

FIA 2012 National User Group Meeting Notes
Baltimore, MD
March 7-8, 2012

Meeting: 2012 FIA National User Group Meeting

Purpose: To learn about recent progress in the FIA program and to provide an opportunity for FIA staff to hear from users.

Agenda: Archived at <http://www.ncasi2.org/downloads/BWG/>

Attendees: Archived at <http://www.ncasi2.org/downloads/BWG/>

Presentations: Abstracts and presentations are archived at <http://www.ncasi2.org/downloads/BWG/>

Follow-up items suggested by the group:

1) Don't eliminate plots or change the basic design in response to budget cuts. The group felt that an increase in the cycle length would do the least damage to the program. This is consistent with opinions from previous user group meetings.

2) Timber Product Output Program – Methods to improve the program and enhance its value for economic development and modeling should be sought. One possibility would be to develop an annual TPO system that is compatible nationally and with FIA's annual forest inventory.

3) Estimation issues:

a) There should be a renewed effort to investigate alternatives to the simple moving average for improved trend detection and estimation.

b) FIA should investigate methods that could be used to provide short term projections (5 to 10 years). For example, plots could be projected with hotdeck matching algorithms.

c) There is currently a bias that results from methods used by FIA to estimate growth and removals by diameter class. A white paper should be developed to describe the problem and the solution. The solution should be implemented in FIA online tools.