



Monitoring Forest Soil Moisture for a Changing World

Breakout Session Questions

May 16, 2018 – Day 2 at 1:30 p.m.

Breakout Session 1

Informing the development of a new strategic approach: what is the existing state of forest soil moisture monitoring and what are the key issues and needs?

1. Indicators, Inventory Assessment, and Monitoring for Forest Soil Moisture Trends
 - i. What data, information, and indicators are currently being used by analysts and decision makers?
 - ii. What are their limitations?
 - iii. How to apply to forest ecosystems considering current and legacy data
 - iv. Co-monitoring of ancillary variables (e.g., temperature) or other data (e.g., texture)
2. Knowledge, Gaps, and Future Technology
 - i. What are big research and management questions that would benefit from soil moisture data?
 - ii. What technology and efforts could be applied to fill gaps?
 - iii. What opportunities for improvement rise to the top and why? Examples?
3. Data Management and Reporting Systems
 - i. Existing databases and legacy data?
 - ii. Challenges to integration?
 - iii. Potential opportunities/strategies to fully integrated database?
 - iv. What metadata and metadata standards should be used?
 - v. Ideas for data access, reporting, and visualization? Provide examples of current systems if appropriate.



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Breakout Session Questions

May 17, 2018 – Day 3 at 8:45 a.m.

Breakout Session 2

Building off the identification of key findings from Breakout Session 1, what are the opportunities and innovations needed to improve forest soil moisture data and information to meet current and future needs?

1. Potential **strategies** for addressing the identified challenge. What strategies are needed to remove/reduce the barrier?
2. What are some **tools** to implement the strategy proposed?
3. **Who** will need to make changes to achieve the outcome? Role of agencies, role of partners.
4. **Feasibility** of implementing strategy (any capacity limitations?).

Forest Soil Moisture Needs		DESIRED OUTCOME	SUGGESTED SOLUTIONS		
Need	Opportunity		Strategies	Tools	Resource Needs