welcome from the HSC program leader, Glenn Ahrens. After welcomes, Andrew Bluhm moved on to HSC business with a review of last years’ fieldwork, the coming years’ fieldwork and an overview of the data collection schedule for all three installation types.

Last year (Winter 2017/18) had six installations requiring field work:

* Two more of the oldest HSC sites (LaPush and Pollard Alder) had their 27th year measurement.
* One Type 2 installation (Maxfield) and one Type 3 installation (Cedar Hebo) had their 22nd year measurement.
* In addition to the above measurements, two installations required thinning (Dora and Cape Mtn.) and two installations were due for the 4th and final pruning lift (Cape Mtn., and Maxfield).
* There were no orphaned sites due for measurement or treatment.

Next year (Winter 2018/19) will be a busy year.

* Five Type 2 installations (Pioneer Mtn., Sitkum, Keller-Grass, Shamu, and Thompson Cat) will have their 27th year measurement.
* Three Type 2 installations (Weebe Packin, Wrongway Ck., and Tongue Mtn.) will need their 22nd year measurement.
* One Type 3 installation (East Wilson) will have its 27th year measurement.
* There are no thinning or pruning treatments required.
* Unfortunately, three of the ten installations are “orphaned” making it difficult to get the measurements completed.

As fall approaches, Andrew will contact each HSC member to provide specific on the activities and schedule the fieldwork.

Next, Andrew presented the HSC budget. Please see the handouts included in the meeting folder. Highlights included:

* Dues received in fiscal year 2018 were $55,572, very similar to the dues received the year before.
* Actual FY2018 costs (with the exception of increased supplies and travel costs) were in line with what was projected for FY2018.
* Andrew’s time remained at 0.35FTE.
* The HSC will be carrying over appx. $61,000 into FY2019.
* Starting in 2019, ODF will no longer be a dues paying member, other than that, FY2019 dues paying members should remain the same.
* Because of the workload and availability of carryover funds, Andrews’s time is projected to increase to 0.40FTE.

Discussion about the HSC budget and future direction covered several key topics:

We discussed strategies to increase membership/dues such as revisiting hardwood industry entities and major landowners with renewed effort to encourage membership in and support for HSC.

We highlighted HSC’s ongoing collaboration with the Center for Intensive Plantation Silviculture (CIPS). This effort has produced an update of the Red Alder Plantation (RAP) growth and yield model equations using HSC data collected from 22- and 27-year-old installations, a great improvement on the earlier RAP version. This will allow us to proceed in using RAP to develop products such as yield tables and projected outcomes from likely management scenarios that foresters and landowners can use to guide their decisions. Given that red alder is the third most abundant commercial tree in western Oregon and Washington, we are pursuing increased attention to red alder from CIPS.

Also, a key topic was the possibility for HSC to pursue establishing a clone bank and/or a seed orchard using material from the WSU alder clone program we learned about at the Washington Hardwoods Commission symposium on June 14.

Field Tour

Attendees: Andrew Bluhm, Glenn Ahrens- OSU; Brian Morris- WA DNR; Florian Deisenhofer- Hancock; Dave Sweitzer- Washington Hardwood Commission; George Harper- BC Ministry of Forestry; Ken Jones- Cascade Hardwoods; Josh Himsl & Patrick Shults- NRCS; Randy Roeh- Hancock; Jeremy Martin- Northwest Hardwoods; Matthew Provencher- WA DNR; Tom & Bryan Inglin; Frank Curtin; Chuck Lorenz.

Starting at 10:30, we all grouped up, drove to the Longview, WA/Abernathy Creek area and toured some of DNRs red alder plantations. Below is a list of tour stops and the associated topics of interest.

* Stop #1- Cant Dog U1; Harvest 2017, site prep 2018, plant red alder 2019
  + Site Selection
  + Seedlings

* Stop #2- Other Side U2; Harvest 2005, site prep 2006, plant red alder 2007; PCT 2013
  + PCT Timing & Density
  + PCT Economics
* Stop #3- Sprawlder; 20 year-old, operational red alder plantation
  + Stand Trajectories
  + Desired Log Sizes & Quality
* Stop #4- Sprawl; 30 year-old research unit (SI20=74.7ft)
  + Density management effects on tree form
  + Density management effects on stand volume
  + Red alder vs. Douglas-fir Economic comparison

Please see the associated field tour handouts for more specifics.