

NOTES: SOFAR Landscape Vision Committee

Dec. 2, 2021

Meeting in Brief

The Landscape Vision Committee is going to work with research scientist Pat Manley of TCSI to plan an analysis and corresponding presentation for the SOFAR area along with a more detailed look at the Crystal Basin focus area. A small group will meet with Pat to help her gauge the correct level of detail for sharing with the Landscape Vision Committee.

SAVE DATE: The TCSI SOFAR presentation (90 minutes) will take place Jan. 27, 2021, 1:00–3:00.

Vegetation Burn Severity Maps are available now. Use this link and query "Caldor" to access veg burn severity data <https://fsapps.nwcg.gov/ravg/data-access>

TCSI Analysis with Pat Manley

Pat Manley explained that the TCSI model is now available and can be used to identify priority areas for management action to move toward desired conditions. The model can scale to large areas, but also drill down into specific detail. All SOFAR is covered by TCSI. Only 75% of the Eldorado National Forest is covered by TCSI at this time, but plans are underway to expand TCSI to cover all of ENF. Conducting some analyses in SOFAR should inform ENF as well.

Department of Conservation Block Grants are coming up soon, and SOFAR would be competitive and eligible to apply for those grants. These grants are a source of significant funding for landscape planning and stakeholder engagement. No action is needed right now.

Pat explained that running the analysis on all SOFAR does not take more time than concentrating on specific focus areas so she recommends proceeding with all of SOFAR. For the first round of analysis, she will also have the group look in detail at Crystal Basin. This will help everyone understand model outputs and applications. Then, the group can decide how it might wish to proceed. While several projects in Crystal Basin have already undergone NEPA analysis, Pat reports that those areas are relatively small in two areas; the whole area has not been evaluated.

Next Step: Greg Suba and Norma Santiago will join a FS staff person and work with Pat to plan the Jan. 27 presentation. After the presentation, the committee can refine outcomes and project areas for further SOFAR analyses.

Post-Fire Discussion

Vegetation Burn Severity Maps are available now. Use this link and query "Caldor" to access veg burn severity data <https://fsapps.nwcg.gov/ravg/data-access>

[Link](#) to All Meeting Materials

The Forest Service's Regional Office is working with the Eldorado National Forest to conduct a rapid assessment for the post-Caldor area. The Landscape Vision Committee members expressed hope that they would like to engage with the ENF on post-fire planning.

The committee reiterated its interest in understanding what happened in the Headwaters Focus Area given prescribed fire and other management actions that have occurred there.

The fate of red fir forests and implications for the red fir strategy are also of interest. A field trip and post-fire analysis of red fir would also be of interest.

Tree Nursey Grant

Norma Santiago reports that \$5 million will be available for tree nurseries to address the seed shortage in California. CalFire grants are revolving so the Committee can revisit in February.