



Impacts of Fire Management on Carbon Stocks in Yosemite and Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks

Natural Resource Technical Report NPS/XXXX/NRTR—20XX/XXX





ON THIS PAGE

High severity postfire landscape within Yosemite National Park
Photograph by: Leeland Tarnay

ON THE COVER

High elevation vegetation as viewed from Mt Hoffman in Yosemite National Park
Photograph by: Leeland Tarnay

Impacts of Fire Management on Carbon Stocks in Yosemite and Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks

Natural Resource Technical Report NPS/XXXX/NRTR—20XX/XXX

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Abstract/Executive Summary

Forest biomass on Sierra Nevada landscapes constitutes one of the largest carbon stocks in the state of California and the stability of that carbon stock is tightly linked to fire and the ecological factors that drive the fire regime. Recent research suggests that over a century of fire suppression, fuel accumulation, and the reintroduction of fire in Sierra Nevada forests have reduced the amount of carbon that such suppressed landscapes store, while increasing the likelihood of catastrophic, stand-replacing fire. For over 30 years, fire management at Yosemite (YOSE) and Sequoia & Kings Canyon (SEKI) National Parks has led the nation in restoring fire to park landscapes, however the impacts of that restoration on the stability and magnitude of carbon stocks are not yet known.

The purpose of this project was to examine the effects of fire on carbon stocks in these two parks. Our approach to this question was focused on evaluating the effect of fire on the: 1) amount of above-ground carbon on the landscape (limited to trees and standing snags); and 2) rate of carbon accumulation by individual trees. In 2010, we were successful in designing and planning the plot work, and building the foundational database for this analysis through an interagency agreement with U.S. Geological Survey and through a CESU agreement with University of Washington. In 2011, we hired and trained the field crew and acquired the plot data, including tree core specimens, from the 117 out of 200 target plots. In 2012, we completed the interpretive component and began the analyses of the plot data. In 2013, processing of tree cores began (at Utah State University, due to the move of investigators Lutz and Becker). In 2014, final processing of tree cores, data analyses, and manuscript preparation will be completed for objectives 1 and 2. This final report addresses and maps the quantitative amount and stability of tree carbon stocks relative to fire for both YOSE and SEKI. This research became the seed for a much larger effort that will continue to lead to results beyond those outlined in the original proposal.

Examining carbon densities across the landscape in burned vs. unburned areas, our analysis of the effect of fire history on carbon densities showed no significant difference (at the 95% confidence level) between burned and unburned plots in the areas sampled (15-16 years post-fire in most plots), though there was a non-significant tendency toward lower carbon in some vegetation types, especially red fir.

In order to quantify carbon and the potential difference between burned and unburned areas in these parks, we had to account for all sources of error and propagate that error as we summed carbon densities across various landscape strata. Using Monte Carlo simulation methods, we found that mapping uncertainty was the largest source of uncertainty, while measurement uncertainties arising from using general allometry were relatively small. For managers, this report presents a map of carbon that incorporates these uncertainties, and a recommended method for propagating these uncertainties across selected areas of management interest.

To illustrate the utility of this map for looking at areas of management interest, our report uses this tool to look not only the total amount of tree carbon in YOSE (25 Tg C) and SEKI (19 Tg C), but also look at the amount of carbon in different vegetation types (red fir and sugar pine –white fir dominated forest comprise the bulk of the carbon stocks in both parks) and (in YOSE only) how

much carbon is in areas of varying degrees of “departure” from historic fire return intervals as a proxy for the stability of our carbon stocks. For YOSE, about 10 out of the 25 Tg C (mostly red fir, Jeffrey pine, and western white pine) is relatively “secure” in low risk areas, another ~10 Tg (mostly red fir and western white pine) lies in areas that have missed two fire return intervals, with the rest of the C (largely ponderosa pine and white fir – sugar pine) in higher risk areas that have missed 9 or more fire return intervals.

Finally, we compare these results to remotely sensed carbon (NASA-CASA, <http://geo.arc.nasa.gov/sge/casa/>) and find that, accounting for likely biases and uncertainties in our plot-based estimates, the two methods roughly agree. Our analysis and intercomparisons clearly show however that accounting for fire severity within fire perimeters should be part of any future effort to map and quantify the effects of fire across landscapes. We illustrate the potential importance of this with an example using the 2013 Rim Fire, which burned an area containing over 5 Tg C, but likely left a large fraction of that C on the landscape if one accounts for fire severity.

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Introduction

The distribution and abundance of carbon sequestered on the landscapes of western North America is of crucial importance to land management issues relating to fire (Hurteau and Brooks 2011) and climate (Swann et al. 2012). Rates of carbon sequestration are also fundamental to global gradients of productivity (Chisholm et al. 2013). However, detailed estimates of carbon have many sources of variation that are difficult to quantify for any particular landscape. In the Sierra Nevada, the heterogeneity of carbon across landscapes arises from virtually every ecological process: the species present (Lutz et al. 2010), the productivity gradient (Larson et al. 2008), the history and magnitude of fire and wind (van Wagtendonk and Lutz 2007, Lutz and Halpern 2006, Lutz et al. 2011, North et al. 2007), fuels treatment and management (Hurteau and North 2009), dispersal and post-disturbance forest development (Halpern and Lutz 2013), and the effects of insects and pathogens. Of these processes, fire is perhaps the most fundamental and defining ecosystem process in the Sierra Nevada.

Fire, whether ignited naturally or by fire managers, is indispensable to park managers seeking to promote desirable composition, structure, and function of forests within Yosemite (YOSE) and Sequoia and Kings Canyon (SEKI) National Parks. Fire exclusion, starting 150 years ago, and becoming very effective since the early 1900s (van Wagtendonk 2007), has altered fuel structure, fire behavior, and fire regimes in ways that increase risk to human life and infrastructure, natural and cultural resources, watershed function, tourism, and local economies. The specific changes at the heart of the problem is a shift from low- to mixed-severity fires with short return intervals (Scholl and Taylor 2010) to altered fire regimes in which high severity catastrophic crown fires are more common (either with greater areas burned at high severity or larger size of high-severity patches). During the past three decades fire has been systematically reintroduced into the fire-adapted forests of YOSE and SEKI, either by allowing naturally-ignited fires to burn under prescribed conditions (i.e. wildland fire use fires) or by management-ignited fires (i.e. prescribed fires). The general objectives of these managed fires are to: (1) reduce surface and ladder fuels, (2) minimize the risk of crown fire, and (3) restore historic pre-suppression era fire regimes, and thereby (4) increase the resilience of forests to projected climate changes (e.g. Miller et al. 2012). In the lower montane forests of the Sierra Nevada where much of the carbon is sequestered, the focus in the National Parks has been on increasing fire frequency, increasing overall landscape heterogeneity in burned areas (Hessburg et al. 2005) and restoring other pre-suppression era fuels and fire regime characteristics.

Although fire is an important factor in the carbon dynamics of forests, the effect of restored versus altered fire regimes on carbon stocks has not been previously evaluated. Although fires release large amounts of greenhouse gases from forest biomass – either immediately through combustion or over time, as dead trees decompose – there is always some degree of postfire vegetation regrowth that assimilates carbon back into sequestered biomass (Hurteau and Brooks 2011). The net change of carbon contained in vegetation on the landscape relative to pre-fire levels depends on the time since burning, fire severity, and the type of vegetation that grows back (Hurteau 2013). The time it takes for a forest to develop following a high severity wildfire can be several centuries, but fires that burn at lower severities may be able to replace biomass lost to fire in decadal timescales. The differing productivities of forests and their attendant regrowth rates (Larson et al. 2008), coupled with the

characteristic fire return interval of each forest type, make it difficult to determine the conditions under which fires result in a net emission or assimilation of carbon at decadal and sub-decadal timescales. At broader spatial scales and multidecadal timescales, recent research has shown that frequent fire appears to select for forest stands that are less dense, and contain larger diameter trees that store a greater volume of carbon per unit land area than the stands they replace (Fellows and Goulden, 2008). In the lower elevation forests of YOSE, higher severity fire may be associated with the loss of large-diameter trees, whereas low- and moderate-severity fires do not cause noticeable declines in large-diameter tree density (Collins et al. 2011, Lutz et al. 2009). In addition, forests with larger diameter trees of fire resistant species have complex structure which often includes a high height-to-live-crown, making them less susceptible to catastrophic stand replacing crown fires, and thus promoting long-term carbon storage (Hurteau et al. 2008).

In 2006, California passed the Global Warming Solutions Act (AB 32), mandating that emissions of statewide greenhouse gases be reduced to 1990 emission levels. The California Air Resources Board was charged with developing and implementing a methodology for quantifying and monitoring these greenhouse gas emissions from the different emission “sectors” in California, including the forestry sector. The immediate contribution of emissions from individual fire events to this sector can approach magnitudes equivalent to total annual emissions of medium to large cities in the case of the largest wildfires, leading to the perception that they are significant threats to the carbon sequestration capacity of the landscape. Even though this view only accounts for immediate and short-term fire effects, it still leads to the possibility that the use of fire as a management tool to restore fire regimes may be significantly curtailed in the future if regulations are implemented to limit the conversion of carbon from terrestrial to atmospheric pools during fire events. However, if limiting the use of fire to restore pre-suppression era fire regimes leads to lower and/or more unstable forest carbon stocks, such regulations may be ultimately counterproductive for carbon management.

A more comprehensive and realistic view of fire effects on carbon in the forestry sector requires that the initial loss from the forest must be balanced with longer-term dynamics which could actually result in net gains in carbon stocks depending on if the same amounts and types of biomass grow back post-fire (Hurteau and Brooks 2011, Hurteau 2013). Because forest regrowth can take decades to centuries, it is difficult to determine whether fires cause a net loss or gain of carbon in terrestrial pools over these longer timescales. Ultimately, the energy balance of the planet depends on how much carbon dioxide accumulates in the atmosphere over time. Year-to-year variations in annual emission budgets at small spatial scales (relative to the vegetated area of the planet) thus matter less than net accumulation of CO₂ and other greenhouse gases over decades, and any permanent diminishment of the amount and stability of carbon stocks in fire-adapted forest ecosystems in the Sierra Nevada has the potential to exceed sequestration gains made in other sectors by orders of magnitude. Protection of characteristic ecosystem composition, structure, and carbon sequestration, to the extent possible, of these potentially volatile and sensitive carbon pools must therefore be a high priority for and comprehensive strategy to lessen the accumulation of greenhouse gas emissions in the atmosphere.

Objectives

The objectives of this project were to evaluate the effects of four decades of restored fire on the: 1) amount and stability of above-ground carbon on the landscape (limited to trees and standing snags); and 2) rate of carbon assimilation by individual burned and unburned trees.

Approach and Scope/Limitations

This work focuses on standing live and dead tree carbon exclusively. Shrubs were excluded because there are very few allometric equations available in the literature and most relate biomass to cover (e.g. McGinnis et al. 2010) which are much weaker biomass indicators than other metrics such as basal stem diameter (e.g. Halpern and Lutz 2013, Lutz et al submitted). Existing allometric equations relating shrub cover to biomass are also predominantly from lower elevation chaparral ecosystems (McGinnis et al. 2010), which are not characteristic of the predominantly forested systems examined in this study. Since cover rather than basal stem diameter was included in the existing datasets used in this study, we could not estimate shrub carbon. However, shrub carbon usually accounts for a relatively small fraction of total aboveground carbon on landscapes dominated by trees – in intact late successional forests of the Sierra Nevada lower mixed conifer, shrub biomass is approximately 1% of ecosystem biomass (Lutz et al. 2012), and in early seral systems (those responding to catastrophic disturbance – a rarity in the study area), shrub biomass declines from about 1/3 of total biomass 20 years after stand-initiating disturbance to about 6% of total biomass 40 years after stand-initiating disturbance (Halpern and Lutz 2013)

Belowground carbon was excluded primarily because there are insufficient studies of total carbon in late-successional systems, especially those with large-diameter trees. And, although fire removes large roots from previously dead trees and volatilizes some surface carbon, below-ground stores of carbon are less changeable in response to fire than aboveground carbon. We acknowledge the importance of below-ground carbon stocks and the need for further research in this area.

We determined that the first step to understanding carbon dynamics and the interaction of fire was to evaluate above-ground dynamics. We plan to then leverage our existing plots associated with above-ground carbon estimates and pair them with below-ground carbon measurements as part of a future study.

We addressed objective 1 using existing and new vegetation plot data and precise vegetation mapping data combined with a comprehensive review and selection of allometric equations to estimate carbon amounts. We also quantified the uncertainty in carbon estimates that remain after applying the best available science to the carbon estimation, and to suggest areas of further research that would minimize the uncertainty in carbon estimates. After creating a carbon map for YOSE and SEKI, we overlaid fire return interval departure (FRID) maps to evaluate the current stability of the carbon stocks. Data collection and initial analyses are completed for objective 1, and the methods and initial results are presented and discussed in this report. Additional analyses were in progress at the time of this report and will be included in one of the journal manuscripts that will be created for this objective.

We are addressing objective 2 using tree cores and dendrochronological methods to document tree growth patterns and rates of carbon assimilation for the five years before and after fires of low- to moderate-severity. Data collection is complete but some cores still remain to be analyzed. Thus, the methods and results for the Objective 2 will be presented and discussed in a future manuscript for this objective.

Methods

Dataset for Objective 1

We compiled a dataset of ground-based tree measurements using existing vegetation project databases throughout the parks. These projects included data collected for natural resource inventories (Peggy Moore, Ecologist, USGS Yosemite Field Station and Sylvia Haultain, Plant Ecologist, Sequoia/Kings Canyon National Park personal communications), vegetation mapping (Keeler-Wolf and Moore 2012; Sylvia Haultain, Plant Ecologist, Sequoia/Kings Canyon National Park personal communication), fire effects monitoring (Gus Smith, Fire Ecologist, Yosemite National Park and Tony Caprio, Fire Ecologist, Sequoia/Kings Canyon National Park personal communications), fuels studies (van Wagtenonk and Moore 2010), one 25.6 ha Smithsonian-affiliated demography plot (Lutz et al. 2012, 2013) and plots established for this project. Plots within forested vegetation types were primarily 0.1 ha in size, within which tree species and diameter at breast height (DBH) were recorded. Our compiled dataset consisted of 2590 total plots, with 1646 plots within forested vegetation types that were used in our analysis (Table 1). The years of plot measurements ranged from 1982 to 2011.

Plots were assigned forest types developed based on a combination of fire regime and tree morphology. Although the number of plots in the study was large (2,231), the number of individually mapped vegetation polygons and community types were many times higher (Aerial Information Systems 2007, Keeler-Wolf et al. 2012). Therefore, we combined named community types so that there would be sufficient numbers of plots in each type to develop meaningful carbon densities for each vegetation type. For example, high elevation woodlands comprise a considerable area of both parks, but have a generally low carbon density, very infrequent fire return interval, and characteristic tree morphology (short, conic boles). Based on the similarity of tree morphology (i.e., Sierra Juniper, whitebark pine, mountain hemlock), and therefore carbon content, and infrequent fire return interval, we used a single “carbon/fire type” for these vegetation communities (Appendix A). These forest types are an aggregation of more specific vegetation types developed by the park vegetation mapping efforts, so we consolidated the originally mapped types to our summary forest types and assigned plots forest types by spatially intersecting their locations with the vegetation maps. We inspected the assigned forest types and species composition of the plots, and it was clear that in some cases there were incorrect assignments, presumably because plot geographic coordinates were incorrect or the map polygon was incorrectly classified. In these cases, we conducted a k-means clustering of plots using their tree species composition, and then assigned the resulting clusters to our summary forest types. We looked for mismatches between the mapped-based and cluster-based forest types, and when found, manually assessed the species composition of those plots and assigned them to the appropriate forest type.

Allometric Equations for Objective 1

For calculating tree biomass, we compiled a set of allometric equations developed by prior studies (see Jenkins et al. 2004 and references therein). For each tree species, we examined all the allometric equations listed by Jenkins et al. (2004). We consulted the original source manuscripts for the equations and when selecting the most appropriate equation(s), we considered the geography of the original study, tree age range (where reported), tree diameter range, site productivity, site climate, and sample size. When available, we used species-specific equations from studies geographically closest to our study region (e.g. Westman 1998 for *Abies*). None of the allometric equations were developed from trees within the parks. If a species-specific equation wasn't available, we chose an equation from a species with a similar growth form or used one of the generalized equations developed by Jenkins et al. (2003). However, in many cases, particularly the high elevation woodlands (above), the Jenkins et al. (2003) generalized equations were not appropriate because of the reduced morphology of high elevation individuals of *Pinus* and *Tsuga*. In many cases, the diameter range of trees used to develop an equation did not extend throughout the diameter range of trees in our dataset. Yosemite and Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks contain the largest (or nearly so) individuals of *Pinus ponderosa*, *Pinus lambertiana*, *Abies concolor*, *Abies magnifica*, and *Sequoiadendron giganteum* (Van Pelt 2001), and because destructive sampling is generally enjoined in the parks, allometric equations of large enough diameter do not exist. Additionally, because of the high productivity of portions of the parks, many other individual trees found in the study plots exceed the diameters for their species-specific equation in Jenkins et al. (2004). For these situations we created blended equations using the species-specific equations over the diameter range of trees from which the equation was developed and equations from similar species and growth forms that covered the necessary diameter range. Appendix B provides a detailed listing of equations used for each species.

All equations were of the form $\ln(\text{biomass}) = a + b * \ln(\text{DBH})$, with biomass expressed in kg, DBH in cm, and \ln being the natural logarithm. Each equation included the standard error of the estimate (SEE), which is the standard deviation of the normally-distributed error around the predicted biomass while expressed on a log scale, and can be used to calculate a bias correction factor, which can be used when exponentiating the log-scaled biomass to an arithmetic value. Tree carbon mass was assumed to be 50% of biomass based on the proportion of carbon found in cellulose, hemicellulose, and lignin, but without regard for the various proportions of carbon present in species-specific complex organic compounds (e.g. polyphenols and extractives).

Field Data Collection for Objective 1

To supplement the pre-existing plot data, we established 105, 0.1 ha circular plots (Figure 1.) in YOSE (67 plots) and SEKI (48 plots). These plots were stratified by five different vegetation cover types (*Abies concolor*-*Pinus lambertiana*; ABCO, *Abies magnifica*; ABMA, *Pinus contorta*; PICO, *Pinus jeffreyi*; PIJE, *Pinus ponderosa*; PIPO) and fire history (burned or unburned in recorded history; Table 2). Plots were selected from adjacent portions of the forests that had been burned and unburned in an attempt to control for local variation more systematically than was possible with the existing database of plots. Additionally, plots were positioned within at least 50 m inside the mapped boundary of the intended forest type and burn patch, on slopes between 0° and 35°, and were situated at least 100 m from roads, streams, and trails. Upon arriving at site, field crews assessed intended

forest type and burn status, and relocated the plot if it did not meet the intended specifications. Plots were also relocated if a minimum of 10 trees > 8 cm diameter at breast height (dbh, 1.37 m) were not contained within 46.5 m of plot center.

Field crews visited plots between June and September 2011. Position of the plot center (GPS, NAD 83, taken with consumer-grade Garmin receivers), slope, aspect, topographic position (slope position: null, low, mid, upper slope; Level position: null, low, mid, or high level; Hydrology: null, interfluvial, channel, wall, basin floor) and slope configuration (convex vs. concave) were recorded for each plot for later fire behavior analysis. Additionally, two plot photos (north and south view) and panoramic video were taken from plot center of the view surrounding the plot by rotating a video camera on a monopod.

To verify forest type of each plot field crews recorded percentage of canopy cover by species for each quadrant of the plot based on ocular estimates. Field crews also recorded percentage cover by shrub species that occupied $\geq 1\%$ of one quadrant of the plot. The percentages of tree and shrub cover were averaged for the four quadrants to produce one value of percent cover by each species. Overlapping canopies were counted as if there was no overlap so percent cover values could exceed 100%.

To measure species composition and structure of each plot, field crews recorded species and dbh of all live trees and snags > 15.0 cm at breast height. Species and dbh were recorded for live trees and snags with dbh values between 2.5 cm and 15.0 cm in at least one quadrant of the plot. Slope-corrected, species specific estimates of live tree and snag basal area and stems/ha were generated from these data.

Analyses for Objective 1

Density and Total Carbon

We estimated tree carbon density (kg C / m²) and total carbon (Tg C) for each forest type within each park. Our definition of trees included living trees and standing snags. In addition to the typical uncertainty in estimated statistical parameters arising from sampling a population, we also explored the influence of various other measurement errors on carbon estimates and their uncertainties. These measurement errors included repeatability in tree diameter measurements, uncertainties in allometric equation diameter–biomass relationships, and classification accuracies in vegetation maps. We developed a Monte Carlo simulation which repeatedly calculated carbon densities and total carbon while taking into account those uncertainties. For tree diameter, a normally-distributed error with mean 0 and standard deviation 0.027 (based on the RMSE of duplicated tree diameter measurements reported by Gonzalez et al. [2010]) was added to each tree DBH measurement. Tree biomass was calculated using the assigned allometric equations and a normally-distributed error with mean 0 and standard deviation equal to the equation's standard error of the estimate (SEE) was added (while biomass was on a log scale). Typically, when making a single prediction using a log-log equation, a bias correction is added to the value so that when it is exponentiated it is closer to the arithmetic mean (the arithmetic values tend to be log-normally distributed and exponentiating the log value without bias correction will place the prediction closer to the distribution's median; Baskerville 1971). However, during a Monte Carlo simulation, the distribution of multiple arithmetic predictions will realize the log-normal distribution, so a bias correction is not needed. Log-scaled tree biomass values

were exponentiated, summed within a plot, and divided by the plot area to produce a carbon density value (kg C / m²). A bootstrapped sample (a random sample with replacement equal in size to the original sample) of all plots was taken in order to incorporate uncertainty from statistical sampling. We then fit a linear regression model to predict carbon density (log + 1 transformed) using forest type, forest canopy cover class, and their interaction as explanatory variables. Forest canopy cover classes were taken from the forest type maps, where each mapped polygon had been assigned a canopy cover class during photo interpretation. Three forest types (Douglas-fir Forest, Foothill Pine Woodland, and Western White Pine Woodland) did not have enough plots across a range of canopy covers, so their carbon estimates are a simple mean. These steps for predicting carbon densities utilized plots pooled across all parks.

We used the park vegetation maps to calculate the total areas for each combination of forest type and canopy cover class. To take into account uncertainties in vegetation mapping, we used the accuracy assessment matrices to generate uncertainties in forest type areas. The assigned to each polygon was randomly assigned using the numbers of ground-based truthing plots as weights. For example, if a particular vegetation type had 100 ground-based accuracy assessment plots with 70 determined to be the correctly classified type, 20 determined to be another type, and 10 determined to be a third type, then the probabilities of vegetation type assignment for that polygon were randomly assigned to the three types based on the proportions 0.7, 0.2, and 0.1, respectively. If a vegetation type had four or fewer accuracy assessment plots, we did not randomly reassign types. We then cross-walked the polygon vegetation types to our forest types, summed the total areas for each combination of forest type and canopy cover class, and multiplied by the predicted carbon densities to produce estimates of total carbon (Tg C). These steps were done separately for each park, including using the park-specific accuracy assessment matrix (Keeler-Wolf and Moore 2012, Aerial Information Systems 2007), in order to produce park-specific carbon estimates. Estimates of mean carbon densities for individual forest types (without regards to canopy cover) were calculated by taking a weighted average of the canopy cover class-specific estimates, with the weights equal to the total area of each canopy cover class.

We also explored simplifying the incorporation of allometric equation errors. Since individual trees within a plot are summed together to calculate carbon density, individual tree errors can also be summed together to produce a plot-level error. However, tree biomass errors are expressed, and normally distributed about the prediction, while on a log-scale, however the following equation (Baskerville 1971) can be used for approximating the error on an arithmetic scale: $\sqrt{\exp(2 * SEE^2 + 2 * \ln(\text{biomass})) - \exp(SEE^2 + 2 * \log(\text{biomass}))}$, where SEE is the standard error of the estimate for the log-log allometric equation and biomass is the computed biomass in arithmetic units. There are then two options for summing the resulting tree errors: a simple sum and a sum in quadrature (the square root of the sum of squared errors). If errors are assumed to be random and independent of each other, then summing in quadrature is appropriate, whereas the simple sum is a more conservative approach if independence cannot be assumed. Tree errors within a plot are likely dependent, for example a tree with a smaller-than-predicted bole biomass likely has smaller-than-predicted branch and leaf biomasses; or, tree biomasses in a plot might be higher than predicted if wood density tends to be greater due to slower growth at a low-productivity site. More importantly,

the allometric equations we used were developed from tree sub-populations outside the parks (sometimes a from a considerable distance away), and it is very likely that the tree morphologies differ between the sample location and the parks, forming a consistent (but unknown) bias in the allometric equations. In these situations, tree biomass was calculated using a bias correction factor since only a single prediction is being made. The benefit of using plot-level errors is that in each Monte Carlo realization random errors need only be generated for thousands of plots as opposed to hundreds of thousands, greatly reducing computation time.

Carbon density and total carbon estimates, plus their standard errors and 95% confidence intervals, were based on the means, standard deviations, and 2.5 and 97.5 percentiles of the distributions from a Monte Carlo simulation of 10,000 realizations. The simulations were programmed in R (R Core Team 2013, <http://www.R-project.org>), graphs developed using ggplot (Wickham 2009) and base R graphics packages, spatial data managed using PostGIS (PostGIS Development Team 2013, <http://postgis.net>), and maps produced using Quantum GIS (Quantum GIS Development Team 2013, <http://qgis.osgeo.org>).

Fire History and Carbon Density

We investigated the influence of fire history on carbon density for those forest types that experience regular, natural wildfire and for which we had sufficient sample sizes—specifically, red fir, white fir – sugar pine, ponderosa pine, Jeffrey pine, and lodgepole pine forests. As an initial analysis, we intersected plots within those forest types with fire history polygon data (ca. 1920 to present) from each park and derived three fire history metrics for each plot: 1) burned vs. unburned, 2) years since the last fire, and 3) number of times burned. For plots without a recorded history of fire, we set years since last fire to 100. We assessed if any of those burn metrics were related to forest type carbon density by developing a set of statistical models and comparing them using an information-theoretic approach. We defined seven candidate models: one model having just forest type as an explanatory variable, and six others that included one of the three burn history metrics either in addition to or interacting with forest type as explanatory variables (see Table 3 in Results and Discussion). Carbon density (log + 1 transformed) was the response variable. Model AIC scores (adjusted for sample size) were used to compare the predictive performances of the candidate models. A summary of plots, by vegetation type for this dataset is in Table 1.

Burn severity has been examined as both an independent predictor and a co-variate, but at the time of this report, those analyses were still in progress (to be published in Becker, K.M.L., Smith, D.G., and Lutz, J.A. In prep. Trends and variability in the effects of fire on forest structure in the Sierra Nevada). Given the limited number of plots and range of fire severity within each vegetation type, preliminary results do not point to a large and statistically significant effect of low- to moderate-severity fire. Although current fire policy is based just on acres burned, the objectives for individual fires often include details regarding severity. The results presented in the current report therefore focus on the burned/unburned alternatives on which policy is currently based, and whether that metric provides any useful information on the effects of fire on carbon stocks. The work still in progress will help bound the effects of lower severity fire on forest composition and structure.

To evaluate the relative stability of the carbon stock in the two parks we overlaid the carbon density map with FRID maps. We then calculated the amount of carbon within each forest type occurring within various FRID levels (number of fire return intervals missed).

Comparison with Other Carbon Accounting Efforts

Carbon estimation has been examined with a multitude of techniques. Most however focus on larger scales (tens of thousands of square km) and lower resolution (e.g., USGS Carbon Map (Matt/JR?); CEC, 2007) than is useful at the scale of most fires and for decision support by fire/land managers; while other studies focus on the local environment, providing data on specific forest types local to the area (1-10 ha) measured at the site in question (e.g., Lutz et al., 2012, Gonzalez et al., 2010)[c], but limited applicability at larger scales without an elaborate mapping analysis to reconcile mapping uncertainty. Both types of studies represent static estimates of carbon, and so become less accurate as trees sequester more carbon or die, releasing carbon. Temporal reconciliation accounting for the effects of subsequent disturbance and carbon accumulation can be problematic as well. Since our work was targeted exactly at the scale of most interest to National Park land managers spatially, we would need to reconcile plot estimates ranging from very recent (1-2 years old) to older (10-15 years old) with current conditions to fully support management decisions across polygons 100s of hectares in size.

Recently the NASA-CASA (<http://geo.arc.nasa.gov/sge/casa/>) program has developed a 250m resolution, California-wide product that applies remotely sensed (MODIS-based) NPP values to baseline stocks set for regional values (Pan et al., beginning in 2000), and brings those carbon values forward temporally to the present day, using a regional scheme for carbon accumulation rates tied to MODIS-observed greenness (Potter, 2010). We used and evaluated these statewide carbon estimates and also compared carbon values over the area of the Yosemite landscape. Further, we use our plot based carbon estimates to evaluate the potential inaccuracies of the CASA method for accounting for carbon stock reductions caused by fires. Finally, we plan to incorporate future results related to carbon accumulation stemming from the tree core collected during this project, so that carbon accumulation rates can be refined more precisely based on measurements from the ground.

Results and Discussion

Error Propagation and Sources of Uncertainty

Estimates of carbon rely on plot-based tree allometries linking dbh (diameter at breast height) to biomass measurements and scaling them up the landscape level. There are uncertainties associated with every step in these measurement and scaling processes. Tree inventories are converted to areal estimates of carbon using allometric equations for a given forest type, and landscape level values are calculated based on the distribution of those forest types. It is therefore just as important to understand the aggregate uncertainties involved with the estimates of carbon as it is to understand their “mean” values. Specifically, there are five potentially large sources of error associated with this process of estimating carbon on large landscapes.

1. Uncertainty embedded within allometric equations

The existing tree allometric equations themselves have error associated with them because they are typically derived from a small number of trees (usually <25, but often <10; Jenkins et al. 2004). These small sample sizes relative to the variation in dbh/biomass relationships result in considerable standard errors of typically 10% to 30% through the range of tree diameters used to develop them.

2. Site-specific tree morphology

Site-specific tree morphologies are not constant and trees sampled for allometric equations are usually gathered from one limited portion of the species range. When equations generated within one biophysical context are applied elsewhere, differences in site productivity, disturbances, climate, and land use histories can yield errors due to different morphologies of the sampled and target populations.

3. Lack of equations for large-diameter trees

Growth rates of trees vary over time and the range of tree sizes used to develop allometric equations should conservatively define the range of tree sizes they are applied to. The paucity of large diameter trees in the development of most allometric equations (very few contain trees > 100 cm dbh) is especially problematic since most carbon Sierra Nevada forests is contained in these large trees (Lutz et al. 2012). As a result, the biomass of large-diameter trees must be estimated from those few proxy species that have been sampled at large diameters. The problem of accurately calculating the biomass of large-diameter trees is magnified by their more complex and variable crown architecture compared to smaller trees (Sillett and Van Pelt 2007, Van Pelt and Sillett 2008). In areas where large-diameter trees constitute a large proportion of the tree population (for example where smaller trees are routinely eliminated by fire), or in areas where species reach maximum sizes much greater than any previously dissected, biomass estimates could potentially have large uncertainties.

4. Landscape heterogeneity

Landscapes are heterogeneous containing gradients of biophysical conditions (particularly relating to the site water balance) that can affect dbh/biomass relationships. To be accurate, landscape level estimates of carbon must be based on a sufficient number and distribution of plots to capture the range of these conditions.

5. Vegetation type mapping error

The vegetation maps used to scale up carbon estimates for forest types contain their own degree of error associated with vegetation cover assignment. Georeferencing uncertainties between plot locations (e.g. poor plot location information from older GPS units, difficult topography, or multipath GPS reception cause by high tree density) and vegetation cover polygons (e.g. from poor aerial photograph georectification, incorrect vegetation type identification, or polygon edge error during data input) can add further error.

We evaluated the relative contribution of these five sources of error, and found that in general uncertainties associated with repeated measurements of tree diameters and choice of diameter–

biomass allometric relationships had very little effect on the standard errors and confidence intervals of tree carbon density and total carbon estimates (however, better allometric equations constructed from dissections of large numbers of individual trees would improve uncertainties considerably). The widths of the 95% confidence intervals for total carbon in several major forest types within both parks differed only slightly among the different methods of accounting for allometry error (Figure 2). The typical uncertainty arising from sampling a population—especially a very heterogeneous one—appears much more important for our dataset.

Forest type classification uncertainties, however, were the most important determinant of carbon uncertainty. We observed that Monte Carlo-estimated areas differed from observed mapped-based areas for several forest types. For example, a single summation of red fir forest polygons from Yosemite's vegetation map yields 41,315 ha, while the Monte Carlo estimate is ~13% lower at 36,052 ha (95% confidence interval: 34,655 – 37,723), suggesting that this forest type is currently over-mapped. Other forest types appear to be under-mapped, for example the high woodland type, which occurs on 26,602 ha in Yosemite according to the vegetation map, while the Monte Carlo estimate is ~9% higher at 28,995 ha (95% confidence interval: 28,307 – 29,953). These differences in area estimates noticeably affected total carbon estimates for some forest types, and usually widened the total carbon confidence intervals (Figure 2), although can also narrow the confidence intervals in some types—for example red fir—because the reduction in total area of the type leads to lower total carbon and confidence intervals generally become more narrow as the estimate gets smaller.

Given these responses, the Monte Carlo simulation used to produce the carbon estimates throughout the remainder of this report used the 'plot error simple sum' method to propagate error and incorporate allometric uncertainty (mainly as a conservative approach, because this method tended to produce the widest 95% confidence intervals) and incorporated the vegetation mapping uncertainty. A bootstrapped sample of plots was taken in each Monte Carlo realization to incorporate sampling uncertainty.

Total Tree Carbon on the YOSE and SEKI Landscapes

Accounting for the uncertainty as described above, we calculate that the amount of tree carbon for the YOSE landscape total was 25 Tg (95% CI, 23-27 Tg) and for SEKI was 20 Tg C (95% CI, 18-21 Tg) (Figure 3), which is about 4.1% of the total standing carbon estimated in the Sierra Nevada (Potter, 2010). Over the area (YOSE has an area of 3,052 km² and SEKI has an area 3,503 km²) of both parks, the range of aboveground tree carbon is at least 41-48 Tg C (mean of 45 Tg C), which is nearly 10% of the total standing wood in the Sierra Nevada, in about the same percentage of the total area of the Sierra Nevada (the carbon density of forested area is therefore higher in the parks owing to the very large areas of high-elevation with little to no carbon). Carbon densities for tree carbon varied from a low of nearly 0 kg C / m² in shrub vegetation types to over 55 kg C m² in the Giant Sequoia vegetation type (Figure 4).

Though the carbon densities for the respective vegetation types were very similar between parks (Figure 4), one of the biggest differences between the respective parks was the spatial extent of these vegetation types, which leads to these vegetation types accounting for different proportions of the total park carbon stock. For example, in SEKI, the namesake giant sequoias alone account for 1.8-3.5

Tg C, or 10-17% of the total park tree carbon. In YOSE, the Sequoia vegetation type only accounts for 0.2-0.4% of the total park tree carbon. The Red Fir forest type accounted for nearly 1/3 of the total tree carbon in both parks (32-36% in SEKI; 37-42% in YOSE), with YOSE (8.8-11.5 Tg C) having nearly double the amount of carbon in its Red Fir than SEKI (5.7-7.6 Tg C). White Fir - Sugar Pine Forest for both parks accounted for about 19-22% of their respective tree carbon (3.5-4.7 Tg C for SEKI; 4.4-5.7 Tg C for YOSE).

Here we should note a fundamental uncertainty and decision point in the estimation of carbon stocks over the area of our Park landscapes: the plot C values that underpin the estimates for total C within each vegetation type aren't normally distributed. A small proportion of plots have very high C, probably because of large-diameter trees, and it makes the estimation of total carbon sensitive to the method of "mean" chosen. For example, Figure 5 shows the cumulative distribution of carbon densities for the 116 red fir plots in YOSE: the red line is the simple mean, the blue line is the median, and the green line is the mean calculated using log-transformed values then exponentiated back to an arithmetic value. The value of the calculated mean for this extremely important vegetation type (Figure 3) can vary by ~7 kg C /m², depending on how the "mean" is calculated. Taken over the area of YOSE covered by red fir (Figure 6a), this small difference in carbon density, due just to the method chosen for calculating the mean, can result in a ~4 Tg C swing in the carbon estimate for the park. The same principle applies to other vegetation types with large, old-growth trees (e.g., White Fir - Sugar Pine and Giant Sequoia Forest)(Figure 6b), though they cover less area and therefore contribute less to potential differences in the areal total tree C.

Though problematic from a computational/statistical standpoint, there is a growing body of literature suggesting that this skewed distribution toward large trees is a valuable and desired forest characteristic (e.g., Hurteau et al. 2012, Lutz et al. 2012, 2013), from a carbon, fire management, and a forest function perspective. For example, Lutz et al. (2012) found that although large diameter live trees (≥ 100 cm dbh) only account for 1.4% of the individuals, they account for 49.4% of the biomass, and white fir and sugar pine comprise 93% of the large diameter trees within that forest type. Kane et al. (2013) demonstrate that fires "thin from below" by removing much of the canopy area in the 2-8 m canopy strata. Thus, while fire removes biomass from forests, it disproportionately removes the understory at lower severity leaving the large diameter trees with the greatest proportion of carbon. These large-diameter trees are perhaps the defining feature of these two parks. They are uniquely able to withstand all but the highest severity fires, and are of considerable ecological and social interest (including giving rise to the name of Sequoia National Park itself). Dendrochronological evidence confirms that these large trees developed under frequent fire regimes, with high severity patches that were limited in extent (Scholl and Taylor 2010). The demonstrated resilience of large-diameter trees to characteristic fire suggests that their preservation is important to overall forest composition and structure, and most probably will continue to be so even under projected scenarios of climate change (e.g. Lutz et al. 2010).

Fire History and Tree Carbon Density

With this carbon map in hand we now have the tools to evaluate the central question of the proposed work, which was to look at whether there was a difference in the amount of carbon on burned vs.

unburned plots on the Yosemite landscape. The statistical model containing forest type, whether a plot was burned or unburned, and its interaction with forest type as explanatory variables had the greatest support (lowest AIC value) out of our seven candidate models (Table 3). The support for that model was slight however, with its AIC value only being ~3 less than the model having just forest type as an explanatory variable. The other candidate models using the other burn history metrics (number of times burned and years since most recent fire), either alone or interacting with forest type, did not have much support, with AIC values only 2 or less smaller than the model with just forest type.

Tree carbon density estimates using the best model (forest type + burned + forest type × burned) indicated the effect of burn history was inconsistent across forest types (Figure 7a). The largest absolute difference was in red fir forest, where estimated tree carbon density was ~8 kg/m² (~29%) lower if burned. Carbon densities in ponderosa pine and white fir – sugar pine forests were ~15% lower in burned vs. unburned, while Jeffrey pine forests had ~ 2 kg/m² (~40%) higher density within burned areas. Burned lodgepole pine forests also appeared to have slightly higher carbon density, but there was substantial uncertainty around the burned estimate, primarily because of small sample size.

Thus, the answer to the most basic question of this work overall is that there is very little difference between burned and unburned plots, although there is a slight tendency for burned to be lower than unburned in some vegetation types, most pronounced in the Red Fir vegetation type (Figure 7a; ~29%). A more sophisticated view of fire and its effects on carbon stock however has to account for fire severity and its effect on carbon accumulation rates (e.g., Hurteau and North, 2012). In addition, it should be noted that the context of our burned vs unburned contrast was for plots that were sampled with a modal range of 14-16 years since last fire (Figure 7b; 50th percentile for each vegetation type). General effects of fire with shorter or longer time since burning are not addressed using our analytical approach.

Map Applications for Land and Fire managers

Quantifying Total Carbon and Uncertainty within an Area/Polygon of Interest

Following peer review of the associated manuscripts, our GIS maps of park carbon will be available to managers. Total carbon and its uncertainty within a specific area of interest can be readily calculated using our carbon density map layers by the following procedure:

1. Clip the carbon map polygons to the area of interest.
2. Calculate total C within each polygon (polygon_c_total) by multiplying carbon_density (kg/m²) by the polygon area (m²).
3. Calculate the standard error of total polygon C (polygon_c_se) by multiplying se by the polygon area.
4. Sum the total polygon C across all polygons (c_total).
5. Sum the standard errors across all polygons (se_total).

6. The bounds of a 95% confidence interval for the total C can be calculated using $c_total \pm 1.96 \times se_total$

Carbon Stability Using Fire Return Interval Departure

How much of the Yosemite carbon stock is at risk? One metric is the departure from fire return interval (FRID), which is a measure of how far “departed” a given stand is from the naturally occurring cycle of fires, and can be an indicator of the degree to which small ladder fuels are accumulating under large trees. We used the carbon map to estimate the amount of carbon sequestered in areas with various FRID values (Figure 8). FRID values of less than two probably do not represent a risk of a fire of much higher than characteristic severity. However, FRID values of 3 or higher would indicate a risk of substantial high severity patches within fire perimeters.

Relevance to Current Conditions: Carbon Dynamics

All this work quantifies tree carbon as of the time most of the plots were measured, 16 years ago in 1998. Obviously there is a need to determine how to move from this baseline map to a current map, governed by the dynamics of carbon accumulation, in burned and unburned areas, pre and post fire.

Intercomparison with CASA Remotely Sensed Biomass Estimates

Overall YOSE Totals

Overall, our mean estimate of total YOSE Tree C (25 Tg C), was lower than the amount generated from the 2009 CASA estimate (30 Tg C) by about 17%, and outside the bounds of our upper 95% confidence interval (27 Tg C; Figure 9). One potential underestimation in our methods relates to shrub biomass, as we were focused on tree carbon. In older forests (500 yr) that have experienced a frequent fire regime (e.g. Lutz et al. 2012), shrubs constitute approximately 1% of aboveground biomass, but in stands that have experienced high-severity fire, and that therefore have few large-diameter trees, shrub biomass can be a much higher proportion of total biomass. When broken down by vegetation type across the landscape, this difference is evident in the shrub and woodland vegetation categories where shrubs are an important component, which might explain at least 2 Tg C of the difference between the estimate and brings an estimate without shrubs (e.g., 28 Tg C) very close to the upper 95% CI from our plot-based method (27 Tg C). Shrub biomass is poorly understood, and many estimates are based on cover (e.g. McGinnis et al. 2010). However, due to irregular allometries and ages, cover is often a poor predictor of shrub biomass (e.g. Halpern and Lutz 2013). Realizing the importance of shrubs to carbon, particularly because they are often fully consumed by fire (or nearly so), we developed allometric equations for three shrub species, and encourage other researchers to extend the number of Sierra Nevada shrub species for which high quality (i.e., sample size >25) allometric equations exist (Lutz et al. submitted). Of course, there is currently unknown level of uncertainty associated with the CASA estimates, so it may be that if we had those estimates, the error bars would overlap.

Allometry Bias Toward Tall Pine Growth Forms in High Elevation Vegetation Types

However, a missing shrub component is not the only issue that might explain the difference between estimates, especially in the higher elevation woodland areas where the CASA estimates fall well above our error bars and shrubs are a less important component of total C (see carbon summaries.pdf

for a statistical breakdown of the components in each vegetation type). In our exploration of the allometric equations commonly used for high elevation pine species in this region of the US (Jenkins et al., 2004), we found distinctly unrealistic equations that generated very tall growing trees, especially at the upper range of DBH values that occurred in YOSE plots. High elevation pines, especially the larger diameter pines, are much more limited in their height at higher elevations, and their growth form at the larger DBHs is much more conical than the columnar boles possessed by tall pines of the lower elevation mixed conifer vegetation types. It is not uncommon for high elevation junipers and whitebark pines to have a dbh of 100 cm and a height less than 10 m as compared to more ‘conformal’ pines such as ponderosa pine and sugar pine which have heights of >40 m at that diameter (pers. obs.). Thus, if the baseline values (Pan et al, 2011) ascribed to these forest stands were influenced by the Jenkins allometric equations, there is likely a bias toward overestimation of carbon in these vegetation types. Our plot-based estimates attempt to account for this bias by using a hybrid allometric equation that applies a more conical growth form based on juniper (Miller et al. 1981) at the higher end of the DBH range (Appendix B).

Temporal Disjunctions and Outdated Plot-based Estimates

Our carbon map estimates are based on the aerial photography from 1998, which is the most representative year for this map (Aerial Information Systems 2007, Keeler-Wolf et al. 2012). Unfortunately, we only have the CASA data downscaled for YOSE for 2009, though eventually maps going back to 2000 will be available (Potter, 2010) for comparison. Clearly, 11 years vegetation growth between 1998 and 2009 a 2009 map constitutes a “temporal bias” that would lead the CASA estimates to also be higher than our plot-based carbon map. Reconciling the two will require the use of established succession schemes (Davis, 2009), and the development of a downscaled CASA raster developed for the YOSE (and potentially SEKI) areas for the year 2000.

Carbon “Reset” Values and Fire History “Bias” in CASA Estimates

Large fires can have a substantial impact on the amount of carbon on the landscape, exceeding that of incremental growth, especially in the mixed conifer and lower elevation fuel types where fire is more frequent. This is especially true with the current CASA scheme for accounting for the effect of fire, which basically assumes a “reset” carbon values back to a low shrub-based value post-fire. The effect of fire, and impact of using this method is visually evident in the 2009 CASA map, especially when compared to an overlay of Yosemite fire history (Figure 10).

In the Sierra Nevada, fires do not uniformly reduce carbon over the area defined by the fire perimeter except in the most extreme fire high severity scenarios (or in chaparral vegetation types). Even then, only a fraction of the landscape burns at high enough severity to warrant full, eventual reduction of the carbon stock (Kane et al. in press). Rather, there is a range of severities that produce a range of loss both of carbon to the atmosphere and the standing dead C pools (e.g., van Wagendonk and Lutz 2007, Lutz et al. 2009, Hurteau et a. 2010, Carlson et al. 2012, Kolden et al. 2012). Figure 11 illustrates a hypothetical (and hopefully reasonable) example of how this works from a computational standpoint for reducing carbon stocks using severity, rather than perimeter mapping across a landscape. Results from our carbon mapping (Figure 7a), which show only tendencies toward lower carbon in vs. outside of fire perimeters, also support this notion of a mixed severity regime, where

fire doesn't result in significant overall tree mortality, but rather produces a heterogeneous mix of carbon reductions, much of which (at least in the low to moderate severity areas) is returned to the landscape by tree or shrub regeneration within a decade or two (Hurteau et al., 2010). Visually comparing the CASA maps to our maps (Figure 12) shows how substantially this reduction scheme can impact overall carbon estimates for a landscape. It is more likely that a statistical design that looks for differences, even thresholds for changes in carbon density, as it varies with continuous fire severity variables (e.g., dNBR) is the best approach for quantifying both the effect of fire on landscapes, and the benefits of proactively substituting Rx and resource benefit tactics for the more intense wildfire scenarios. We recommend this severity-based approach and illustrate its potential bias in the next section as a way to better quantify actual stock changes in fire-prone landscapes like YOSE, and reconcile those changes with CASA remote sensing.

Potential for Overestimating Losses Due to Fire: the Rim Fire of 2013

Assuming the above carbon loss percentages by severity scheme (Figure 11) and using initial fire severity (Figure 13), live biomass in the Rim fire footprint was likely somewhere above 5 Tg C pre-fire (Figure 14a), and was reduced to a value of between 1-2 Tg C by the fire (Figure 14b), with about the same amount having been immediately lost to emissions and the atmosphere. Under this carbon loss by severity scheme, the remaining fraction of C is still on the ground as standing dead snags. These values are based on a hypothetical carbon loss by severity scheme, and we use this only as a means to illustrate the utility of this map and the potential difference in estimated losses, not to provide definitive numbers for actual Rim fire carbon losses. Post-fire plots and remote sensing of severity one year post-fire (the dNBR extended assessment instead of the immediate assessment illustrated here) will be needed to get a definitive estimate of the losses to the atmospheric and dead biomass C pools.

Conclusions

- In this work, we have developed a framework that SEKI and YOSE land and fire managers can use to calculate the amount of carbon in a given area, along with an assessment of the likely uncertainty. We used the most comprehensive plot data and the most applicable allometry for the parks, married to a statistical analysis that allows for the quantification of uncertainty to 95% confidence intervals.
- Our aggregate analysis of burned versus unburned areas and time since the last fire is not sufficient for determining if fire has reduced the carbon stock. A more detailed analysis, including a history of burn severity over decades may be required to examine the effects of fire on carbon stocks. There was no significant difference between the carbon contained in burned and unburned areas, as defined by fire perimeters, at the 95% confidence interval, though there was a tendency for mean carbon density (live biomass only) to be lower in burned areas within some vegetation types.
- With allowances for likely biases of the plot-based techniques, our results are comparable to independent estimates of carbon biomass from remotely sensed data (Potter et al. 2010), and

our efforts have the potential to refine the way carbon stocks are calculated based on the effects of fire for the California greenhouse gas inventory.

Next Steps with the Project Data

- A simple classification of forest portions that were burned vs. unburned is not sufficient to differentiate the effects of fire. It is more likely that explicitly accounting for severity (with either ground-based or satellite-derived metrics) will yield more meaningful estimates of immediate carbon loss due to fire.
- Split out the high severity pixels from moderate and low severity pixels as a way to look for differences in carbon stocks, or use the continuous dNBR values as a means of looking for relationships to carbon stocks in order to quantify severity thresholds at which carbon stocks are substantially changed. It may be that there are an insufficient number of plots placed within areas of recent high-severity fire because most of the plots used in this study were established for other objectives, i.e., vegetation type mapping.
- Explore a severity-based scheme for updating CASA maps that quantify the effect of fire on park carbon stocks.

Recommendations for Future Carbon Accounting Based on Objective 1

This work has shown that even with thousands of calibration plots, there is still substantial uncertainty associated with quantifying carbon over the area of large landscapes, especially at the operational scale. Tracking fire severity, not just fire history, is key to understanding impacts of fire on carbon stocks on park landscapes.

No one method (including this one) that will completely and definitively quantify tree carbon. However, given the current state of vegetation mapping and allometric equations, we can and have bounded the uncertainty in carbon, and have provided a means for comparison with remote sensing techniques that can help update the map as carbon continues to accumulate and disturbances like fire alter baseline carbon densities. Combining these plot based methods for baselines and the tree coring work to calibrate pre- and post-fire recovery rates with remotely sensed C estimates is likely to provide the best way forward for managers to update carbon inventory maps.

As discussed above, this map and the tools it provides can also be used for planning managed fires, assessing vulnerability of the park carbon stock to future fires, and even calculating tradeoffs between managed fire severity regimes and wildfire severity regimes with respect to carbon stocks.

Deliverables and Project Completion Plan

Deliverables Listed in the Project Proposal

The original proposal that was funded by the National Park Service, Climate Change Adaptation Program listed the following deliverables:

- 1) One peer-reviewed journal article and an accompanying 1-page publication brief summarizing its management implications for each of the two project objectives.
- 2) Presentation of results in at least one workshop for NPS staff and in at least one national conference.
- 3) An interpretive component focused on educating the public about the value the YOSE and SEKI carbon stocks, and the impact of fire on them as a "Parks as Classrooms" module.

Manuscript Delivery Plan

Objective 1 Manuscripts

Lutz, J. A., K. A. Schwindt‡, T. J. Furniss, J. A. Freund, M. E. Swanson, K. I. Hogan‡, G. E. Kenagy‡, and A. J. Larson. Submitted. Community composition and allometry of *Leucothoe davisiae*, *Cornus sericea*, and *Chrysolepis sempervirens*. *Canadian Journal of Forest Research*.

Lutz, J. A., J. R. Matchett, L.W. Tarnay, D.G. Smith, K.M.L. Becker†, and M.L. Brooks. In prep. The uncertainty of carbon sequestered in forest ecosystems of Yosemite and Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks, California, USA. To be submitted to *Forest Ecology and Management*.

Becker†, K.M.L., Smith, D.G., and Lutz, J.A. In prep. Effects of fire severity, time since fire, and climatic water balance on species composition in Yosemite and Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks, California, USA. This manuscript will detail the compositional analysis from the paired (burned and unburned) plots established during this study.

Becker†, K.M.L., Smith, D.G., and Lutz, J.A. In prep. Trends and variability in the effects of fire on forest structure in the Sierra Nevada This manuscript will detail the structural differences found in the paired (burned and unburned) plots established during this study.

Objective 2 Manuscripts

Lutz, J. A., J. R. Matchett, L.W. Tarnay, D.G. Smith, K.M.L. Becker†, and M.L. Brooks. In prep. Pre-fire and post-fire carbon assimilation rates in montane forests of Yosemite and Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Park differs by severity, time since fire, and site water balance.

‡Undergraduate advisee who participated in the research as part of outreach and training.

†Graduate advisee who participated in the research as part of outreach and training.

Presentation Delivery Plan

Effect of fire on carbon stocks at YOSE and SEKI, JR Matchett et al., Southern Sierra Nevada Fire Science Workshop, May 2014

Carbon sequestration and fire, Matt Brooks and Matt Hurteau, Southern Sierra Nevada Fire Science Workshop, May 2014

Wilson‡, J. 2013. Effects of low-severity fire on structural attributes and radial tree growth in *Abies concolor*-dominated forests, Yosemite National Park, California Senior Capstone Presentation, Program on the Environment, University of Washington. May 22, 2013

Becker†, K.M.L. 2014. Effects of fire on *Abies concolor* and *Abies magnifica* vegetation communities, forest structure, and carbon sequestration in Yosemite and Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks. Masters Thesis Defense public presentation. University of Washington, Seattle. March 12, 2014.

Interpretive Delivery Plan

Two educational products have been developed as a result of this project. The Yosemite National Park's educational team has developed a "Parks as Classrooms" program focused on fire ecology which includes curriculum based educational content and activities focused on impacts of fire on the carbon cycle. Although these products are not complete because all the analyses for interpretation are not complete, the products will grow in depth and breadth as more results are available.

The other product that resulted from this study was a video "Carbon: Forests and Fire" that Kevin Song shot during his summer as a Yosemite Leadership Intern at Yosemite National Park funded by this grant. Kevin was a first year student at University of California – Merced and was an intern on the field crew that collected data for this project. Kevin recorded and presented this video as his completion requirement of his internship in the Park. The link to the video is <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HIN8iY40HI8>.

The data from the project has also been used in four undergraduate student senior projects at the University of Washington, and one MS thesis, also at the University of Washington.

The Education Branch at Yosemite National Park has many student groups interested in fire and therefore the educational materials produced from this project will be presented to a large audience.

As we complete analyses from this study, the educational team will continue to integrate information into the Parks As Classrooms Fire Ecology curriculum.

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Table 1. Number of sampling plots located within each vegetation type.

Forested Vegetation Type	Number of Plots
Deciduous Oak Forest and Woodland	88
Douglas-fir Forest	7
Evergreen Oak Forest and Woodland	110
Foothill Pine Woodland	11
Foxtail Pine Forest	58
Giant Sequoia Forest	42
High Woodland	89
Jeffrey Pine Forest	111
Lodgepole Pine Forest	190
Mountain Hemlock Forest	38
Pinyon Pine Woodland	27
Ponderosa Pine Forest	123
Ponderosa Pine Woodland	13
Red Fir Forest	116
Riparian Forest	87
Riparian Shrub	23
Shrub	258
Western White Pine Forest	27
Western White Pine Woodland	4
White Fir - Sugar Pine Forest	224
Total	1646

Table 2. Distribution of sampling plot locations by park, vegetation type, and burn status.

Park	ABCO		ABMA		PICO		PIJE		PIPO		Total
	B¹	U²	B	U	B	U	B	U	B	U	
YOSE	11	15	4	4	4	0	4	5	9	11	67
SEKI	1	0	10	8	3	1	10	2	2	1	38
Total	12	15	14	12	7	1	14	7	11	12	105

¹B = burned

²U = unburned

Table 3. Modelling results.

Model Effects	AIC	AIC – Minimum AIC
forest type	1698.6	2.97
forest type + burned	1699.6	3.93
forest type + burned + forest type x burned	1695.7	0.00
forest type + times burned	1700.6	4.96
forest type + times burned + forest type x times burned	1698.7	2.98
forest type + years since fire	1699.9	4.26
forest type + years since fire + forest type x years since fire	1696.7	1.01

Plot Setup

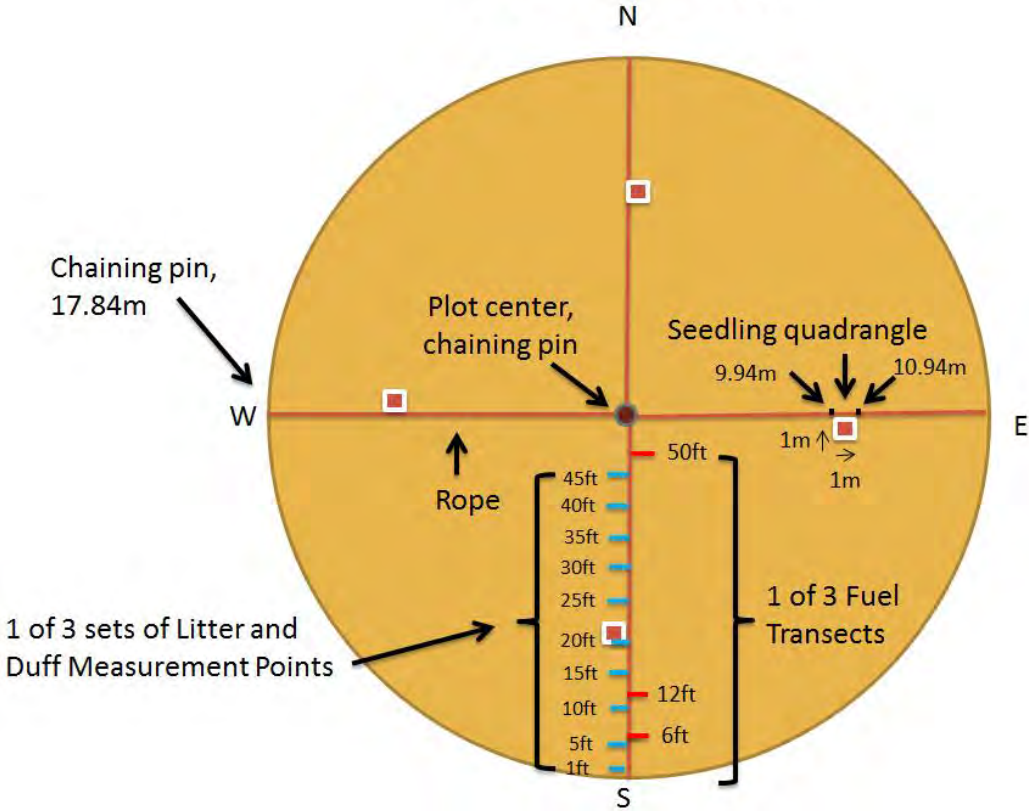


Figure 1. Plot layout.

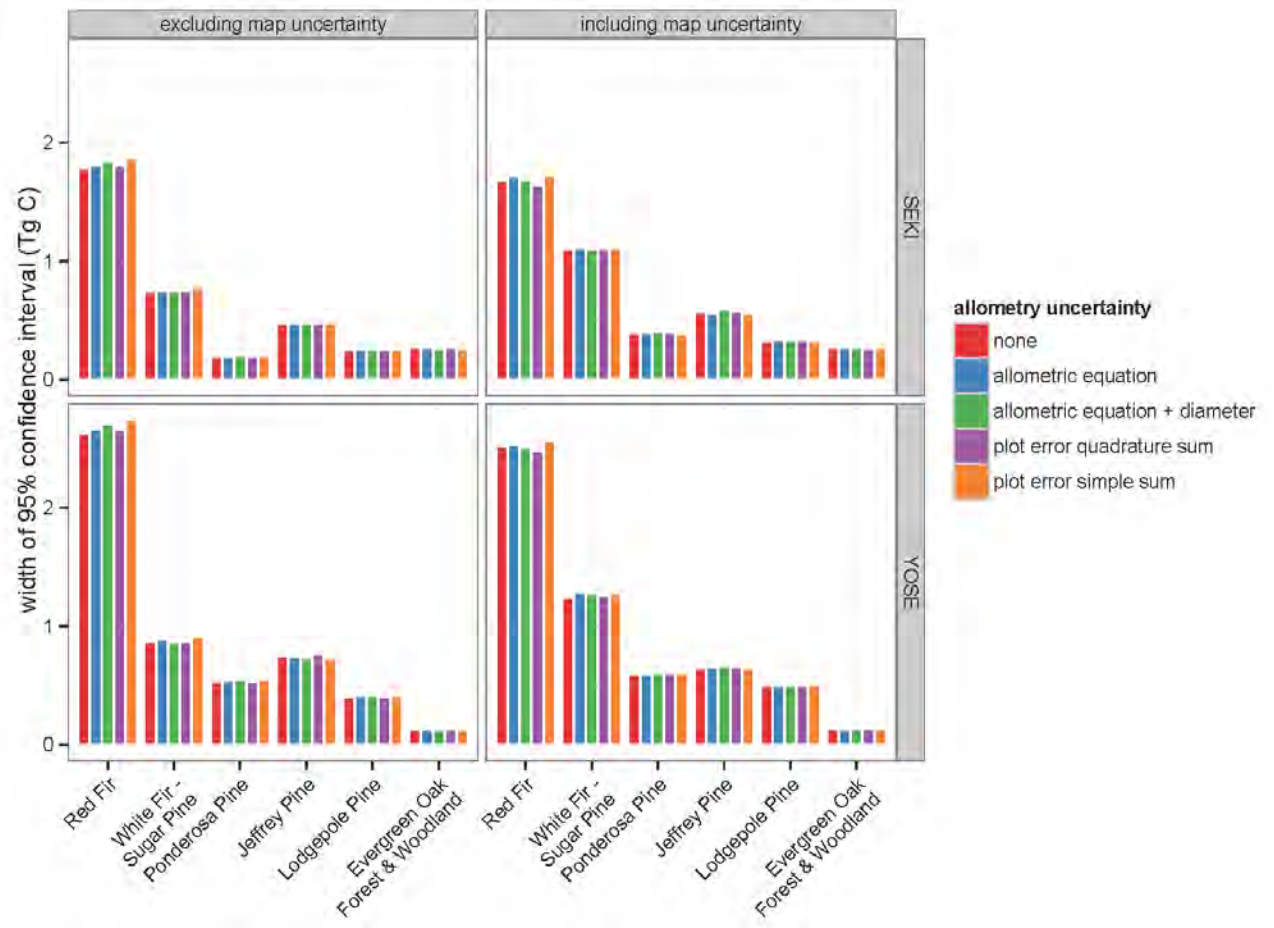


Figure 2. Allometry uncertainty comparisons.

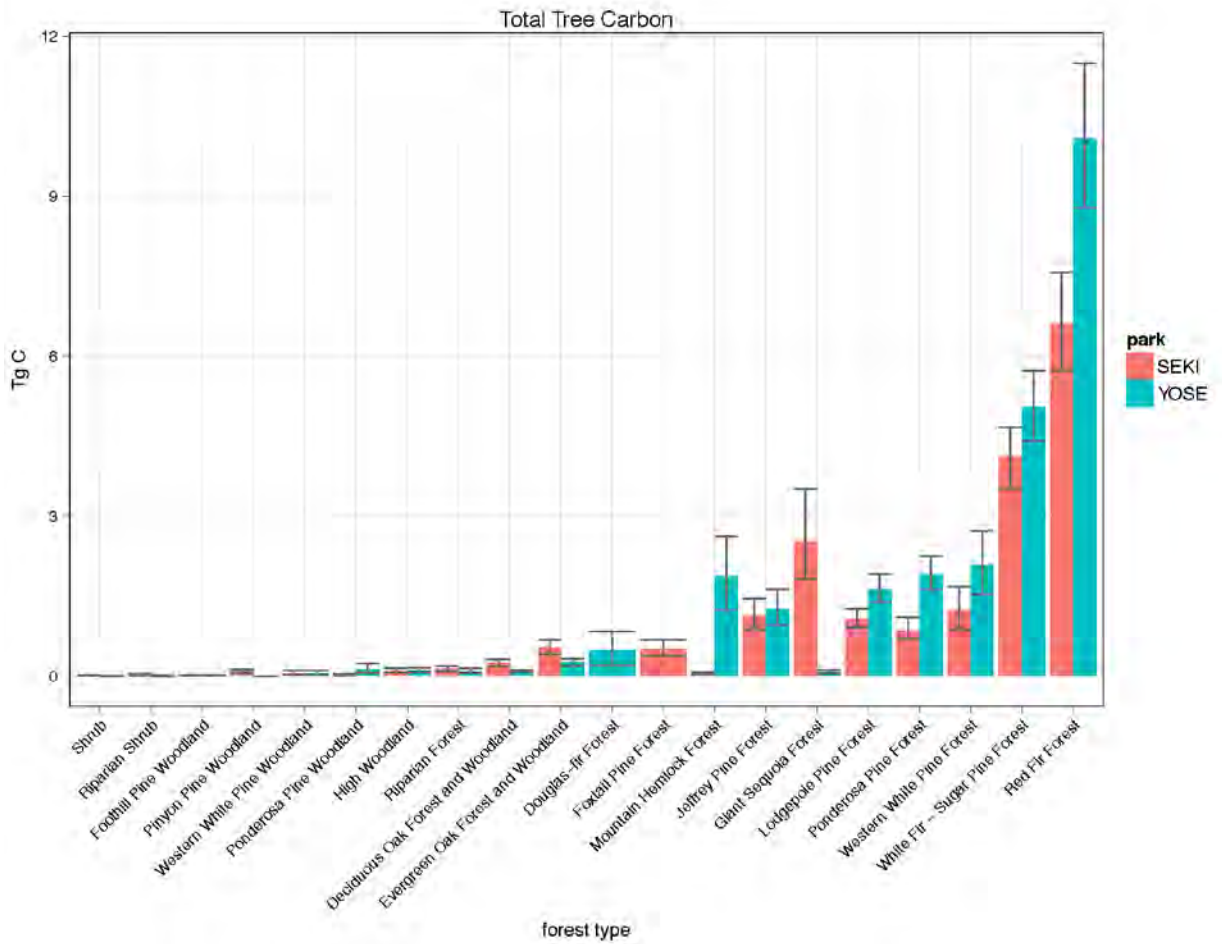


Figure 3. Total tree carbon (95% CI) in Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Park (SEKI) and Yosemite National Park.(YOSE).

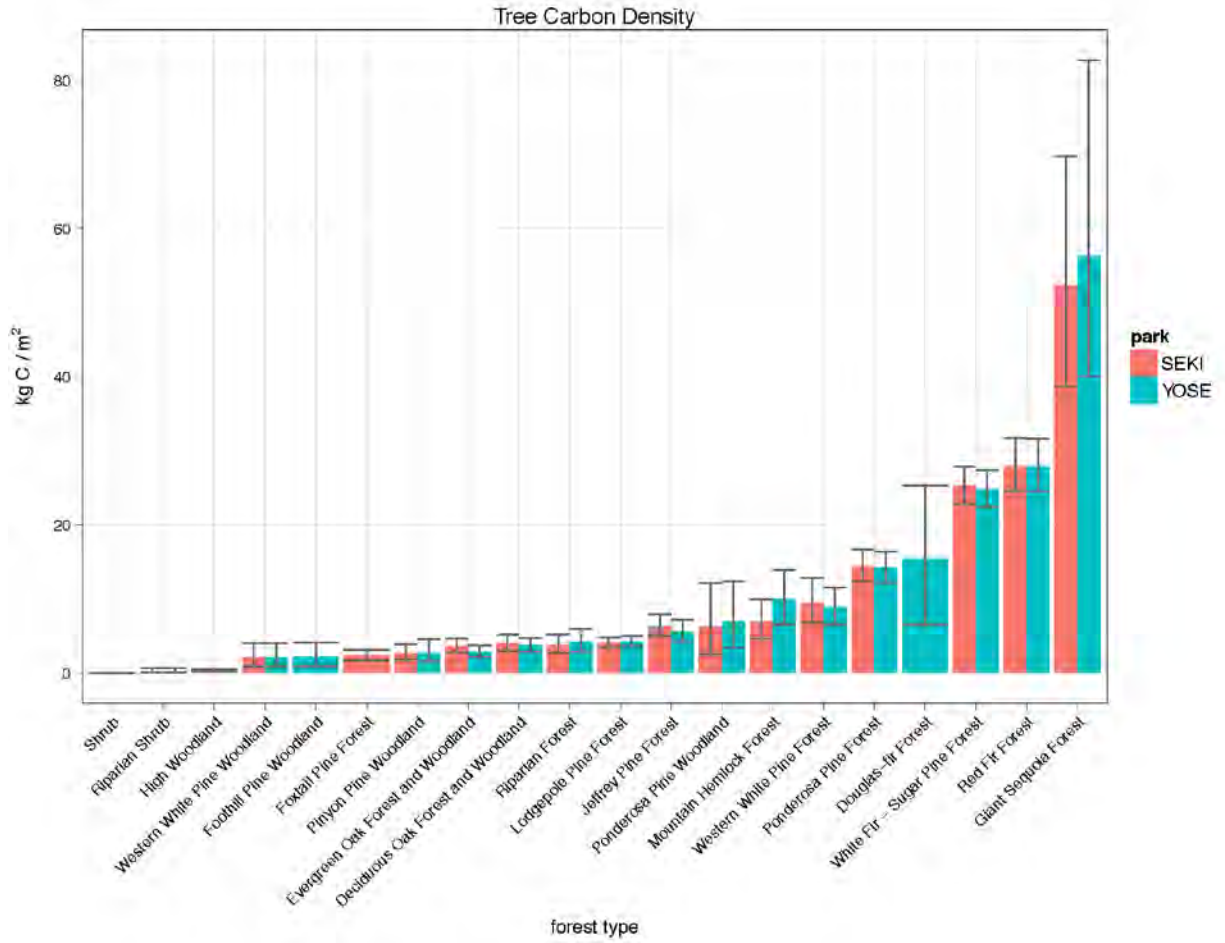


Figure 4. Total tree carbon density (95% CI) in Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Park (SEKI) and Yosemite National Park.(YOSE).

red fir carbon density

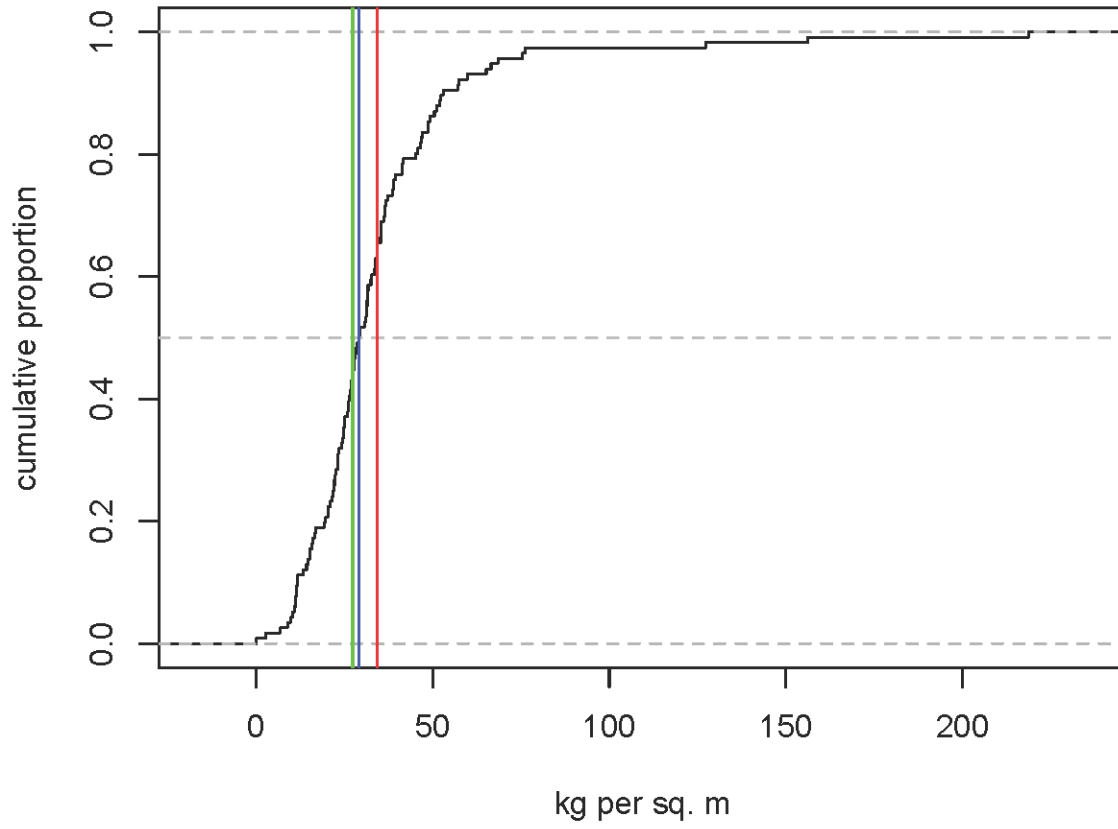


Figure 5. Effects of different methods for calculating mean: red fir carbon density distribution example.

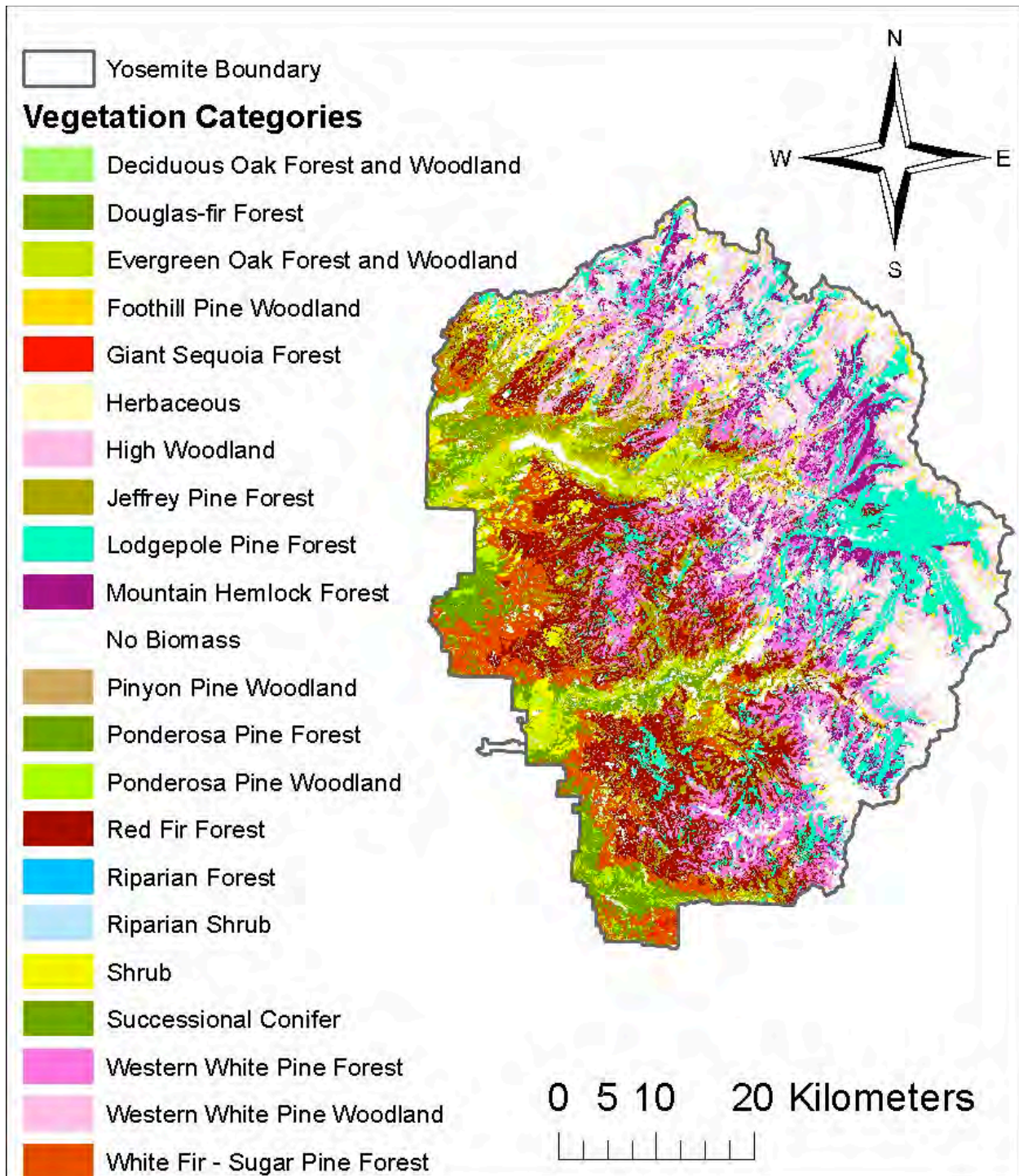


Figure 6a. Map of vegetation categories in Yosemite National Park that were used in the analysis for this report.

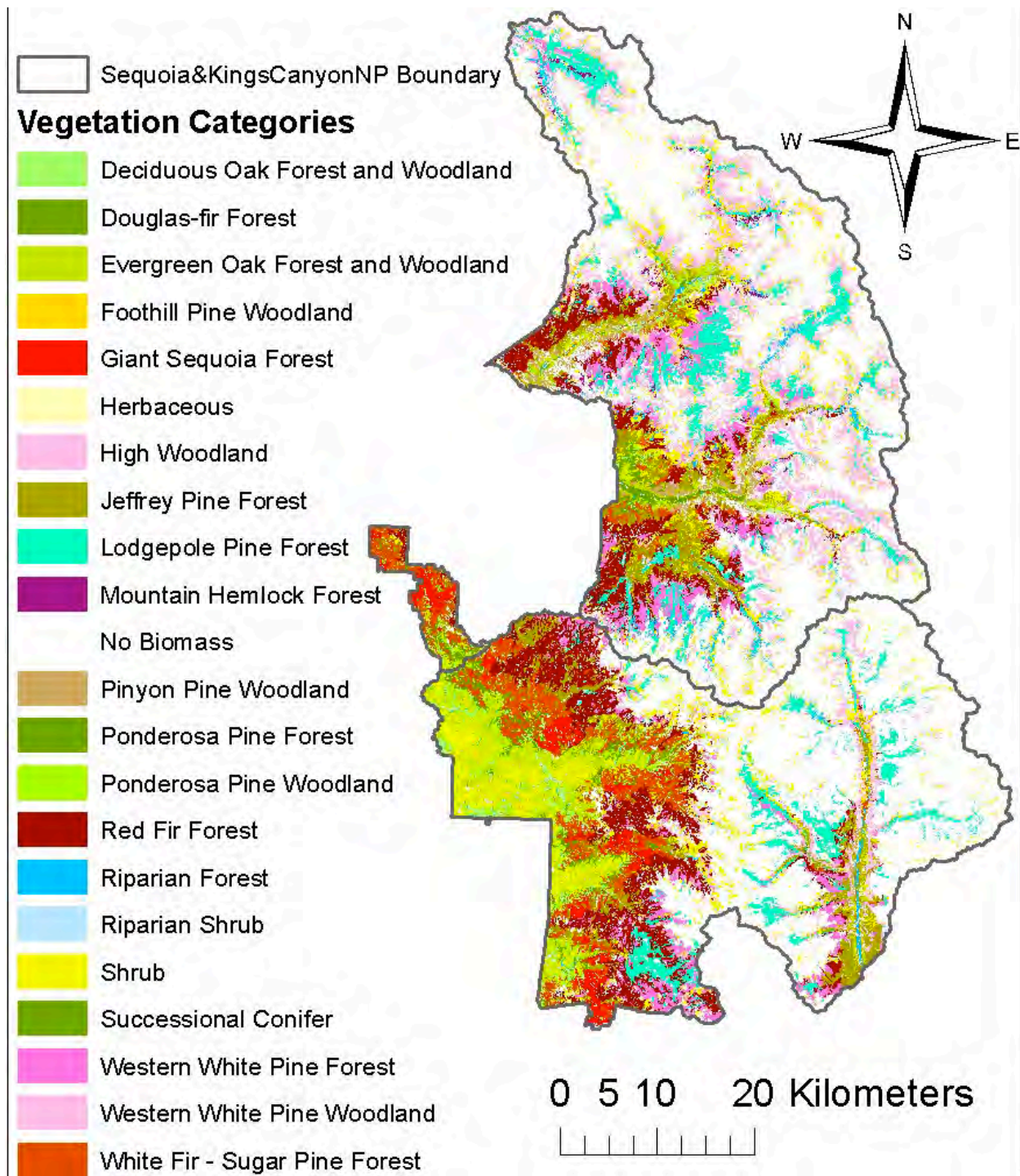


Figure 6b. Map of vegetation categories in Yosemite National Park that were used in the analysis for this report

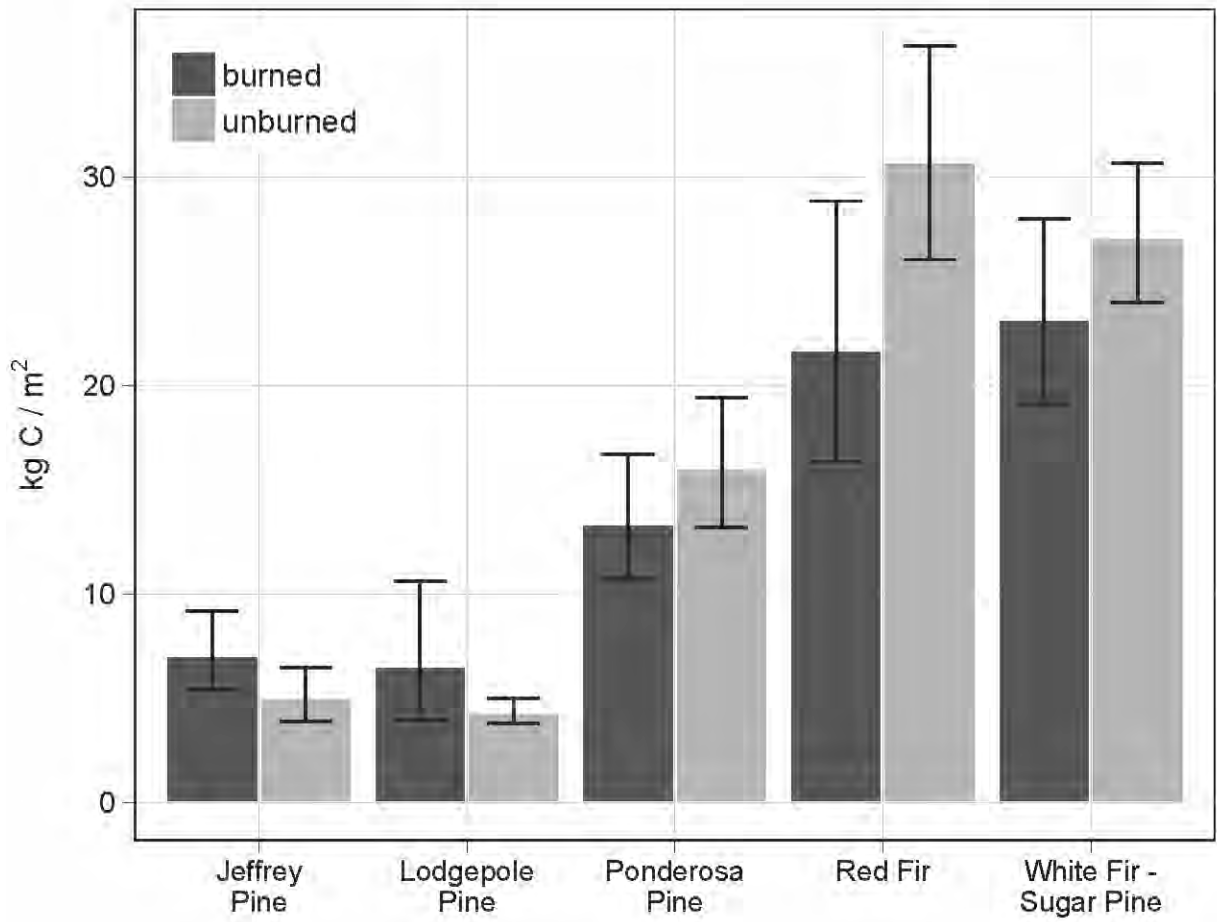


Figure 7a. Total tree carbon (95% CI) in burned and unburned plots stratified by vegetation type in Yosemite National Park and Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks combined.

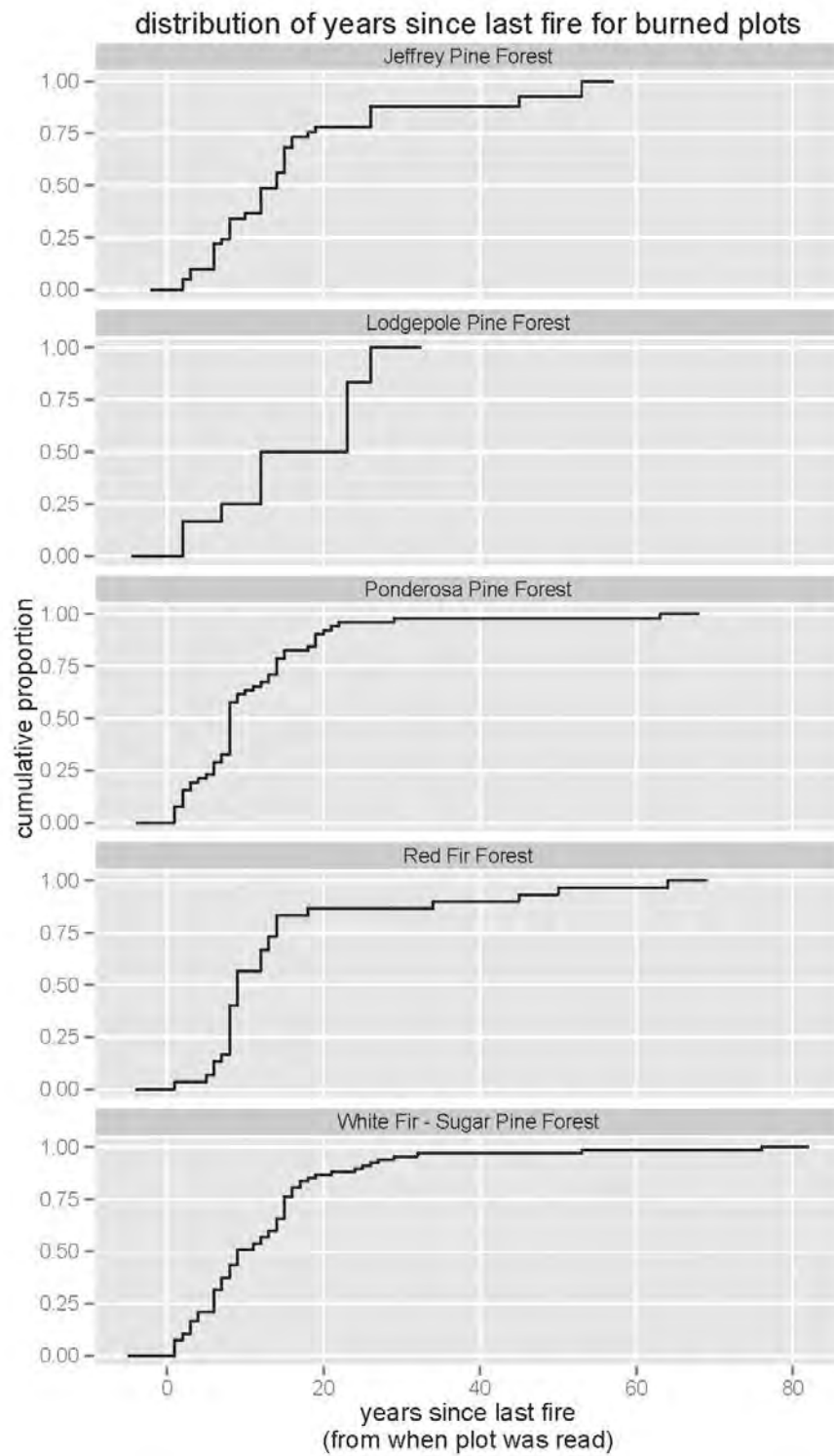


Figure 7b. Cumulative proportion of years since last fire for the plots used to calculate burned carbon within each of the 5 major forest types analyzed.

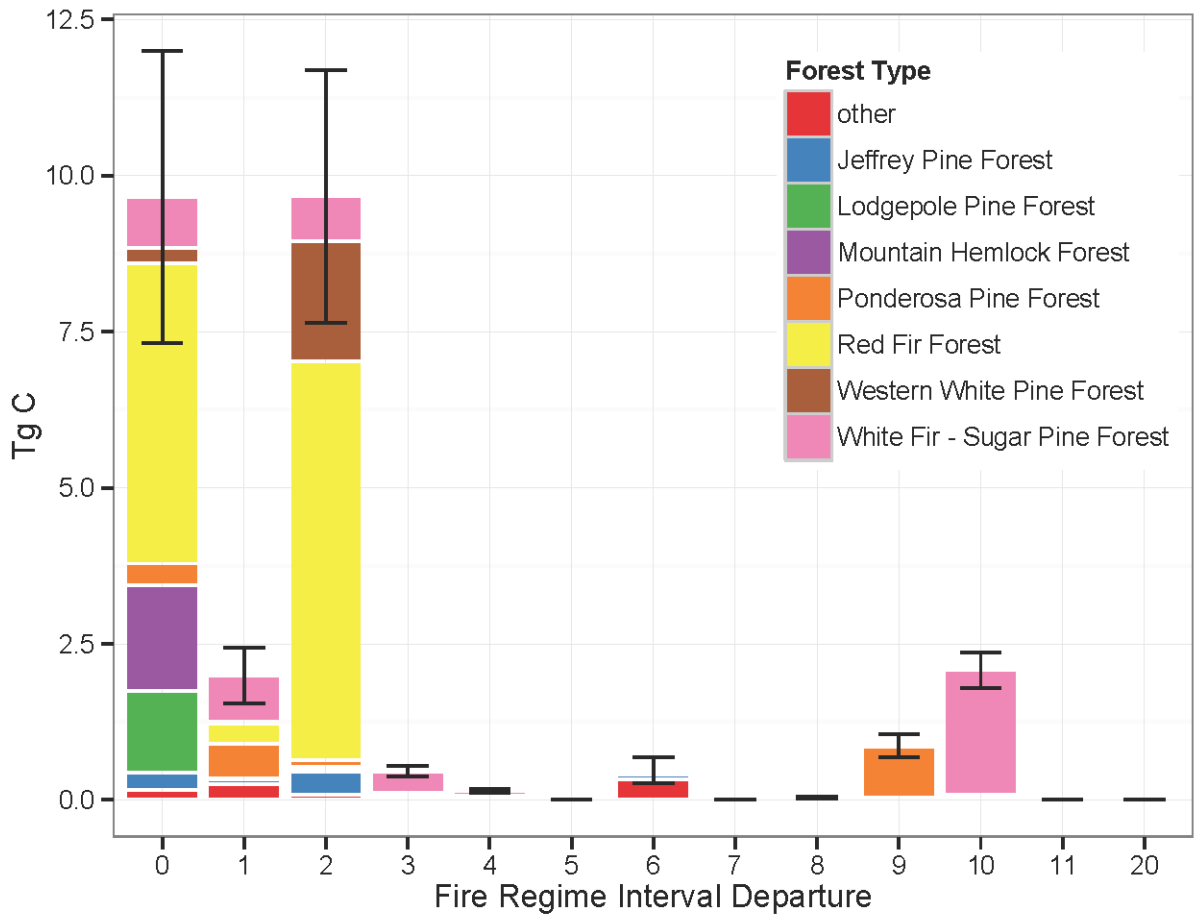


Figure 8. Relative stability of carbon (95% CI) within major vegetation types based on fire regime interval departure (FRID) within Yosemite National Park.

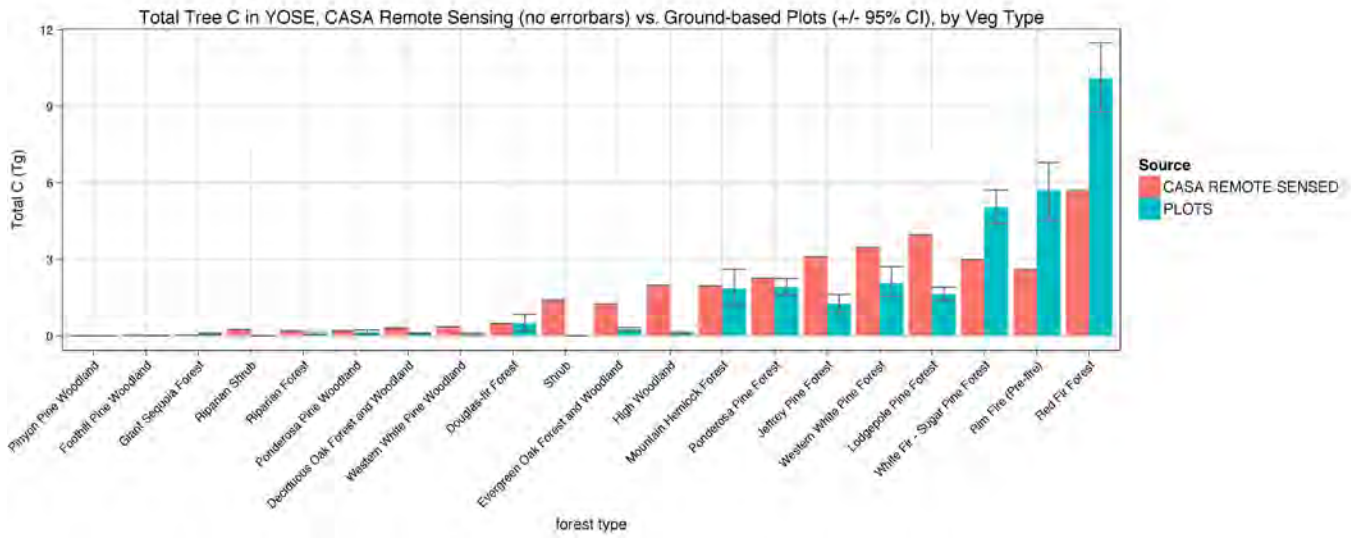


Figure 9. Comparison of total tree carbon (95% CI) in Yosemite National Park derived from CASA remote sensing and the ground-based plots used in the current study.

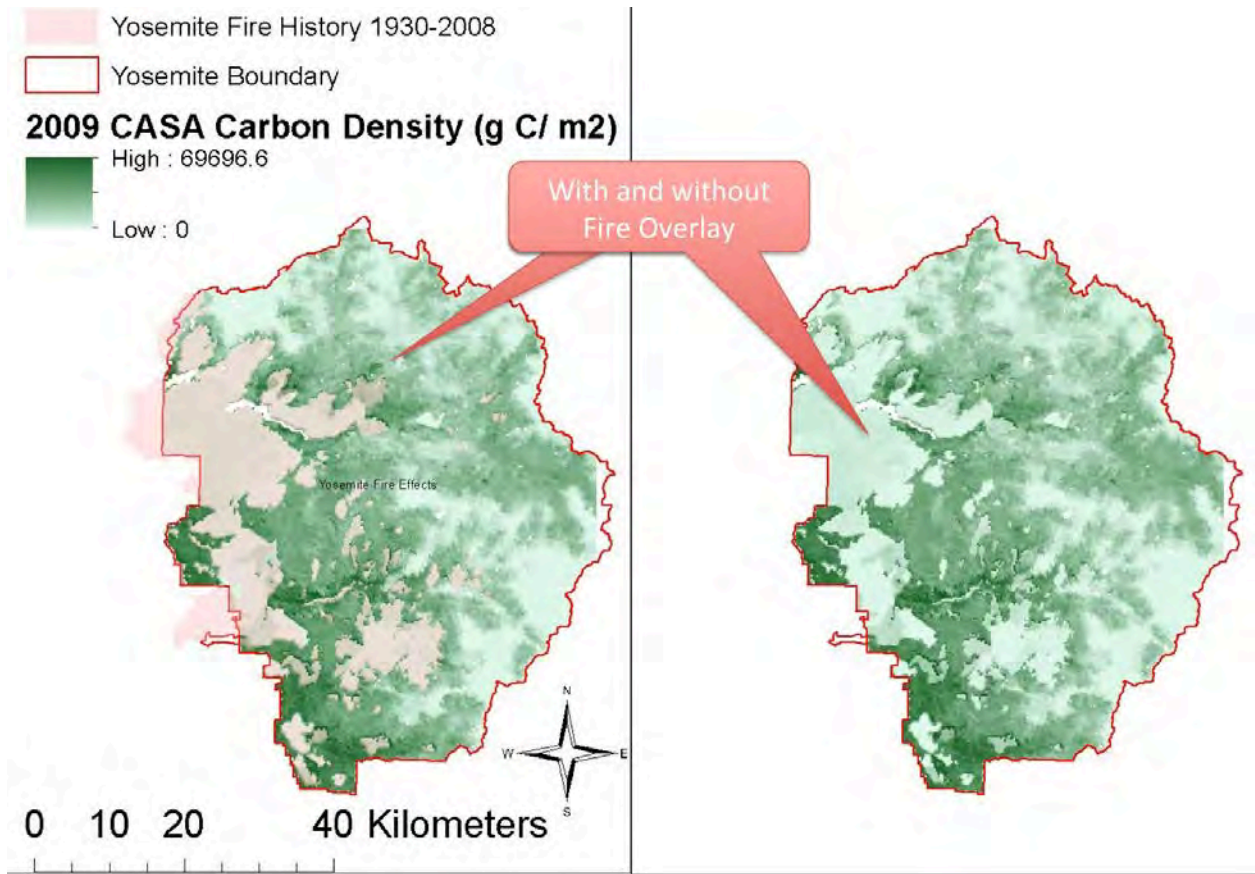


Figure 10. Total tree carbon in Yosemite National Park derived from CASA remote sensing and its relationship to fire history (1930-2008).

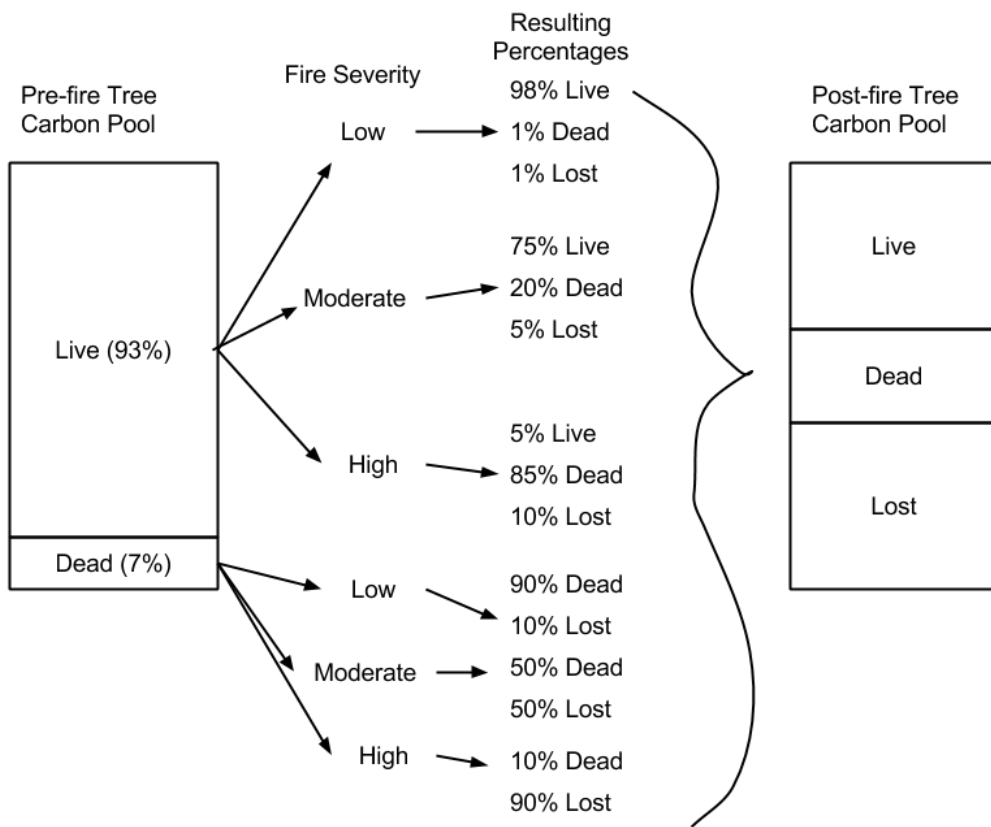


Figure 11. Fire severity and carbon dynamic conceptual model.

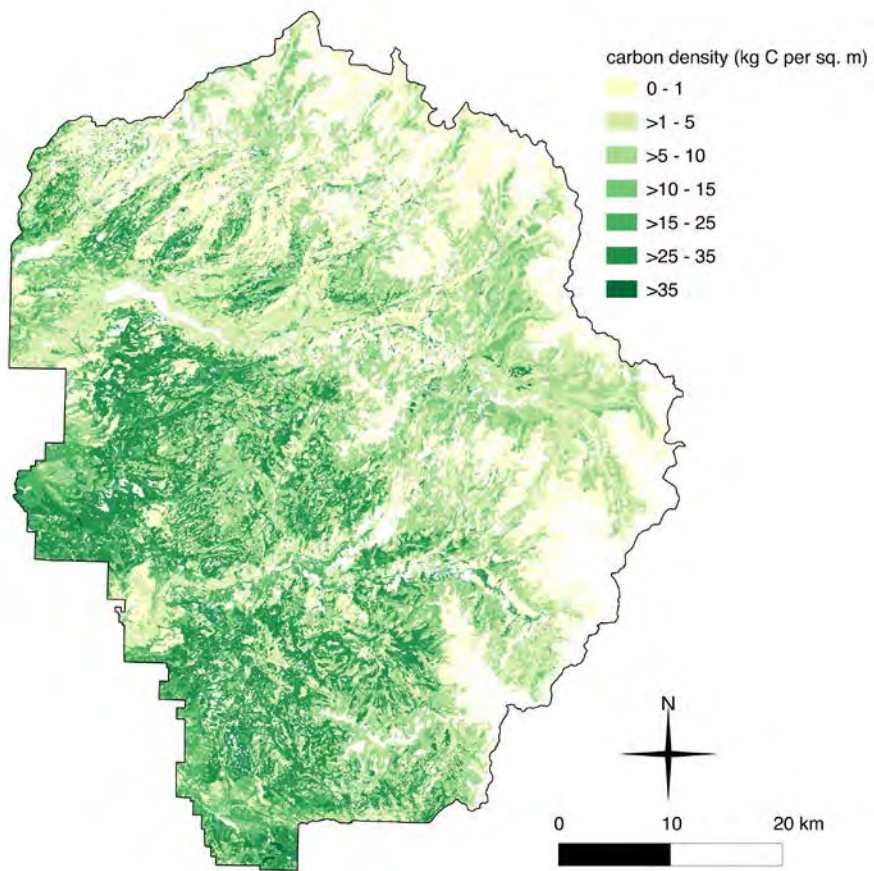


Figure 12a. Tree carbon density in Yosemite National Park.

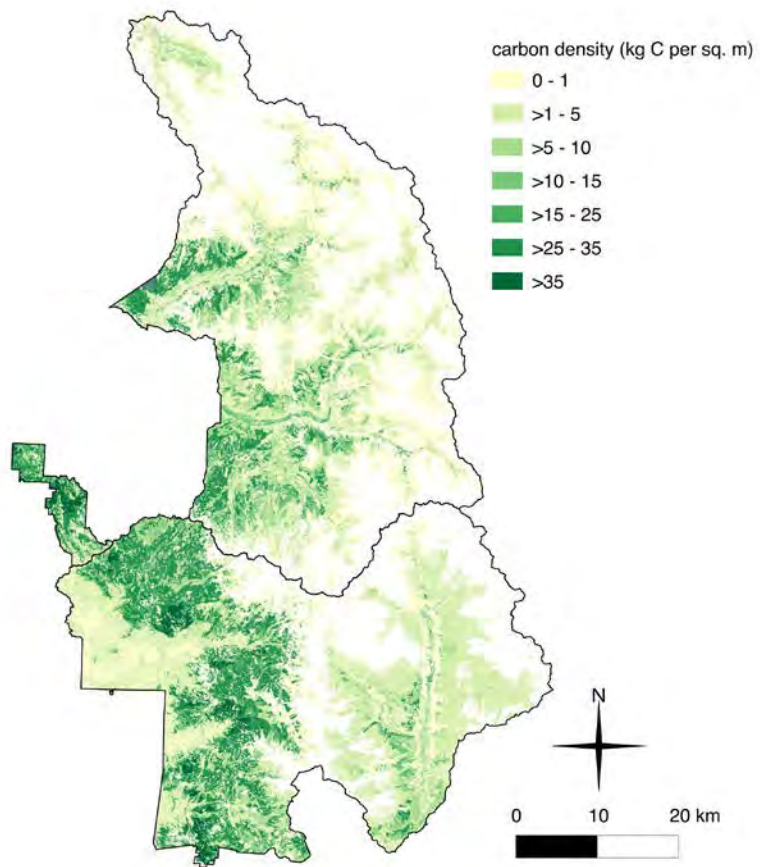


Figure 12b. Tree carbon density in Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks.

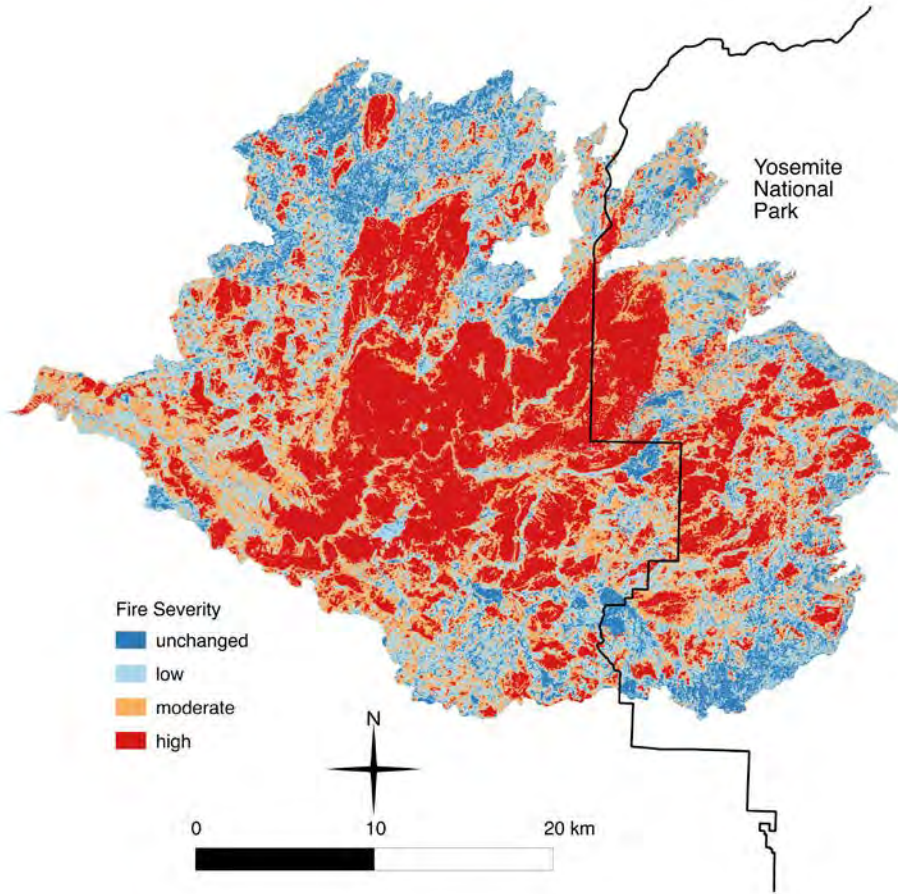


Figure 13. Initial fire severity for the 2013 Rim Fire.

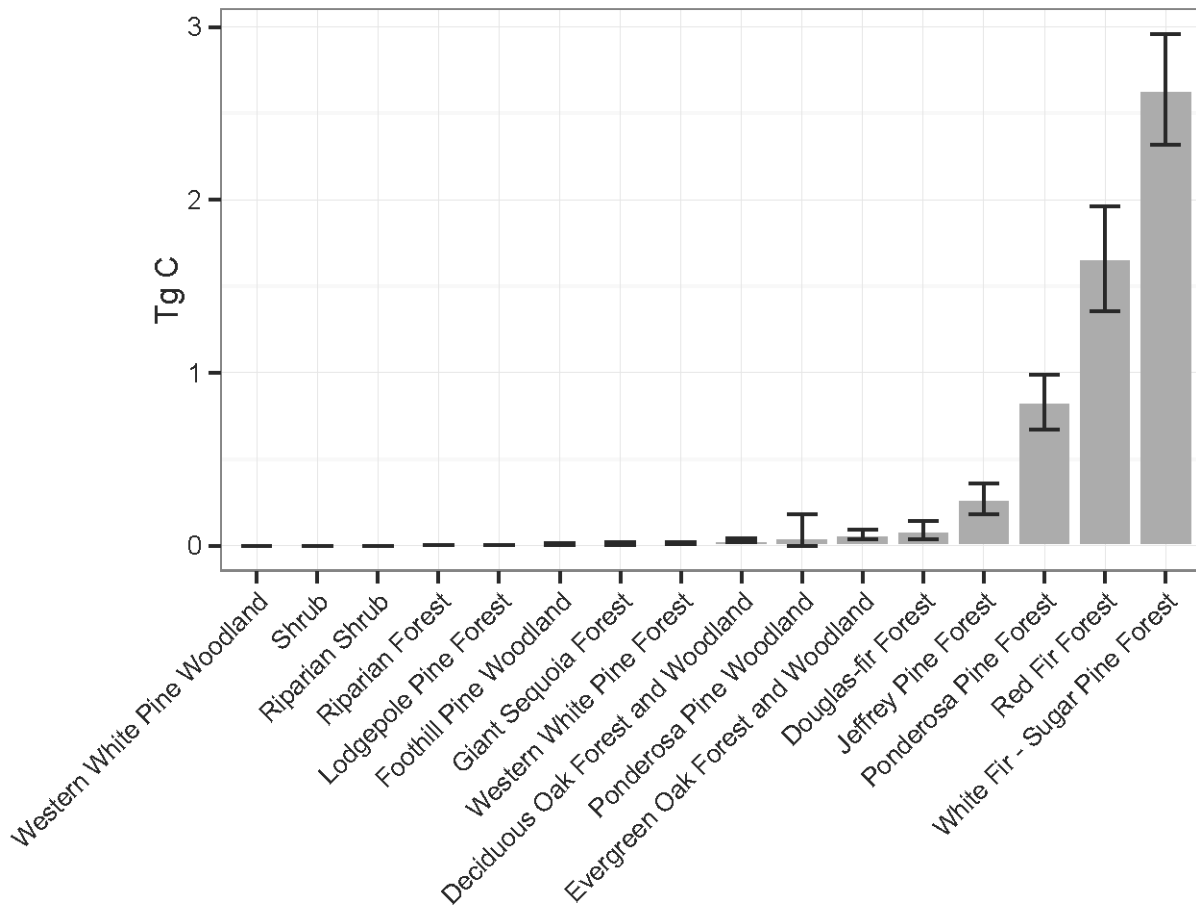


Figure 14a. Pre-fire carbon (95% CI) within the Rim fire perimeter, within Yosemite National Park (excludes areas burned outside the park boundaries).

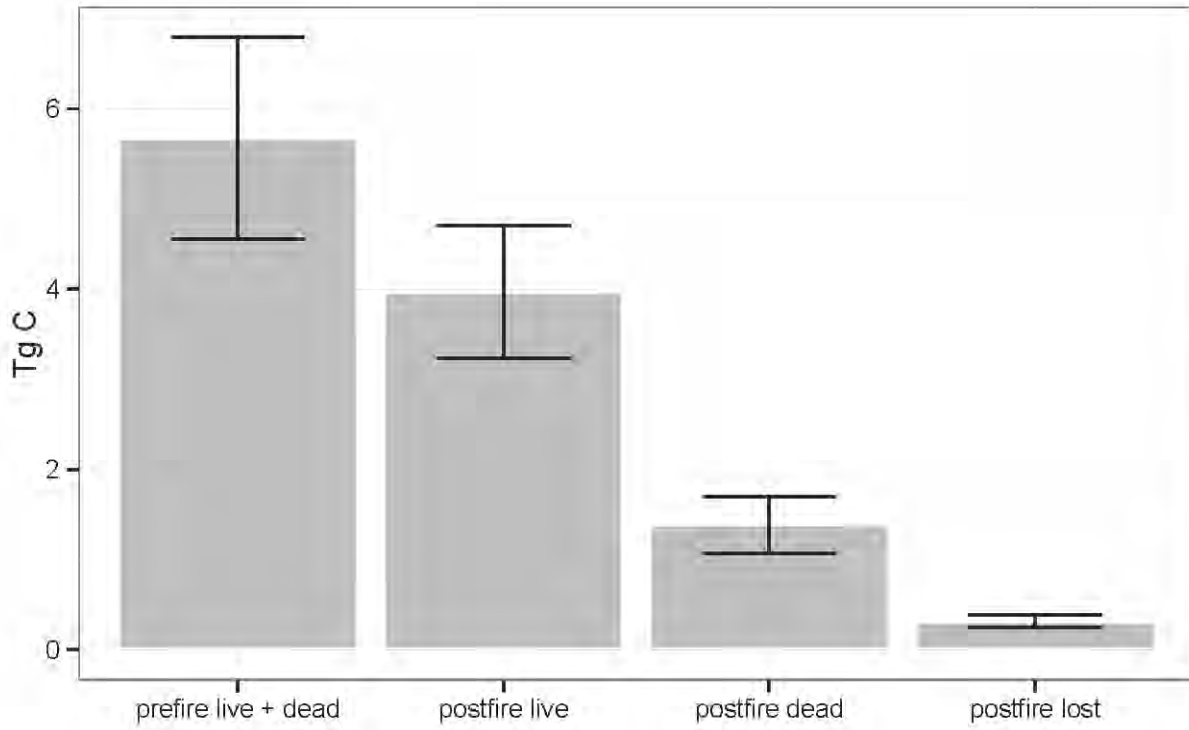


Figure 14b. Post-fire carbon (95% CI) within the Rim fire perimeter, within Yosemite National Park (excludes areas burned outside the park boundaries).

Appendix A: Fire and Carbon Regime Categories Cross-walked to Mapped Vegetation Categories (Keeler-Wolf and Moore 2012)

Mapped PI Code	Mapped Common Name	Mapped Vegetation Category	Fire and Carbon Regime Categories
0	none		none
100	Alpine Talus Slope	No Biomass	Barren
200	Alpine Scree Slope	No Biomass	Barren
300	Alpine Snow Patch Communities	Herbaceous	Barren
400	Alpine Fell-field	No Biomass	Barren
500	Mesic Rock Outcrop	No Biomass	Barren
700	Boulder Field	No Biomass	Barren
910	Conifer Reproduction	Successional Conifer	Conifer Reproduction
920	Conifer Plantation	Successional Conifer	Ponderosa Pine
940	Sparsely Vegetated Undifferentiated	No Biomass	Barren
941	Sparsely Vegetated Riverine Flat	Herbaceous	Barren
950	Non-alpine Talus	No Biomass	Barren
961	Sparsely Vegetated to Non-vegetated Exposed Rock	No Biomass	Barren
963	Dome	No Biomass	Barren
964	Fissured Rock Outcrop	No Biomass	Barren
965	Sparsely Vegetated Rocky Streambed	No Biomass	Barren
970	Alpine Permanent Snowfield/Glacier	No Biomass	Barren
980	Water	No Biomass	Water
981	Permanently Flooded, Emergent, or Floating Vegetation Mapping Unit	No Biomass	Water
990	Urban/Developed	No Biomass	Barren
1020	Canyon Live Oak Forest Alliance	EVER-OAK Forest and Woodland	Live Oak
1021	Canyon Live Oak/Birchleaf Mountain Mahogany Forest Mapping Unit	EVER-OAK Forest and Woodland	Live Oak
1022	Canyon Live Oak/Whiteleaf Manzanita Forest Association	EVER-OAK Forest and Woodland	Live Oak
1023	Canyon Live Oak-(Ponderosa Pine-Incense-cedar) Forest Superassociation	EVER-OAK Forest and Woodland	Live Oak
1024	Canyon Live Oak-California Laurel Forest Superassociation	EVER-OAK Forest and Woodland	Live Oak
1026	Canyon Live Oak-Foothill Pine Forest Association	EVER-OAK Forest and Woodland	Live Oak
1029	Canyon live oak/Greenleaf Manzanita Forest Association	EVER-OAK Forest and Woodland	Live Oak
1040	Interior Live Oak Woodland Alliance	EVER-OAK Forest and	Live Oak

		Woodland	
1043	Interior Live Oak-Canyon Live Oak Woodland Association	EVER-OAK Forest and Woodland	Live Oak
1044	Interior Live Oak-California Buckeye/Birchleaf Mountain Mahogany-California Redbud Forest Association	EVER-OAK Forest and Woodland	Live Oak
1510	Canyon Live Oak/California Buckeye Woodland & Interior Live Oak-California Buckeye S	EVER-OAK Forest and Woodland	Live Oak
1520	Blue Oak-(Interior Live Oak-Foothill Pine/Buckbrush/Annual Grass) Woodland Mapping U	EVER-OAK Forest and Woodland	Oak Woodland
1530	Interior Live Oak Woodland & Shrubland Superalliance	EVER-OAK Forest and Woodland	Live Oak
2010	Quaking Aspen Forest Alliance	Riparian Forest	Quaking Aspen
2011	Quaking Aspen/California False Hellebore Forest Association	Riparian Forest	Quaking Aspen
2013	Quaking Aspen/Willow spp. Forest Mapping Unit	Riparian Forest	Quaking Aspen
2014	Quaking Aspen/Willow spp. Talus Mapping Unit	Riparian Forest	Quaking Aspen
2015	Quaking Aspen-Jeffrey Pine/(Big Sagebrush) Forest Association	Riparian Forest	Quaking Aspen
2016	Quaking Aspen/Big Sagebrush Forest Superassociation	Riparian Forest	Quaking Aspen
2017	Quaking Aspen/Meadow Mapping Unit	Riparian Forest	Quaking Aspen
2020	California Black Oak Forest Alliance	DECID-OAK Forest and Woodland	Black Oak
2021	California Black Oak/Greenleaf Manzanita Forest Association	DECID-OAK Forest and Woodland	Black Oak
2022	California Black Oak-Incense-cedar Forest Association	EVER-OAK Forest and Woodland	Black Oak
2025	California Black Oak/(Bracken Fern) Forest Mapping Unit	DECID-OAK Forest and Woodland	Black Oak
2030	Blue Oak Woodland Alliance	DECID-OAK Forest and Woodland	Oak Woodland
2033	Blue Oak/Brome spp.-American Wild Carrot Woodland Association	DECID-OAK Forest and Woodland	Oak Woodland
2034	Blue Oak-Interior Live Oak/Brome spp.-American Wild Carrot Woodland Association	DECID-OAK Forest and Woodland	Oak Woodland
2038	Blue Oak-California Buckeye-(Interior Live Oak) Woodland Mapping Unit	DECID-OAK Forest and Woodland	Oak Woodland
2040	Valley Oak Woodland Alliance	DECID-OAK Forest and Woodland	Oak Woodland
2050	Black Cottonwood Temporarily Flooded Forest Alliance	Riparian Forest	Riparian
2052	Black Cottonwood-Quaking Aspen-(Jeffrey Pine)/Willow spp. Mapping Unit	Riparian Forest	Riparian
2053	Black Cottonwood Forest Association	Riparian Forest	Riparian
2060	White Alder Temporarily Flooded Forest Alliance	Riparian Shrub	Riparian

2061	White Alder-Red willow-California Sycamore Forest Association	Riparian Shrub	Riparian
2070	Mountain Alder Mapping Unit	Shrub	Riparian
2080	Bigleaf Maple Forest Alliance	DECID Forest	Riparian
2100	California Sycamore Temporarily Flooded Woodland Alliance	Riparian Forest	Riparian
2102	California Sycamore-(Canyon Live Oak-Interior Live Oak) Forest Mapping Unit	Riparian Forest	Riparian
2110	California Buckeye Woodland Alliance	EVER-OAK Forest and Woodland	Oak Woodland
2114	California Buckeye-Canyon Live Oak Woodland Association	EVER-OAK Forest and Woodland	Live Oak
2510	Willow spp. Forest Mapping Unit	Riparian Shrub	Riparian
2520	White Alder & Bigleaf Maple Forest Superalliance	Riparian Forest	Riparian
2530	Montane Broadleaf Deciduous Trees Mapping Unit	DECID Forest	Black Oak
3010	Sierra Lodgepole Pine-Quaking Aspen-(Jeffrey Pine) Forest Alliance	PICO Forest	Lodgepole Pine
3012	Sierra Lodgepole Pine-Quaking Aspen/(Kentucky Bluegrass) Forest Mapping Unit	PICO Forest	Lodgepole Pine
3020	Sierra Lodgepole Pine Forest Alliance	PICO Forest	Lodgepole Pine
3022	Sierra Lodgepole Pine/(Bog Blueberry) Forest Mapping Unit	PICO Forest	Lodgepole Pine
3026	Sierra Lodgepole Pine Rocky Woodlands Superassociation	PICO Forest	Lodgepole Pine
3027	Sierra Lodgepole Pine/(Big Sagebrush-Roundleaf Snowberry-Currant-Red Mountainheather	PICO Forest	Lodgepole Pine
3028	Sierra Lodgepole Pine-(Whitebark Pine)/(Ross Sedge-Shorthair Sedge) Forest Superassociation	PICO Forest	Lodgepole Pine
3034	Sierra Lodgepole Pine/Big Sagebrush Forest Association	PICO Forest	Lodgepole Pine
3047	Sierra Lodgepole Pine/(Big Sagebrush)/(Kentucky Bluegrass) Forest Mapping Unit	PICO Forest	Lodgepole Pine
3048	Sierra Lodgepole Pine Mesic Forest Superassociation	PICO Forest	Lodgepole Pine
3049	Sierra Lodgepole Pine Xeric Forest Superassociation	PICO Forest	Lodgepole Pine
3050	Ponderosa Pine Woodland Alliance	PIPO Woodland	Ponderosa Pine
3053	Ponderosa Pine-California Black Oak/Whiteleaf Manzanita Woodland Association	PIPO Woodland	Ponderosa Pine
3060	Ponderosa Pine-Incense-cedar Forest Alliance	PIPO Forest	Ponderosa Pine
3061	Ponderosa Pine-Incense-cedar-Canyon Live Oak/Mountain Misery Forest Association	PIPO Forest	Ponderosa Pine
3062	Ponderosa Pine-Incense-cedar/Mountain Misery Forest Association	PIPO Forest	Ponderosa Pine
3063	Ponderosa Pine-Incense-cedar-California Black Oak Forest Association	PIPO Forest	Ponderosa Pine
3066	Ponderosa Pine-Incense-cedar-(California Black Oak-Canyon Live Oak)	PIPO Forest	Ponderosa Pine
3070	Jeffrey Pine Woodland Alliance	PIJE Woodland	Jeffrey Pine
3072	Jeffrey Pine/Greenleaf Manzanita Woodland Association	PIJE Woodland	Jeffrey Pine
3073	Jeffrey Pine/Whitethorn Ceanothus Woodland Association	PIJE Woodland	Jeffrey Pine
3075	Jeffrey Pine/Huckleberry Oak Woodland Association	PIJE Woodland	Jeffrey Pine Shrub
3076	Jeffrey Pine/Antelope Bitterbrush Woodland Association	PIJE Woodland	Jeffrey Pine Shrub
3081	Jeffrey Pine?Singleleaf Pinyon Pine Woodland Association	PIJE Woodland	Jeffrey Pine - Pinyon Pine Shrub
3082	Jeffrey Pine/Curl-leaf Mountain Mahogany Woodland Association	PIJE Woodland	Jeffrey Pine Shrub

3083	Jeffrey Pine-White Fir/Roundleaf Snowberry/Squirreltail Woodland Association	PIJE Woodland	Jeffrey Pine
3084	Jeffrey Pine-Canyon Live Oak/Whiteleaf Manzanita Woodland Association	PIJE Woodland	Jeffrey Pine
3085	Jeffrey Pine-California Red Fir Woodland Association	PIJE Woodland	Jeffrey Pine - Western White Pine
3090	Foothill Pine Woodland Alliance	LOW Woodland	Conifer Patches
3097	Foothill Pine-Interior Live Oak/(Whiteleaf Manzanita-Buckbrush-Chamise) Woodland Sup	LOW Woodland	Conifer Patches
3101	Knobcone Pine/Whiteleaf Manzanita Woodland Association	Shrub	Conifer Patches
3102	Knobcone Pine-Canyon Live Oak Woodland Mapping Unit	Shrub	Conifer Patches
3105	Knobcone Pine/Chamise Woodland Association	Shrub	Conifer Patches
3110	Single-leaf Pinyon Pine Woodland Alliance	LOW Woodland	Pinyon - Juniper
3112	Singleleaf Pinyon Pine/Curl-leaf Mountain Mahogany-Big Sagebrush-Antelope Bitterbrus	LOW Woodland	Pinyon Pine - Sierra Juniper Shrub
3113	Singleleaf Pinyon Pine/(Desert Gooseberry-Big Sagebrush/Squirreltail) Woodland Super	LOW Woodland	Pinyon Pine - Sierra Juniper Shrub
3114	Single-leaf Pinyon Pine-Canyon Live Oak/Whiteleaf Manzanita Woodland Association	LOW Woodland	Pinyon - Juniper
3130	Western White Pine Woodland Alliance	PIMO Woodland	Jeffrey Pine - Western White Pine
3131	Western White Pine/Western Needlegrass Woodland Mapping Unit	PIMO Woodland	Jeffrey Pine - Western White Pine
3133	Western White Pine/(Greenleaf Manzanita-Bush Chinquapin-Oceanspray) Woodland Mapping Unit	PIMO Woodland	Jeffrey Pine - Western White Pine
3140	Whitebark Pine Woodland Alliance	HIGH Woodland	Whitebark Pine - Mountain Hemlock
3142	Whitebark Pine/Davidson/Es Penstemon Woodland Association	HIGH Woodland	Whitebark Pine - Mountain Hemlock
3143	Whitebark Pine/(Ross Sedge-Shorthair Sedge) Woodland Superassociation	HIGH Woodland	Whitebark Pine - Mountain Hemlock
3144	Whitebark Pine/Shorthair Sedge Woodland Association	HIGH Woodland	Whitebark Pine - Mountain Hemlock
3147	Whitebark Pine-Mountain Hemlock Woodland Association	HIGH Woodland	Whitebark Pine - Mountain Hemlock
3148	Whitebark Pine-Mountain Hemlock Woodland Association	HIGH Woodland	Whitebark Pine - Mountain Hemlock
3149	Whitebark Pine-(Sierra Lodgepole Pine-Mountain Hemlock) Krummholz Conifer Mapping Un	HIGH Woodland	Whitebark Pine - Mountain Hemlock
3150	Limber Pine Woodland Alliance	HIGH Woodland	Whitebark Pine - Mountain Hemlock
3200	Foxtail Pine Woodland Alliance	Foxtail Pine	Foxtail Pine
3202	Foxtail Pine/Bush Chinquapin Woodland Association	Foxtail Pine	Foxtail Pine

3203	Foxtail Pine Woodland Superassociation	Foxtail Pine	Foxtail Pine
3204	Foxtail Pine-Western White Pine Woodland Superassociation	Foxtail Pine	Foxtail Pine
3205	Dead Foxtail Pine Mapping Unit	Foxtail Pine	Foxtail Pine
3520	(Foxtail Pine-Sierra Lodgepole Pine-Whitebark Pine) Krummholz Woodland Mapping Unit	Foxtail Pine	Foxtail Pine
3530	Whitebark Pine-Foxtail Pine-Lodgepole Pine Woodland Superalliance	HIGH Woodland	Whitebark Pine - Mountain Hemlock
3540	Foxtail Pine-Lodgepole Pine Woodland Superalliance	Foxtail Pine	Foxtail Pine
4012	Douglas-fir-Canyon Live Oak Forest Association	Douglas-fir Forest	Live Oak
4014	Douglas-fir-White Alder Forest Association	Douglas-fir Forest	Riparian
4020	Giant Sequoia Forest Alliance	SEGI Forest	Giant Sequoia
4021	Giant Sequoia-Sugar Pine/Pacific Dogwood Forest Association	SEGI Forest	Giant Sequoia
4023	Giant Sequoia-White Fir-California Red Fir Forest Association	SEGI Forest	Giant Sequoia
4030	Mountain Hemlock Forest Alliance	TSME Forest	Whitebark Pine - Mountain Hemlock
4033	Mountain Hemlock-Western White Pine Forest Association	TSME Forest	Whitebark Pine - Mountain Hemlock
4035	Mountain Hemlock-(Western White Pine-Sierra Lodgepole Pine) Forest	TSME Forest	Whitebark Pine - Mountain Hemlock
4041	Mountain Hemlock-Sierra Lodgepole Pine Forest Association	TSME Forest	Whitebark Pine - Mountain Hemlock
4042	Mountain Hemlock-Sierra Lodgepole Pine-Whitebark Pine Forest Mapping Unit	TSME Forest	Whitebark Pine - Mountain Hemlock
4043	Mountain Hemlock-Sierra Lodgepole Pine-Western White Pine Forest Association	TSME Forest	Whitebark Pine - Mountain Hemlock
4050	California Red Fir Forest Alliance	ABMA Forest	Red Fir
4051	California Red Fir Forest Association	ABMA Forest	Red Fir
4056	California Red Fir-(Sierra Lodgepole Pine) Forest Superassociation	ABMA Forest	Red Fir
4057	California Red Fir-Western White Pine Forest Association	ABMA Forest	Red Fir
4063	California Red Fir-Sierra Lodgepole Pine/Whiteflower Hawkweed Forest Mapping Unit	ABMA Forest	Red Fir
4064	California Red Fir-(Western White Pine)/(Pinemat Manzanita- Bush Chinquapin) Forest Mapping Unit	ABMA Forest	Red Fir
4069	California Red Fir-(Western White Pine)/(Bush Chinquapin- Huckleberry Oak-Pinemat Man	ABMA Forest	Red Fir
4070	California Red Fir-White Fir Forest Alliance	ABMA Forest	Red Fir
4080	White Fir -Sugar Pine Forest Alliance	ABCO-PILA Forest	White Fir
4081	White Fir Forest Mapping Unit	ABCO-PILA Forest	White Fir
4082	White Fir Mature Even-age Stands Mapping Unit	ABCO-PILA Forest	White Fir
4084	White Fir-(California Red Fir-Sugar Pine-Jeffrey Pine)/Whitethorn Ceanothus-(Greenleaf Manzanita) Forest Mapping Unit	ABCO-PILA Forest	White Fir
4085	White Fir East Side Mapping Unit	PIJE Woodland	White Fir

4094	White Fir-Sugar Pine-Incense-cedar Forest Superassociation	ABCO-PILA Forest	White Fir
4095	White Fir-Sugar Pine/Greenleaf Manzanita-Whitethorn Ceanothus Forest Mapping Unit	ABCO-PILA Forest	White Fir
4100	Sierra Juniper Woodland Alliance	HIGH Woodland	Sierra Juniper
4101	Sierra Juniper/(Oceanspray) Woodland Superassociation	HIGH Woodland	Sierra Juniper
4107	Sierra Juniper/Curl-leaf Mountain Mahogany-Big Sagebrush Woodland Association	HIGH Woodland	Sierra Juniper
4108	Sierra Juniper Woodland Association	HIGH Woodland	Sierra Juniper
4109	Sierra Juniper/(Oceanspray-Big Sagebrush) Woodland Superassociation	HIGH Woodland	Sierra Juniper
4111	Incense-cedar-White Alder Forest Association	Successional Conifer	Riparian
4510	Western White Pine-(California Red Fir-Sierra Lodgepole Pine) Forest Superalliance	PIMO Forest	Jeffrey Pine - Western White Pine
4520	White Fir-(California Red Fir-Sugar Pine-Jeffrey Pine)/(Pinemat Manzanita-Whitethorn	ABCO-PILA Forest	White Fir Shrub
4530	White Fir-Sugar Pine-(Incense-cedar-Jeffrey Pine) Forest Mapping Unit	ABCO-PILA Forest	White Fir
4540	Western White Pine-Sierra Lodgepole Pine-(California Red Fir) Woodland Superassociation	PIMO Woodland	Lodgepole Pine
4550	Douglas-fir-(White Fir-Incense-cedar-Ponderosa Pine) Forest Mapping Unit	Douglas-fir Forest	White Fir
5010	Birchleaf Mountain Mahogany Shrubland Alliance	Shrub	Lower Montane Chaparral
5011	Birchleaf Mountain Mahogany-California Redbud-California Flannelbush Shrubland Association	Shrub	Lower Montane Chaparral
5012	Birchleaf Mountain Mahogany-Whiteleaf Manzanita Shrubland Association	Shrub	Lower Montane Chaparral
5020	Chamise Shrubland Alliance	Shrub	Foothill Chaparral
5021	Chamise Shrubland Association	Shrub	Foothill Chaparral
5022	Chamise-Whiteleaf Manzanita Shrubland Association	Shrub	Foothill Chaparral
5023	Chamise-Chaparral Yucca Shrubland Association	Shrub	Foothill Chaparral
5025	Chamise-California Yerba Santa Shrubland Association	Shrub	Foothill Chaparral
5031	Chamise-Buckbrush Shrubland Association	Shrub	Foothill Chaparral
5041	Interior Live Oak-California Buckeye Shrubland Association	Shrub	Live Oak
5050	Buckbrush Shrubland Alliance	Shrub	Foothill Chaparral
5060	Chaparral Whitethorn Shrubland Alliance	Shrub	Foothill Chaparral
5070	Whiteleaf Manzanita Shrubland Alliance	Shrub	Lower Montane Chaparral
5090	Greenleaf Manzanita Shrubland Alliance	Shrub	Upper Montane Chaparral
5110	Whitethorn Ceanothus Shrubland Alliance	Shrub	Upper Montane Chaparral
5120	Tobacco Brush Shrubland Alliance	Shrub	Eastside Chaparral
5130	Mountain Misery Dwarf-shrubland Alliance	Shrub	Upper Montane Chaparral
5131	Mountain Misery-Manzanita spp. Mapping Unit	Shrub	Lower Montane Chaparral
5140	Indian Manzanita Shrubland Alliance	Shrub	Lower Montane Chaparral
5160	Big Sagebrush Shrubland Alliance	Shrub	Eastside Chaparral

5200	Timberline Sagebrush Shrubland Alliance	Shrub	Eastside Chaparral
5210	Low Sagebrush Dwarf-shrubland Alliance	Shrub	Eastside Chaparral
5230	Curl-leaf Mountain Mahogany Woodland Alliance	Shrub	Eastside Chaparral
5240	Antelope Bitterbrush Shrubland Alliance	Shrub	Eastside Chaparral
5250	(Silver Lupine)/Brome spp. Shrubland Mapping Unit	Herbaceous	Oak Woodland
5260	Big Sagebrush-(Silver Sagebrush) Shrubland Mapping Unit	Shrub	Eastside Chaparral
5270	Chaparral Yucca Shrubland Alliance	Shrub	Lower Montane Chaparral
5280	Pinemat Manzanita Dwarf-shrubland Alliance	Shrub	Upper Montane Chaparral
5300	Water Birch Shrubland Alliance	Shrub	Riparian
5510	Mountain Big Sagebrush & Timberline Sagebrush & Oceanspray & Red Mountainheather Shrubland Superalliance	Shrub	Eastside Chaparral
5530	Bitter Cherry-Gooseberry spp.-(Mountain Maple) Shrubland Mapping Unit	Shrub	Upper Montane Chaparral
5550	Red Mountainheather Dwarf-shrubland Alliance	Shrub	Eastside Chaparral
5560	Chamise-(Buckbrush-Whiteleaf Manzanita) Shrubland Mapping Unit	Shrub	Foothill Chaparral
5570	Greenleaf Manzanita & Bush Chinquapin & Huckleberry Oak Shrubland Superalliance	Shrub	Upper Montane Chaparral
5580	Birchleaf Mountain Mahogany & Buckbrush & Whiteleaf Manzanita Shrubland Superalliance	Shrub	Lower Montane Chaparral
5590	Greenleaf Manzanita-Bush Chinquapin-Whitethorn Ceanothus Shrubland Superalliance	Shrub	Upper Montane Chaparral
6010	Deerbrush Shrubland Alliance	Shrub	Upper Montane Chaparral
6012	Deerbrush-Whiteleaf Manzanita Shrubland Association	Shrub	Lower Montane Chaparral
6020	Oregon White Oak Shrubland Alliance	Shrub	Upper Montane Chaparral
6022	Oregon White Oak-Birchleaf Mountain Mahogany Shrubland Association	Shrub	Upper Montane Chaparral
6030	California Grape Association	Shrub	Riparian
6110	Sierra Willow/Swamp Onion Seasonally Flooded Shrubland Alliance	Shrub	Riparian
6210	Oceanspray Shrubland Alliance	Shrub	Eastside Chaparral
6300	Bitter Cherry Shrubland Alliance	Shrub	Upper Montane Chaparral
6500	Willow spp./Meadow Shrubland Mapping Unit	Riparian Shrub	Riparian
6600	Willow spp. Riparian Shrubland Mapping Unit	Riparian Shrub	Riparian
6700	Willow spp. Talus Shrubland Mapping Unit	Riparian Shrub	Riparian
6900	Mesic Montane Shrubland Mapping Unit	Shrub	Upper Montane Chaparral
7000	Upland Herbaceous	Herbaceous	Meadow
7120	Shorthair Sedge Herbaceous Alliance	Herbaceous	Meadow
7260	California Annual Grassland/Herbland Superalliance	Herbaceous	Oak Woodland
7550	Upland herbaceous	Herbaceous	Meadow
7701	Post-clearcut Shrub/Herbaceous Mapping Unit	Herbaceous	Lower Montane

7702	Mesic Post Fire Herbaceous Mapping Unit	Herbaceous	Chaparral Meadow
7703	Post Fire Shrub/Herbaceous Mapping Unit	Shrub	Lower Montane Chaparral
8000	Intermittently to Seasonally Flooded Meadow	Herbaceous	Meadow
9000	Semi-permanent to Permanently Flooded Meadow	Herbaceous	Meadow
9030	Bullrush-Cattail Mapping Unit	Herbaceous	Meadow

Appendix B: Allometric Equations and Citations

code	scientific name	minumum applied DBH	maximum applied DBH	ceiling DBH	component	equation species	a	b	SEE	citation ID
ABCO	<i>Abies concolor</i>	0	6.9999	1000	tree	small conifer	-1.8516	2.3701	0.1191	15
ABCO	<i>Abies concolor</i>	7	98	1000	tree	<i>Abies concolor</i>	-2.5521	2.5043	0.16805	2
ABCO	<i>Abies concolor</i>	98.0001	1000	1000	bole	<i>Abies procera</i>	-3.0319	2.5812	0.1841	4
ABCO	<i>Abies concolor</i>	98.0001	1000	111	branch live	Abies pooled	-4.9318	2.5585	0.454	8
ABCO	<i>Abies concolor</i>	98.0001	1000	111	foliage	Abies pooled	-3.5458	1.9278	0.399	8
ABIES	<i>Abies</i>	0	27.5	1000	tree	small conifer	-1.8516	2.3701	0.1191	15
ABIES	<i>Abies</i>	27.5001	100	1000	tree	<i>Abies magnifica</i>	-4.3136	2.9121	0.22074	2
ABIES	<i>Abies</i>	100.0001	1000	1000	bole	<i>Abies procera</i>	-3.0319	2.5812	0.1841	4
ABIES	<i>Abies</i>	100.0001	1000	111	branch live	Abies pooled	-4.9318	2.5585	0.454	8
ABIES	<i>Abies</i>	100.0001	1000	111	foliage	Abies pooled	-3.5458	1.9278	0.399	8
ABMA	<i>Abies magnifica</i>	0	27.5	1000	tree	small conifer	-1.8516	2.3701	0.1191	15
ABMA	<i>Abies magnifica</i>	27.5001	100	1000	tree	<i>Abies magnifica</i>	-4.3136	2.9121	0.22074	2
ABMA	<i>Abies magnifica</i>	100.0001	1000	1000	bole	<i>Abies procera</i>	-3.0319	2.5812	0.1841	4
ABMA	<i>Abies magnifica</i>	100.0001	1000	111	branch live	Abies pooled	-4.9318	2.5585	0.454	8
ABMA	<i>Abies magnifica</i>	100.0001	1000	111	foliage	Abies pooled	-3.5458	1.9278	0.399	8
ABMAM	<i>Abies magnifica</i> var. <i>magnifica</i>	0	27.5	1000	tree	small conifer	-1.8516	2.3701	0.1191	15
ABMAM	<i>Abies magnifica</i> var. <i>magnifica</i>	27.5001	100	1000	tree	<i>Abies magnifica</i>	-4.3136	2.9121	0.22074	2
ABMAM	<i>Abies magnifica</i> var. <i>magnifica</i>	100.0001	1000	1000	bole	<i>Abies procera</i>	-3.0319	2.5812	0.1841	4
ABMAM	<i>Abies magnifica</i> var. <i>magnifica</i>	100.0001	1000	111	branch live	Abies pooled	-4.9318	2.5585	0.454	8
ABMAM	<i>Abies magnifica</i> var. <i>magnifica</i>	100.0001	1000	111	foliage	Abies pooled	-3.5458	1.9278	0.399	8
ABMAS	<i>Abies magnifica</i> var. <i>shastensis</i>	0	27.5	1000	tree	small conifer	-1.8516	2.3701	0.1191	15
ABMAS	<i>Abies magnifica</i> var. <i>shastensis</i>	27.5001	100	1000	tree	<i>Abies magnifica</i>	-4.3136	2.9121	0.22074	2
ABMAS	<i>Abies magnifica</i> var. <i>shastensis</i>	100.0001	1000	1000	bole	<i>Abies procera</i>	-3.0319	2.5812	0.1841	4
ABMAS	<i>Abies magnifica</i> var. <i>shastensis</i>	100.0001	1000	111	branch live	Abies pooled	-4.9318	2.5585	0.454	8
ABMAS	<i>Abies magnifica</i> var. <i>shastensis</i>	100.0001	1000	111	foliage	Abies pooled	-3.5458	1.9278	0.399	8
ACMA3	<i>Acer macrophyllum</i>	0	7.5999	1000	tree	soft maple/birch	-2.0332	2.3651	0.491685	16
ACMA3	<i>Acer macrophyllum</i>	7.6	1000	1000	bole bark	<i>Acer macrophyllum</i>	-4.5757	2.574	0.058	7
ACMA3	<i>Acer macrophyllum</i>	7.6	1000	1000	bole wood	<i>Acer macrophyllum</i>	-3.4931	2.723	0.014	7
ACMA3	<i>Acer macrophyllum</i>	7.6	1000	1000	branch dead	<i>Acer macrophyllum</i>	-3.8495	1.092	1.862	7

ACMA3	Acer macrophyllum	7.6	1000	1000	branch live	Acer macrophyllum	-4.2613	2.43	0.225	7
ACMA3	Acer macrophyllum	7.6	1000	1000	foliage	Acer macrophyllum	-3.7701	1.617	0.101	7
AECA	Aesculus californica	0	1000	1000	tree	mixed hardwood	-2.545	2.4835	0.360458	16
ALRH2	Alnus rhombifolia	0	1000	1000	tree	aspen/alder/cottonwood/willow	-2.3381	2.3867	0.507441	16
ARVI4	Arctostaphylos viscida	0	1000	1000	tree	mixed hardwood	-2.545	2.4835	0.360458	16
ARVIV	Arctostaphylos viscida ssp. viscida	0	1000	1000	tree	mixed hardwood	-2.545	2.4835	0.360458	16
BEOC2	Betula occidentalis	0	1000	1000	tree	soft maple/birch	-2.0332	2.3651	0.491685	16
CADE27	Calocedrus decurrens	0	1000	1000	tree	cedar/larch	-2.077	2.2592	0.294574	16
CEBEx	Cercocarpus betuloides	0	1000	1000	tree	mixed hardwood	-2.545	2.4835	0.360458	16
CELE3	Cercocarpus ledifolius	0	1000	1000	tree	mixed hardwood	-2.545	2.4835	0.360458	16
CEOC3	Cercis occidentalis	0	1000	1000	tree	mixed hardwood	-2.545	2.4835	0.360458	16
COCOC	Corylus cornuta var. californica	0	1000	1000	tree	mixed hardwood	-2.545	2.4835	0.360458	16
CONU4	Cornus nuttallii	0	1000	1000	tree	mixed hardwood	-2.545	2.4835	0.360458	16
FRDI2	Fraxinus dipetala	0	1000	1000	tree	mixed hardwood	-2.545	2.4835	0.360458	16
FRLA	Fraxinus latifolia	0	1000	1000	tree	mixed hardwood	-2.545	2.4835	0.360458	16
FRVE2	Fraxinus velutina	0	1000	1000	tree	mixed hardwood	-2.545	2.4835	0.360458	16
jimUNKN	Jim Unknown	0	15.8999	1000	bole	small conifer	-1.915	2.348	0.1302	15
jimUNKN	Jim Unknown	15.9	1000	1000	bole	Abies procera	-3.0319	2.5812	0.1841	4
JUOC	Juniperus occidentalis	0	1000	1000	tree	Juniperus occidentalis	-5.6604	2.2462	0.1433	8
JUOCA	Juniperus occidentalis var. australis	0	1000	1000	tree	Juniperus occidentalis	-5.6604	2.2462	0.1433	8
JUOS	Juniperus osteosperma	0	1000	1000	tree	Juniperus occidentalis	-5.6604	2.2462	0.1433	8
MALUS	Malus	0	1000	1000	tree	mixed hardwood	-2.545	2.4835	0.360458	16
PIAL	Pinus albicaulis	0	10	1000	tree	Pinus albicaulis	-0.389	1.1585	0.4045	3
PIAL	Pinus albicaulis	10.0001	20	1000	bole	Juniperus occidentalis	-8.3826	2.6378	0.159	8
PIAL	Pinus albicaulis	10.0001	20	1000	canopy	Pinus albicaulis	-1.3017	1.2991	0.483	3
PIAL	Pinus albicaulis	20.0001	1000	1000	tree	Juniperus occidentalis	-5.6604	2.2462	0.1433	8
PIAT	Pinus attenuata	0	1000	1000	tree	pine	-2.5678	2.4349	0.253781	16
PIBAA	Pinus balfouriana ssp. austrina	0	10	1000	tree	Pinus albicaulis	-0.389	1.1585	0.4045	3
PIBAA	Pinus balfouriana ssp. austrina	10.0001	20	1000	bole	Juniperus occidentalis	-8.3826	2.6378	0.159	8
PIBAA	Pinus balfouriana ssp. austrina	10.0001	20	1000	canopy	Pinus albicaulis	-1.3017	1.2991	0.483	3
PIBAA	Pinus balfouriana ssp. austrina	20.0001	1000	1000	tree	Juniperus occidentalis	-5.6604	2.2462	0.1433	8
PICOM	Pinus contorta var. murrayana	0	19.9999	1000	tree	Pinus contorta	-2.095	2.3909	0.4786	26
PICOM	Pinus contorta var. murrayana	20	1000	1000	tree	Pinus contorta	-1.0386	1.9294	0.3205	1
PIJE	Pinus jeffreyi	0	22.3999	1000	tree	small conifer	-1.8516	2.3701	0.1191	15
PIJE	Pinus jeffreyi	22.4	133.1	1000	bole	Pinus jeffreyi	-5.1108	2.952	0.204834	4

PIJE	Pinus jeffreyi	22.4	1000	162	branches dead	Pseudotsuga menziesii	-3.794	1.7503	0.728	8
PIJE	Pinus jeffreyi	22.4	1000	162	branches live	Pseudotsuga menziesii	-3.8938	2.1382	0.632	8
PIJE	Pinus jeffreyi	22.4	1000	162	foliage	Pseudotsuga menziesii	-3.0877	1.7009	0.695	8
PIJE	Pinus jeffreyi	133.1001	1000	1000	bole	Pseudotsuga menziesii	-2.2765	2.4247	0.2415	4
PILA	Pinus lambertiana	0	8.6999	1000	tree	small conifer	-1.8516	2.3701	0.1191	15
PILA	Pinus lambertiana	8.7	179.6	1000	bole	Pinus lambertiana	-3.6973	2.6863	0.193513	4
PILA	Pinus lambertiana	8.7	1000	162	branches dead	Pseudotsuga menziesii	-3.794	1.7503	0.728	8
PILA	Pinus lambertiana	8.7	1000	162	branches live	Pseudotsuga menziesii	-3.8938	2.1382	0.632	8
PILA	Pinus lambertiana	8.7	1000	162	foliage	Pseudotsuga menziesii	-3.0877	1.7009	0.695	8
PILA	Pinus lambertiana	179.6001	1000	1000	bole	Pseudotsuga menziesii	-2.2765	2.4247	0.2415	4
PIMO	Pinus monophylla	0	1000	1000	tree	pine	-2.5678	2.4349	0.253781	16
PIMO3	Pinus monticola	0	19.9999	1000	tree	Pinus contorta	-2.095	2.3909	0.4786	26
PIMO3	Pinus monticola	20	1000	1000	tree	Pinus contorta	-1.0386	1.9294	0.3205	1
PINUS	Pinus	0	1000	1000	tree	pine	-2.5678	2.4349	0.253781	16
PIPO	Pinus ponderosa	0	15.4999	1000	tree	small conifer	-1.8516	2.3701	0.1191	15
PIPO	Pinus ponderosa	15.5	79.5	1000	tree	Pinus ponderosa	-3.2673	2.582	0.1266	8
PIPO	Pinus ponderosa	79.5001	1000	1000	bole	Pseudotsuga menziesii	-2.2765	2.4247	0.2415	4
PIPO	Pinus ponderosa	79.5001	1000	162	branches dead	Pseudotsuga menziesii	-3.794	1.7503	0.728	8
PIPO	Pinus ponderosa	79.5001	1000	162	branches live	Pseudotsuga menziesii	-3.8938	2.1382	0.632	8
PIPO	Pinus ponderosa	79.5001	1000	162	foliage	Pseudotsuga menziesii	-3.0877	1.7009	0.695	8
PISA2	Pinus sabiniana	0	1000	1000	tree	pine	-2.5678	2.4349	0.253781	16
PLRA	Platanus racemosa	0	1000	1000	tree	mixed hardwood	-2.545	2.4835	0.360458	16
POBA2	Populus balsamifera	0	1000	1000	tree	aspen/alder/cottonwood/willow	-2.3381	2.3867	0.507441	16
POBAT	Populus balsamifera ssp. trichocarpa	0	1000	1000	tree	aspen/alder/cottonwood/willow	-2.3381	2.3867	0.507441	16
POTR5	Populus tremuloides	0	36	1000	tree	Populus tremuloides	-2.1461	2.242	0.3205	11
POTR5	Populus tremuloides	36.0001	1000	1000	tree	aspen/alder/cottonwood/willow	-2.3381	2.3867	0.507441	16
PREM	Prunus emarginata	0	1000	1000	tree	mixed hardwood	-2.545	2.4835	0.360458	16
PRVID	Prunus virginiana var. demissa	0	1000	1000	tree	mixed hardwood	-2.545	2.4835	0.360458	16
PSME	Pseudotsuga menziesii	0	1000	1000	tree	Pseudotsuga menziesii	-2.2543	2.4435	0.218712	16
QUCH2	Quercus chrysolepis	0	1000	1000	tree	hard maple/oak/hickory/beechn	-2.0407	2.4342	0.236483	16
QUDO	Quercus douglasii	0	1000	1000	tree	hard maple/oak/hickory/beechn	-2.0407	2.4342	0.236483	16

QUKE	Quercus kelloggii	0	1000	1000	tree	hard maple/oak/hickory/bee	-2.0407	2.4342	0.236483	16
QULO	Quercus lobata	0	1000	1000	tree	hard maple/oak/hickory/bee	-2.0407	2.4342	0.236483	16
QUMO2	Quercus x moreha	0	1000	1000	tree	hard maple/oak/hickory/bee	-2.0407	2.4342	0.236483	16
QUWI2	Quercus wislizeni	0	1000	1000	tree	hard maple/oak/hickory/bee	-2.0407	2.4342	0.236483	16
QUWIW	Quercus wislizeni var. wislizeni	0	1000	1000	tree	hard maple/oak/hickory/bee	-2.0407	2.4342	0.236483	16
RHCA	Rhamnus californica	0	1000	1000	tree	mixed hardwood	-2.545	2.4835	0.360458	16
RHIL	Rhamnus ilicifolia	0	1000	1000	tree	mixed hardwood	-2.545	2.4835	0.360458	16
SALA3	Salix laevigata	0	1000	1000	tree	aspen/alder/cottonwood/willow	-2.3381	2.3867	0.507441	16
SALA6	Salix lasiolepis	0	1000	1000	tree	aspen/alder/cottonwood/willow	-2.3381	2.3867	0.507441	16
SALIX	Salix	0	1000	1000	tree	aspen/alder/cottonwood/willow	-2.3381	2.3867	0.507441	16
SALU	Salix lucida	0	1000	1000	tree	aspen/alder/cottonwood/willow	-2.3381	2.3867	0.507441	16
SALUL	Salix lucida ssp. lasiandra	0	1000	1000	tree	aspen/alder/cottonwood/willow	-2.3381	2.3867	0.507441	16
SAME2	Salix melanopsis	0	1000	1000	tree	aspen/alder/cottonwood/willow	-2.3381	2.3867	0.507441	16
SASC	Salix scouleriana	0	1000	1000	tree	aspen/alder/cottonwood/willow	-2.3381	2.3867	0.507441	16
SEGI2	Sequoiadendron giganteum	0	96.7999	1000	tree	cedar/larch	-2.077	2.2592	0.294574	16
SEGI2	Sequoiadendron giganteum	96.8	1000	1000	bole	Sequoiadendron giganteum	-2.8134	2.4019	0.254442	4
TOCA	Torreya californica	0	1000	1000	tree	mixed hardwood	-2.545	2.4835	0.360458	16
treeDead		0	15.8999	1000	bole	small conifer	-1.915	2.348	0.1302	15
treeDead		15.9	1000	1000	bole	Abies procera	-3.0319	2.5812	0.1841	4
treeNone		0	1000	1000	tree	none	0	0	0	25
treeUnk	generic tree species	0	1000	1000	tree	pine	-2.5678	2.4349	0.253781	16
TSME	Tsuga mertensiana	0	11.4999	1000	tree	small conifer	-1.8516	2.3701	0.1191	15
TSME	Tsuga mertensiana	11.5	1000	1000	bole	Tsuga mertensiana	-3.2801	2.5915	0.195028	4
TSME	Tsuga mertensiana	11.5	1000	1000	branch live	Tsuga mertensiana	-5.2655	2.6045	0.122	8
					branches					
TSME	Tsuga mertensiana	11.5	1000	1000	dead	Tsuga mertensiana	-9.951	3.2845	0.11	8
TSME	Tsuga mertensiana	11.5	1000	1000	foliage	Tsuga mertensiana	-3.8294	1.9756	0.158	8
UMCA	Umbellularia californica	0	1000	1000	tree	Umbellularia californica	-2.1313	2.3996	0.2497	21

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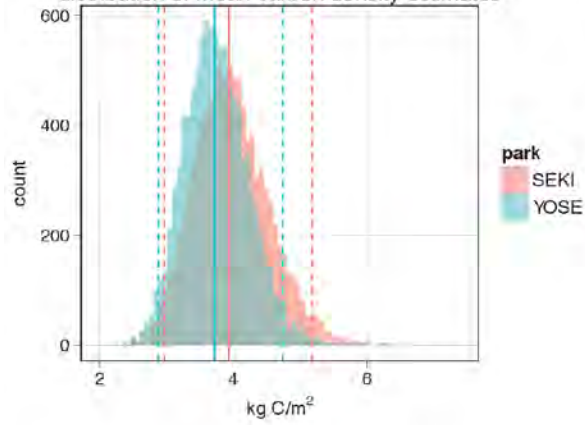
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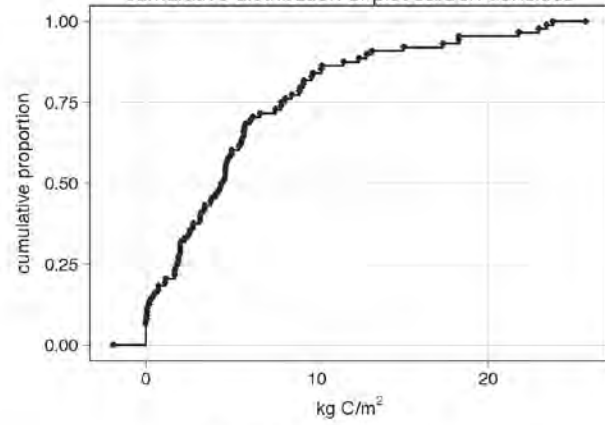
Appendix C: Carbon Summaries for Major Vegetation Types

Deciduous Oak Forest and Woodland (n = 88)

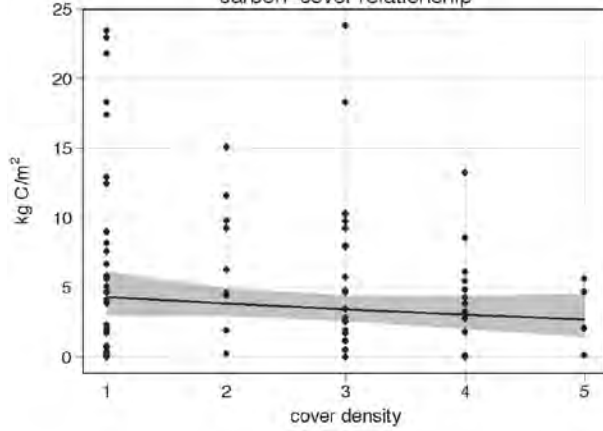
distribution of mean carbon density estimates



cumulative distribution of plot carbon densities



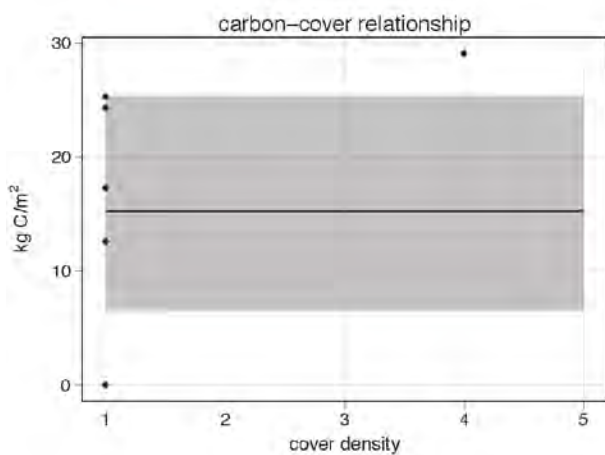
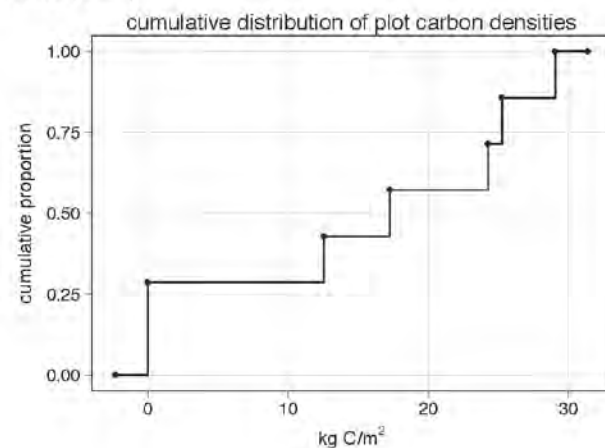
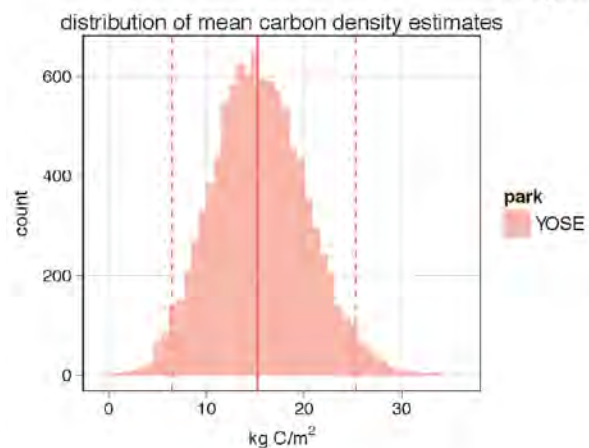
carbon-cover relationship



species composition

code	carbon	nTrees	carbonPct	nTreesPct
QUIKE	189,908	848	35.6	31.9
QUUDO	129,201	378	27	14.3
CADE27	66,740	625	11.9	19.8
QUULO	36,726	25	7.7	0.9
ABCO	21,665	179	4.5	8.8
QUCH2	11,674	121	2.4	4.6
treeDead	9,640	185	2	7
FIPC	8,687	34	1.8	1.3
AECA	7,521	97	1.8	3.7
QUWIW	7,883	111	1.8	4.2
QUWI2	6,884	55	1.2	2.1
PIJE	4,096	3	0.9	0.1
PILA	2,999	26	0.6	1
FRLA	2,325	11	0.5	0.4
PISA2	1,425	8	0.3	0.3
ARV14	379	10	0.1	0.4
CEBEX	413	5	0.1	0.2
FRDI2	279	8	0.1	0.3
CEOC3	71	4	0	0.2
PSME	219	1	0	0

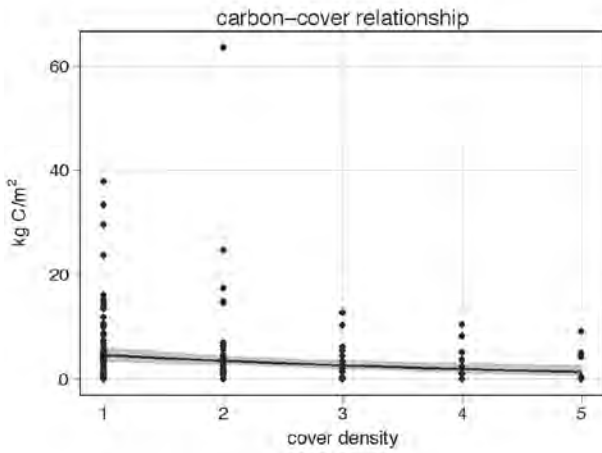
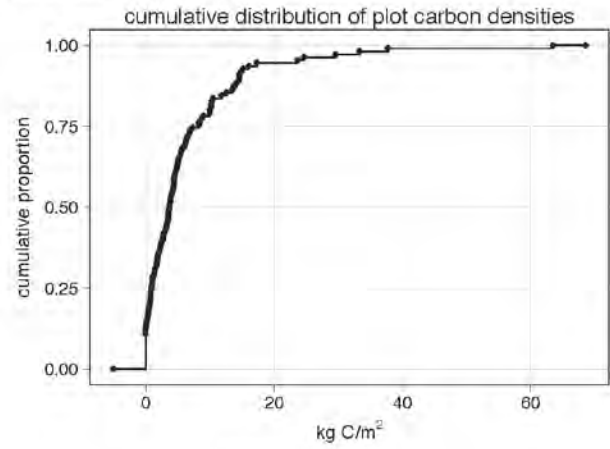
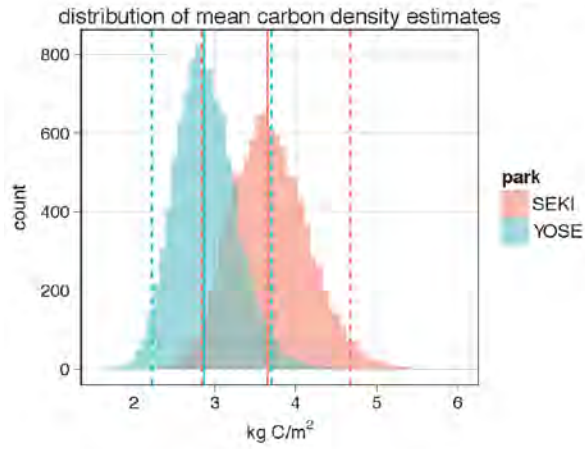
Douglas-fir Forest (n = 7)



species composition

code	carbon	nTrees	carbonPct	nTreesPct
PSME	40,767	113	47.1	29.7
CADE27	20,125	102	23.2	26.8
PIPO	8,423	13	9.7	3.4
QUCH12	8,095	81	9.3	21.3
ABCO	4,812	21	5.6	5.5
QUKE	1,665	12	1.9	3.2
ALRH2	1,202	7	1.4	1.8
PILA	502	3	0.6	0.8
treeDead	447	14	0.5	3.7
ACMA3	333	2	0.4	0.5
CCNU4	213	10	0.2	2.6
treeNone	0	2	0.0	0.5

Evergreen Oak Forest and Woodland (n = 110)

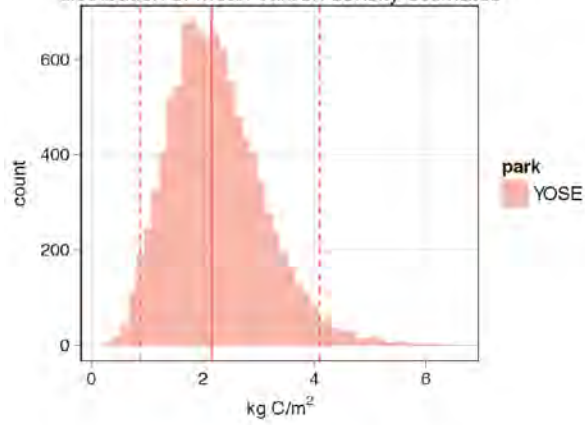


species composition

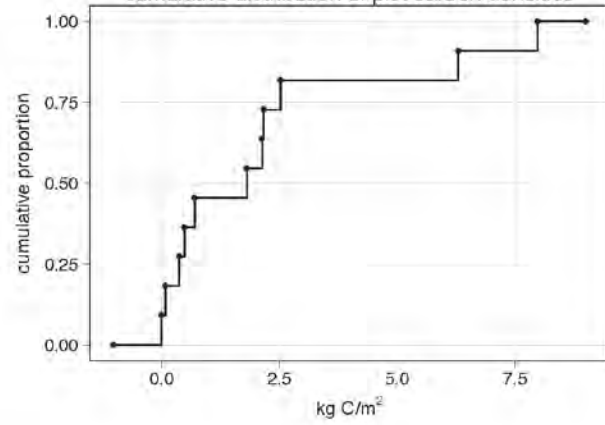
code	carbon	nTrees	carbonPot	nTreesPot
QUCH2	286.176	1,754	50.5	45.4
QUWIW	82.351	348	14.8	9
AECA	37.330	268	6.6	5.7
PIPO	24.675	39	4.4	1
QUWI2	20.179	185	3.6	4.8
CADE27	18.224	118	3.2	3.1
QUKE	17.824	71	3.2	1.8
treeDead	16.223	156	2.9	4.1
PISA2	11.702	19	2.1	0.5
PSME	12.045	20	2.1	0.5
TCCA	8.927	45	1.6	1.2
UMCA	7.945	675	1.4	17.5
PLRA	4.421	4	0.6	0.1
PILA	2.596	6	0.5	0.2
ABCC	1.608	14	0.3	0.4
ALRH2	1.880	4	0.3	0.1
FRLA	1.581	6	0.3	0.2
QUDC	1.890	10	0.3	0.3
ACMA3	1.297	5	0.2	0.1
QUMO2	1.275	3	0.2	0.1

Foothill Pine Woodland (n = 11)

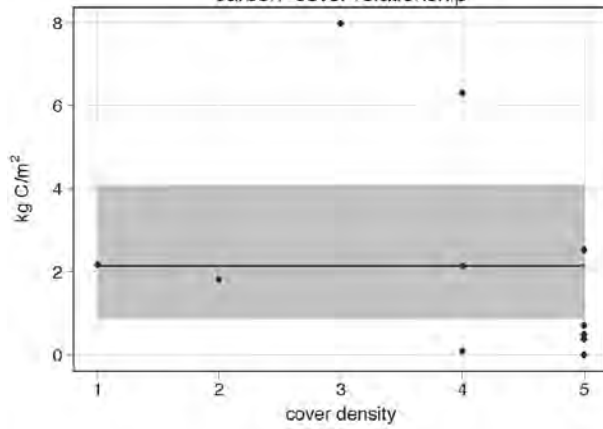
distribution of mean carbon density estimates



cumulative distribution of plot carbon densities



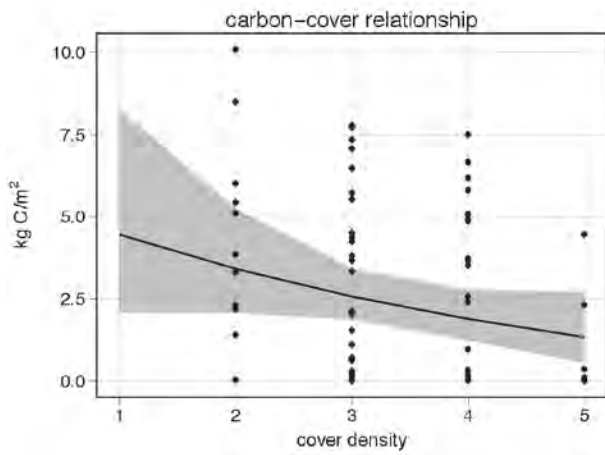
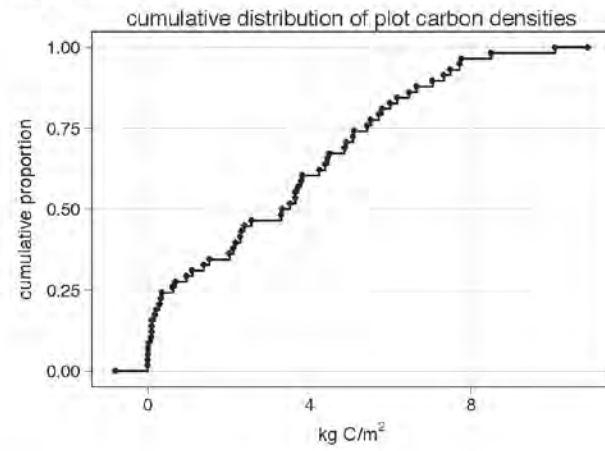
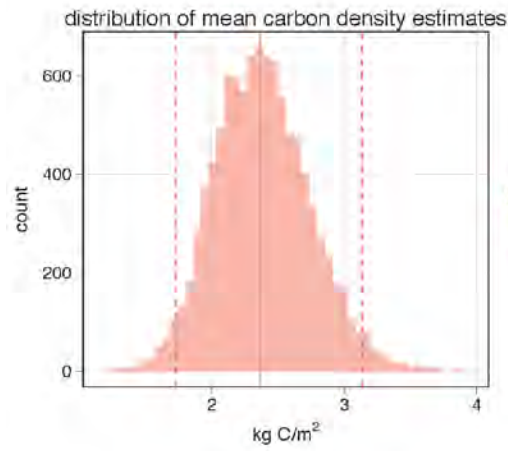
carbon-cover relationship



species composition

code	carbon	nTrees	carbonPct	nTreesPct
PISA2	18,126	32	72.3	65.3
OUW2	2,949	7	11.6	14.3
QUKE	2,718	3	10.8	6.1
QUCH2	964	3	3.8	6.1
QULO	242	1	1.0	2.0
AECA	48	1	0.2	2.0
QUDD	28	1	0.1	2.0
treeNone	0	1	0.0	2.0

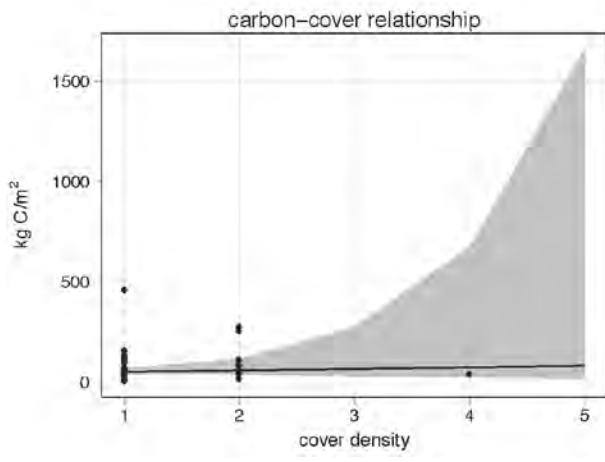
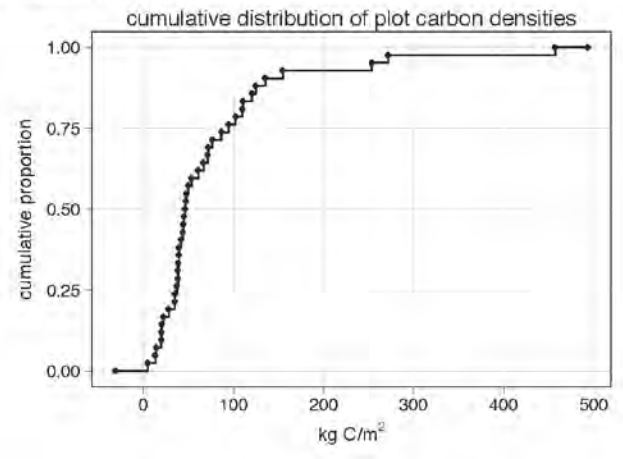
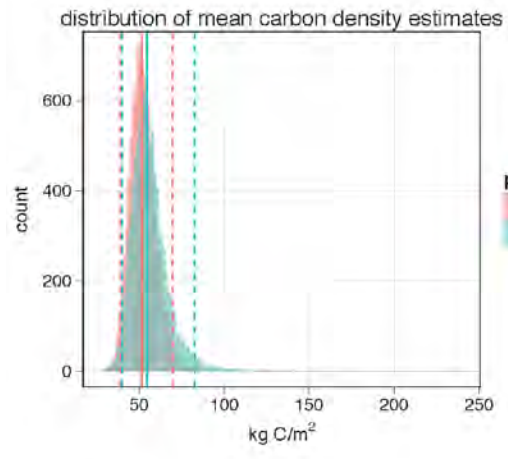
Foxtail Pine Forest (n = 58)



species composition

code	carbon	nTrees	carbonPct	nTreesPct
PICOM	94,106	731	46.4	46.0
treeDead	91,325	109	45.0	6.9
PIBAA	10,595	690	5.2	43.4
PIMC3	6,661	22	3.3	1.4
PIAL	169	35	0.1	2.2
ABMA	46	1	0.0	0.1
treeNone	0	1	0.0	0.1

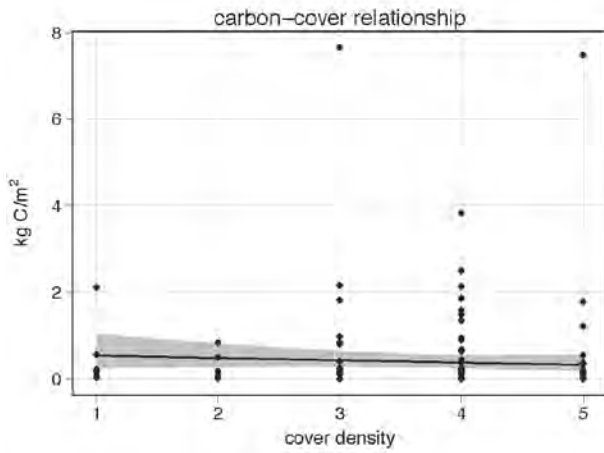
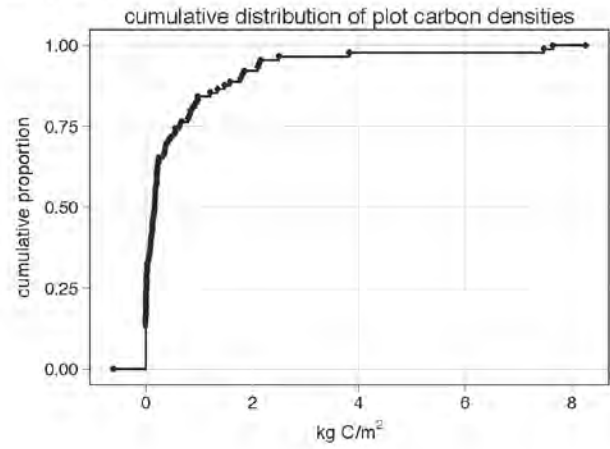
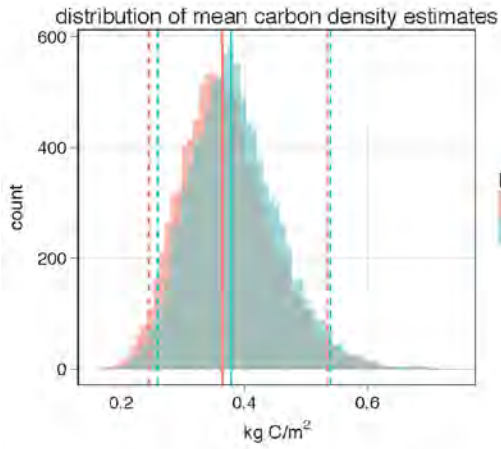
Giant Sequoia Forest (n = 42)



species composition

code	carbon	nTrees	carbonPct	nTreesPct
SEG12	2,442,130	197	73.1	7.0
ABCO	488,420	1,746	14.6	62.4
treeDead	185,832	341	5.6	12.2
PILA	114,900	251	3.4	8.0
ABMAM	57,362	48	1.7	1.7
PIPO	27,913	13	0.8	0.5
CADE27	17,923	194	0.5	8.9
PINUS	7,486	1	0.2	0.0
CONU4	37	7	0.0	0.2
PIJE	172	1	0.0	0.0
QUKE	18	1	0.0	0.0

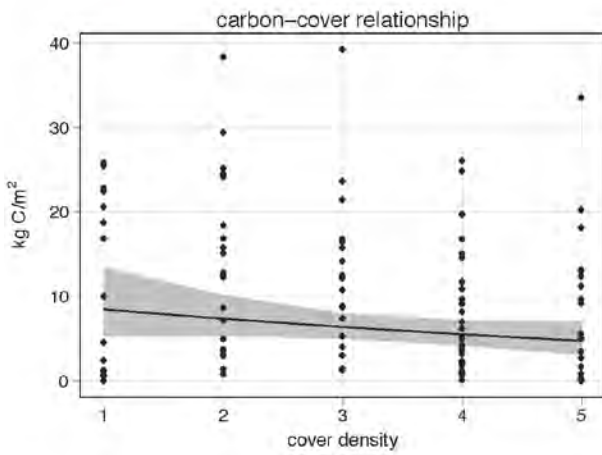
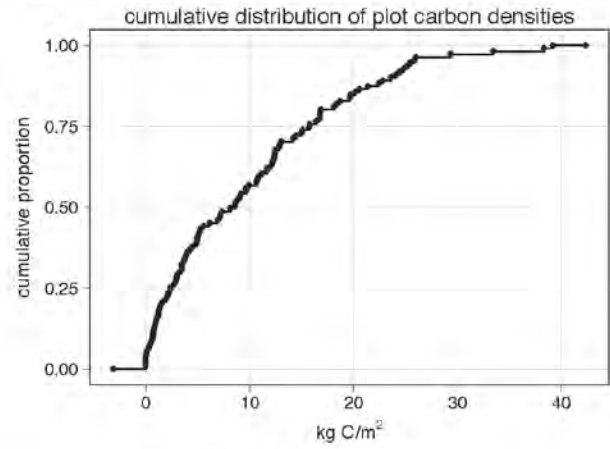
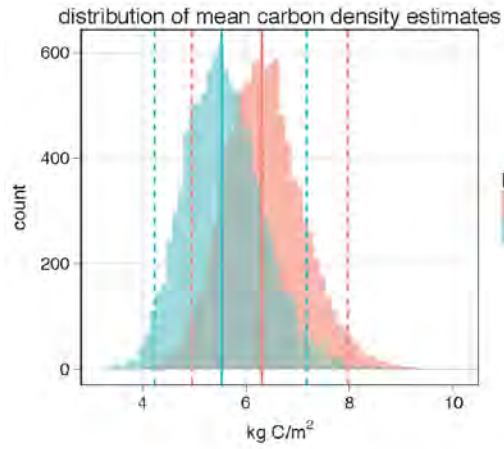
High Woodland (n = 89)



species composition

code	carbon	nTrees	carbonFct	nTreesPct
PICOM	14,939	227	33.6	11.0
treeDead	11,011	52	24.8	2.6
PJAL	6,126	1,552	13.8	75.2
JUOC	5,277	161	11.9	7.8
PIJE	2,125	18	4.8	0.9
PIMO	1,679	7	3.8	0.3
TSME	1,629	13	3.7	0.6
PIMG3	1,160	2	2.6	0.1
CADE27	324	13	0.7	0.6
ABCO	131	3	0.3	0.1
PIBAA	5	1	0.0	0.0
QUKE	14	1	0.0	0.0
treeNone	0	13	0.0	0.6

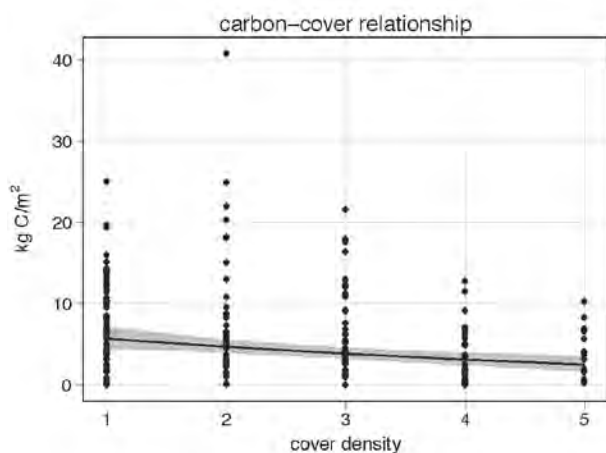
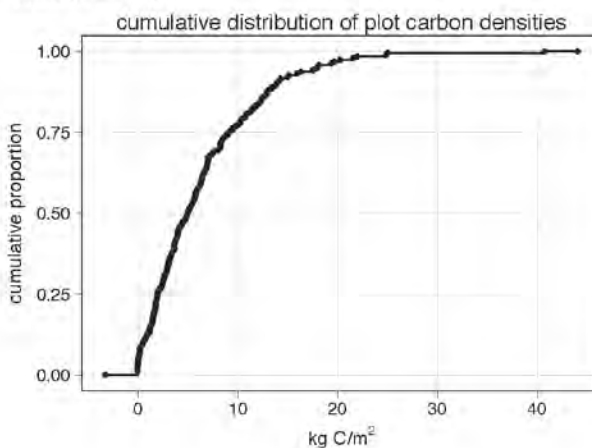
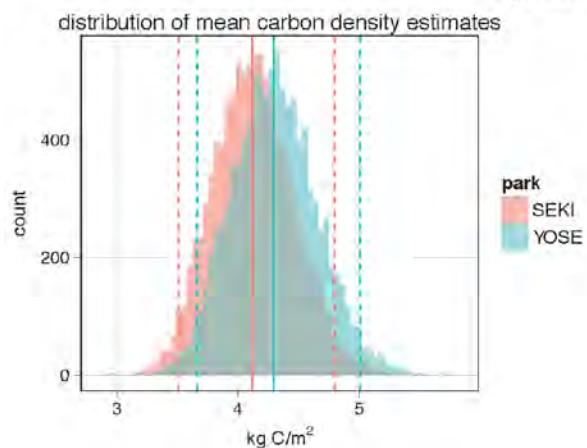
Jeffrey Pine Forest (n = 111)



species composition

code	carbon	nTrees	carbonPot	nTreesPot
PLIE	862,498	855	65.3	36.9
ABCC	173,613	435	17.1	18.8
treeDead	65,430	179	6.4	7.7
ABMA	34,980	30	3.4	1.3
CADE27	27,536	162	2.7	7
PILA	14,887	10	1.5	0.4
QUCH2	10,800	200	1.1	8.6
PICOM	10,184	103	1	4.4
QUKE	4,216	85	0.4	3.8
FIPO	2,906	18	0.3	0.7
CELE3	1,929	8	0.2	0.3
PIMC	2,203	17	0.2	0.7
ABMAS	1,281	20	0.1	0.9
POBAT	1,293	5	0.1	0.2
BEOC2	231	6	0	0.3
JUOC	358	64	0	2.8
JUOCA	77	7	0	0.3
PIM03	4	2	0	0.1
POBA2	176	5	0	0.2
POTR5	484	9	0	0.4

Lodgepole Pine Forest (n = 190)

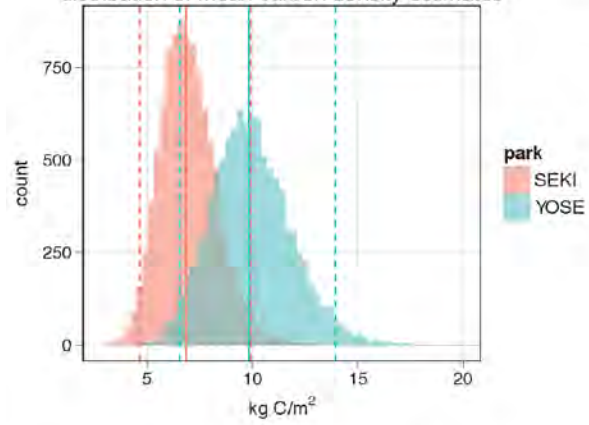


species composition

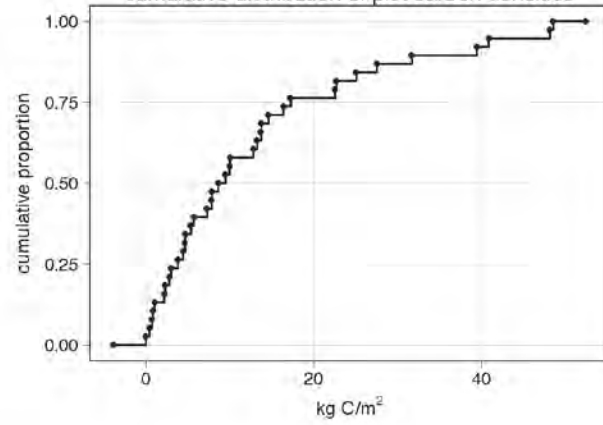
code	carbon	nTrees	carbonPct	nTreesPct
PICOM	803,220	6,773	73.7	78.7
treeDead	114,283	265	10.5	3.0
ABMA	99,628	735	9.1	8.3
ABMAS	22,410	89	2.1	1.0
PIMO3	22,889	120	2.1	1.4
PLJE	8,085	22	0.7	0.2
ABCO	5,439	39	0.5	0.4
POTRE	5,655	69	0.5	0.8
TSME	5,579	83	0.5	0.9
PIAL	2,140	598	0.2	8.8
JUOC	25	4	0.0	0.0
PIBAA	514	35	0.0	0.4
POBAT	436	2	0.0	0.0
treeNone	0	2	0.0	0.0

Mountain Hemlock Forest (n = 38)

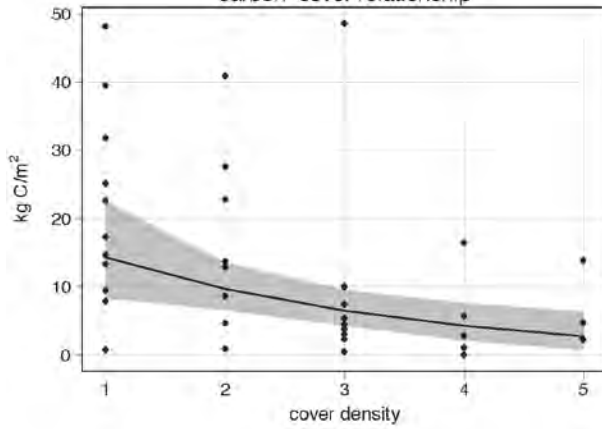
distribution of mean carbon density estimates



cumulative distribution of plot carbon densities



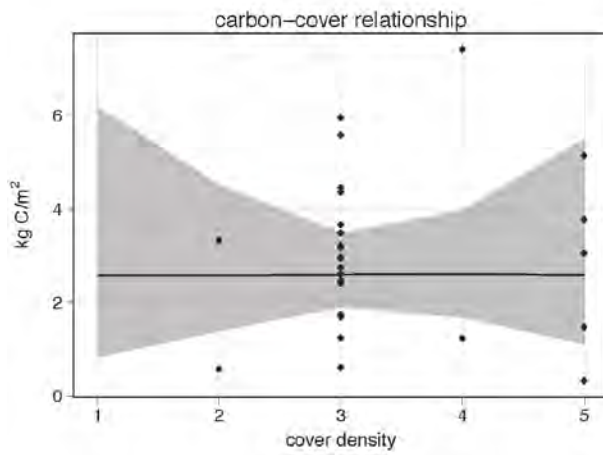
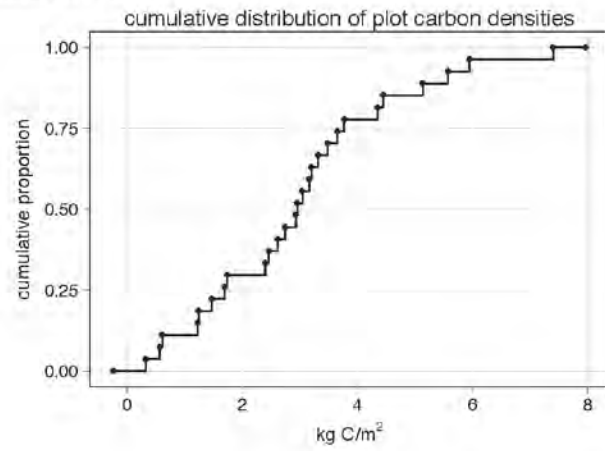
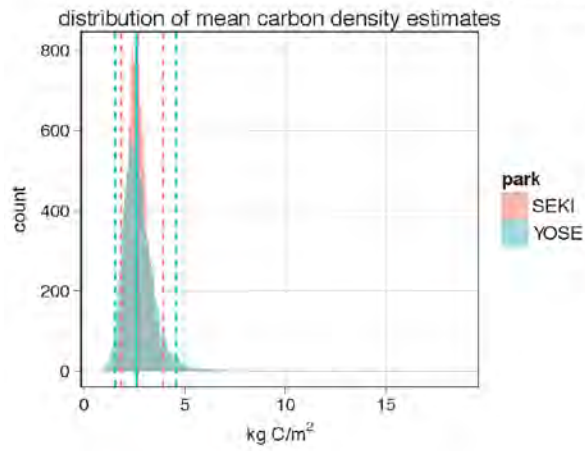
carbon-cover relationship



species composition

code	carbon	nTrees	carbonFct	nTreesPct
TSM6	375,554	1,389	87.1	73.0
PICOM	18,043	336	4.2	17.8
treeDead	17,714	13	4.1	0.7
PIMO3	11,131	58	2.6	3.0
ABMA	8,227	3	1.9	0.2
PIAL	400	102	0.1	5.4
treeNone	0	1	0.0	0.1

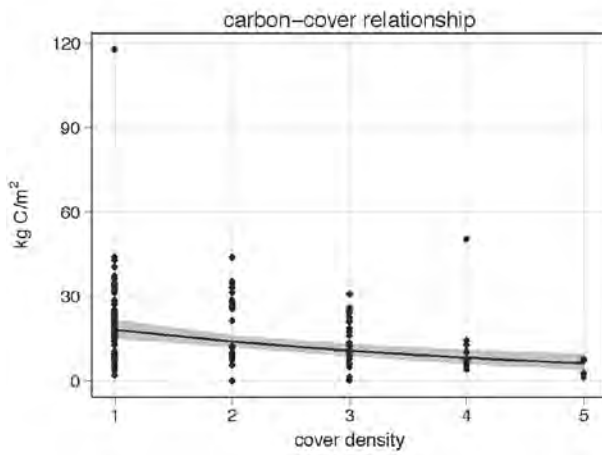
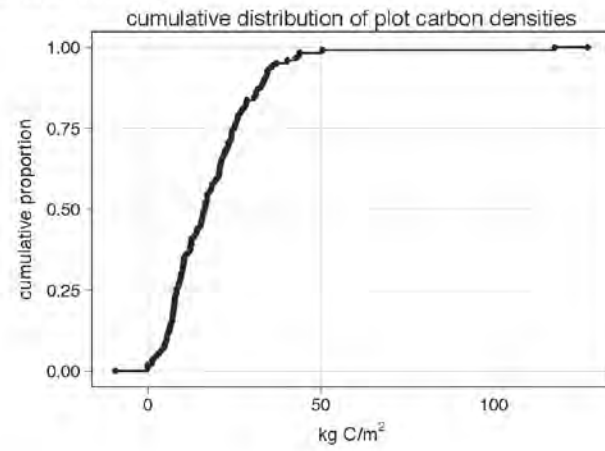
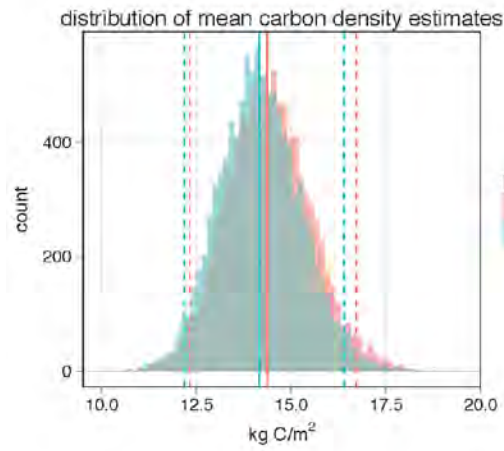
Pinyon Pine Woodland (n = 27)



species composition

code	carbon	nTrees	carbonPct	nTreesPct
PIMO	54,971	355	80.4	71.4
QUCH2	4,164	56	6.1	11.3
CELE3	3,962	66	5.8	13.3
CADE27	3,293	7	4.8	1.4
PIJE	1,389	4	2.0	0.8
treeDead	277	2	0.4	0.4
JUOC	200	5	0.3	1.0
PIPO	85	1	0.1	0.2
QUKE	34	1	0.1	0.2

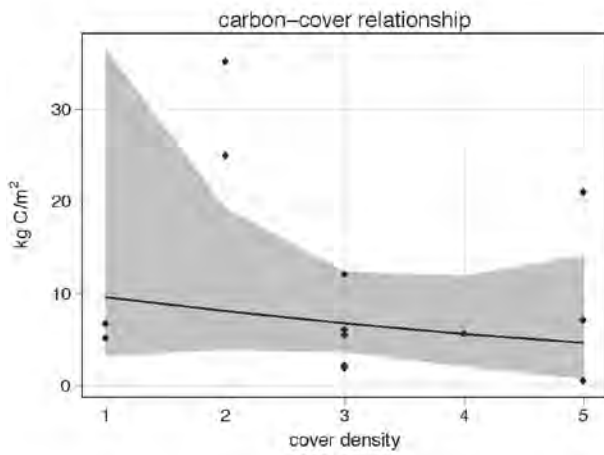
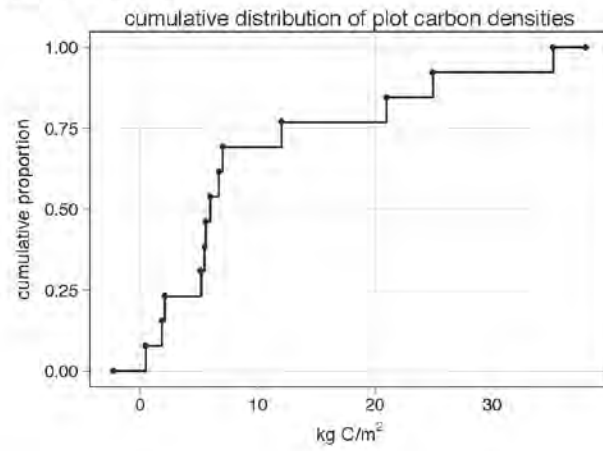
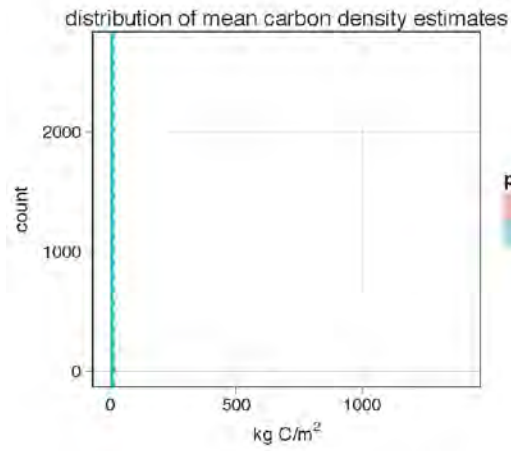
Ponderosa Pine Forest (n = 123)



species composition

code	carbon	nTrees	carbonPct	nTreesPct
PIPO	1,058,437	1,827	49.6	23.2
CADE27	410,747	2,878	19.2	36.6
ABCO	225,332	1,204	10.5	15.3
treeDead	177,104	820	8.3	10.4
QUIKE	132,668	423	6.2	5.4
PILA	97,853	435	4.8	5.5
QUCH2	15,315	178	0.7	2.3
PIJE	10,859	12	0.5	0.2
PSME	4,375	30	0.2	0.4
ACMA3	918	8	0.0	0.1
ALRH2	577	7	0.0	0.1
CONU4	50	4	0.0	0.1
PIAT	1,008	6	0.0	0.1
QUWI2	28	1	0.0	0.0
treeNone	0	1	0.0	0.0
treeUnk	39	1	0.0	0.0
UMCA	641	34	0.0	0.4

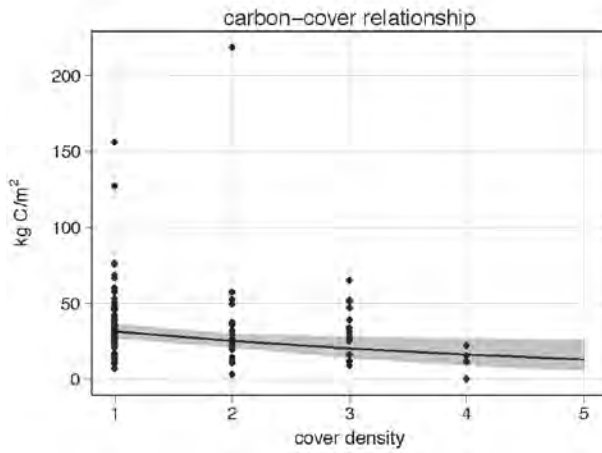
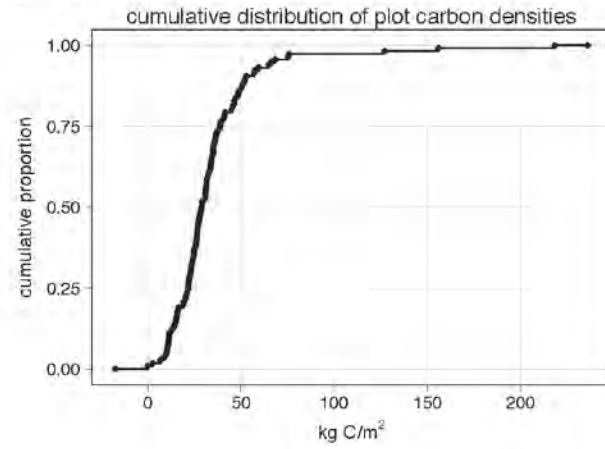
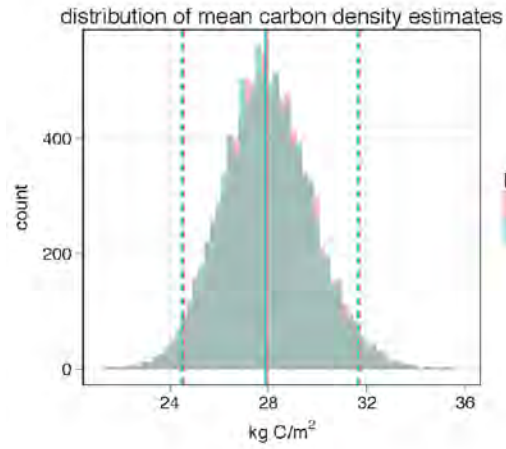
Ponderosa Pine Woodland (n = 13)



species composition

code	carbon	nTrees	carbonPct	nTreesPct
QUIKE	80,719	87	51.8	19.7
PIPO	32,965	89	28.1	20.2
CADE27	12,753	146	10.9	33.1
treeDead	7,497	59	6.4	13.4
PSME	985	13	0.8	2.9
PILA	589	11	0.5	2.5
ABCO	496	7	0.4	1.6
AEGA	441	4	0.4	0.9
ARV4	335	15	0.3	3.4
PJNE	192	2	0.2	0.5
ALFH2	119	1	0.1	0.2
QUCH2	78	4	0.1	0.9
PISA2	7	3	0.0	0.7

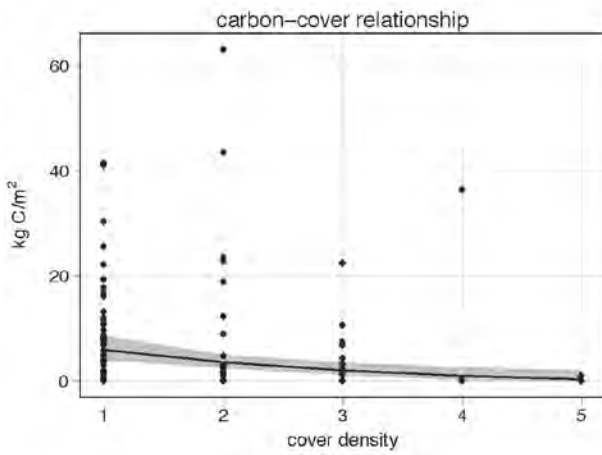
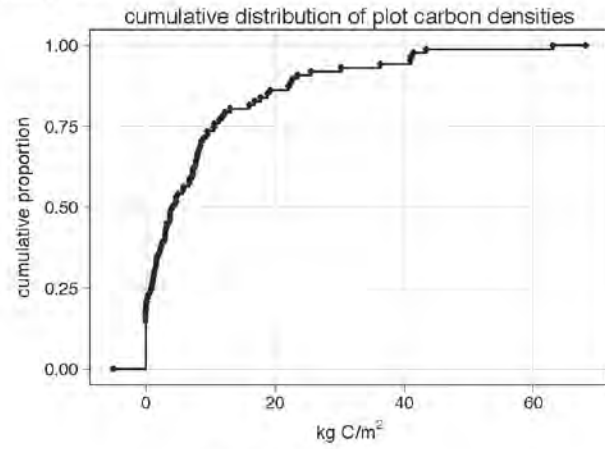
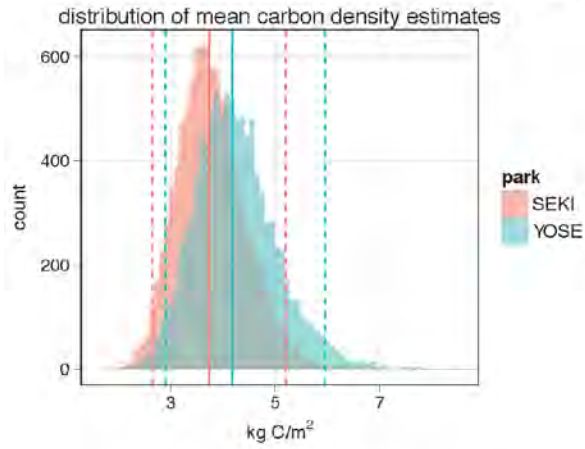
Red Fir Forest (n = 116)



species composition

code	carbon	nTrees	carbonPct	nTreesPct
ABMA	1,911,434	1,600	52.7	29.0
ABMAS	537,531	1,213	14.8	22.0
ABCO	472,044	1,271	13.0	23.1
treeDead	280,782	372	7.7	8.7
ABMAM	215,955	369	5.9	8.7
PIMC3	50,262	124	1.4	2.2
PICOM	48,917	361	1.3	5.5
PILA	42,209	47	1.2	0.9
PIJE	36,350	47	1.0	0.9
PIMO	27,134	33	0.7	0.6
TSME	6,420	42	0.2	0.8
CADE27	1,158	7	0.0	0.1
JJOC	379	3	0.0	0.1
PIBA	231	18	0.0	0.3
SEG12	797	7	0.0	0.1

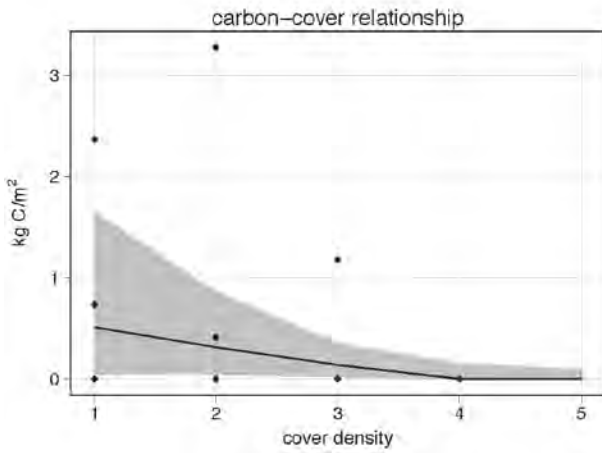
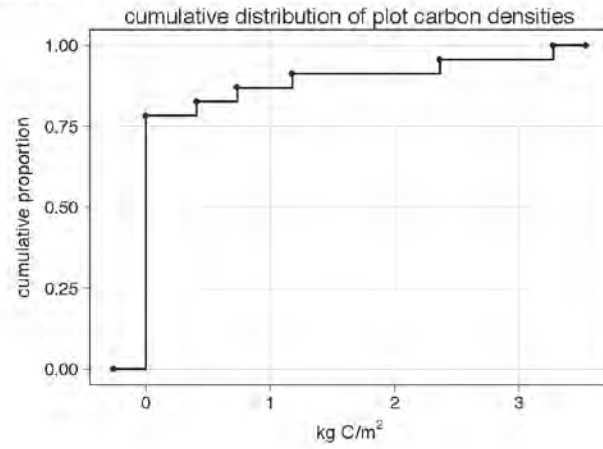
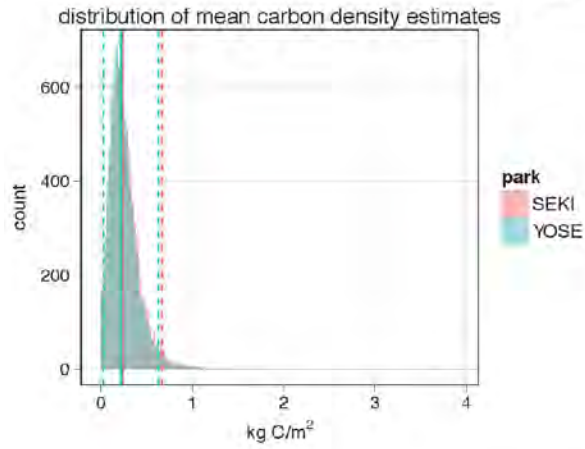
Riparian Forest (n = 87)



species composition

code	carbon	nTrees	carbonPct	nTreesPct
ABCO	72,250	78	17.7	5.1
POBAT	63,377	136	15.6	8.8
ALPH2	53,730	344	13.2	22.4
PIPO	46,895	13	11.5	0.6
CADE27	44,191	74	10.9	4.8
POTR6	33,056	550	8.1	35.8
PLRA	27,596	35	6.8	2.3
POBA2	16,383	25	4	1.6
QUCH2	13,897	62	3.4	4
treesDead	9,835	27	2.4	1.8
PICOM	5,199	36	1.3	2.3
PIJE	4,913	16	1.2	1
QUKE	4,156	8	1	0.5
CONU4	2,274	37	0.6	2.4
PSME	1,630	5	0.4	0.3
SALIX	1,459	19	0.4	1.2
AECA	1,249	13	0.3	0.8
QUWIW	1,117	3	0.3	0.2
ACMA3	784	9	0.2	0.6
PILA	949	2	0.2	0.1

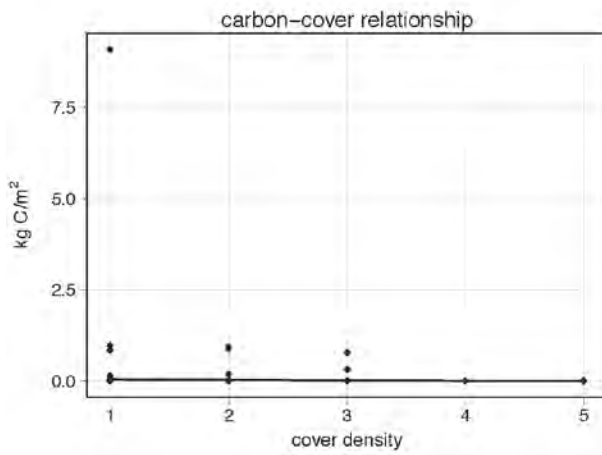
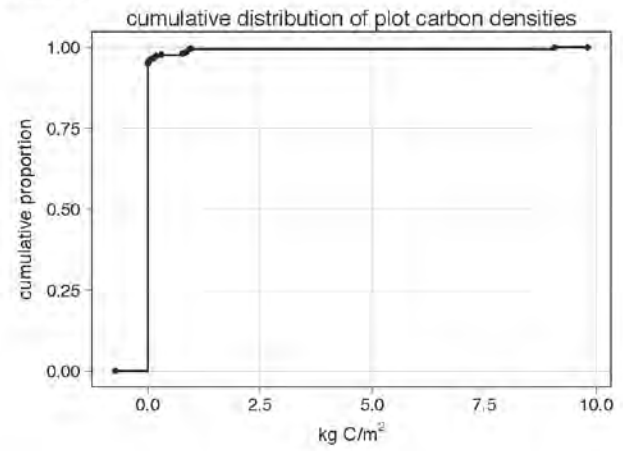
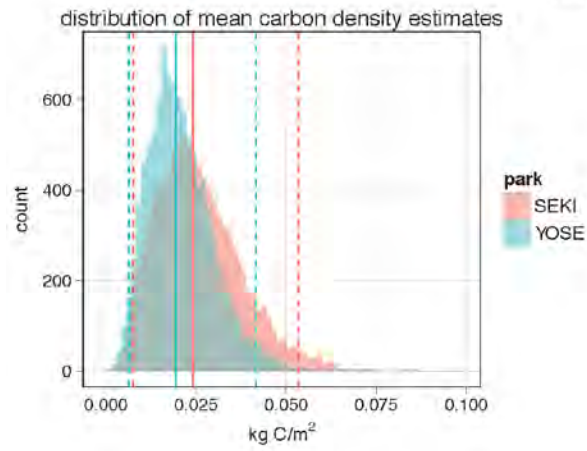
Riparian Shrub (n = 23)



species composition

code	carbon	nTrees	carbonPct	nTreesPct
SALA3	3,985	26	65.7	37.3
SALA6	1,199	8	19.6	11.9
SALUL	473	9	7.8	13.4
ACMA3	226	1	3.7	1.5
ALPH2	97	3	1.6	4.5
QUW2	64	2	1.1	3.0
PISA2	24	1	0.4	1.5
treeNone	0	18	0.0	26.9

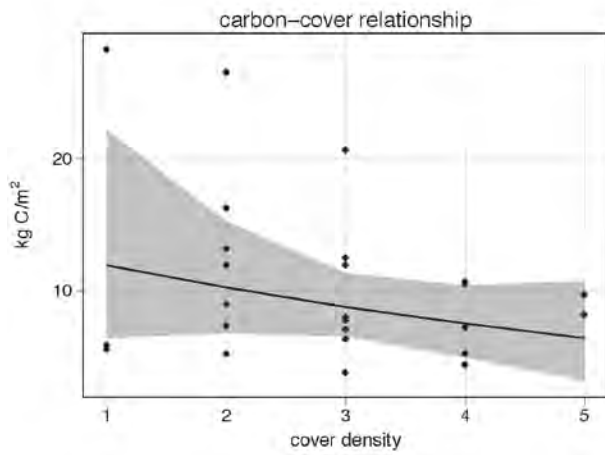
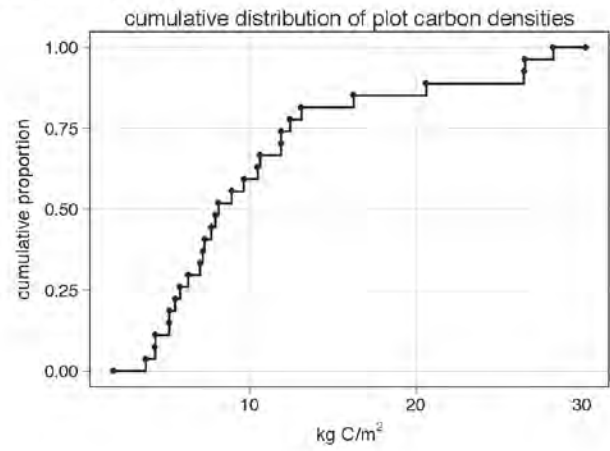
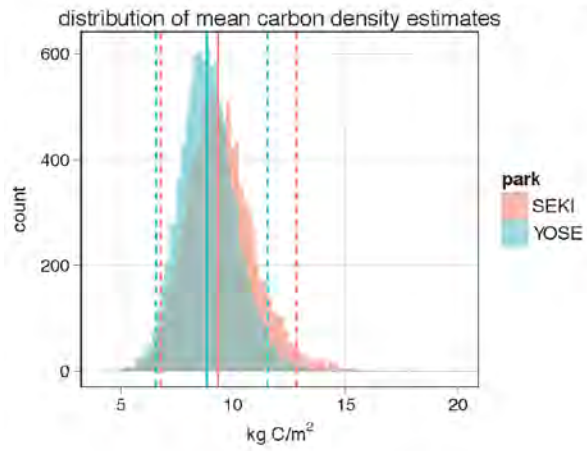
Shrub (n = 258)



species composition

code	carbon	nTrees	carbonPct	nTreesPct
treeDead	9,268	33	71.9	9.3
PIAT	2,800	65	21.8	18.3
CADE27	367	2	2.9	0.6
ABCO	166	1	1.3	0.3
ABMA	150	3	1.2	0.8
QUCH2	120	3	0.9	0.8
treeNone	0	249	0.0	69.9

Western White Pine Forest (n = 27)

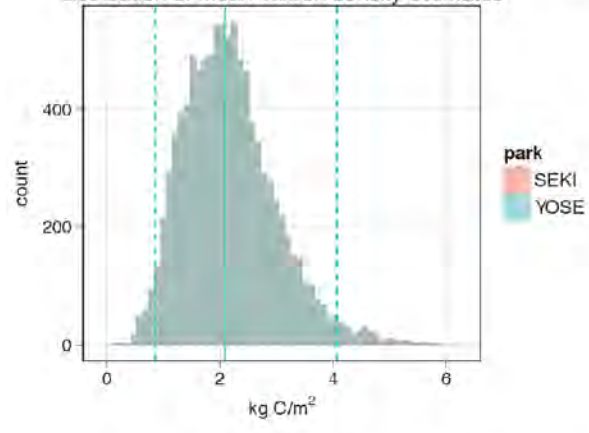


species composition

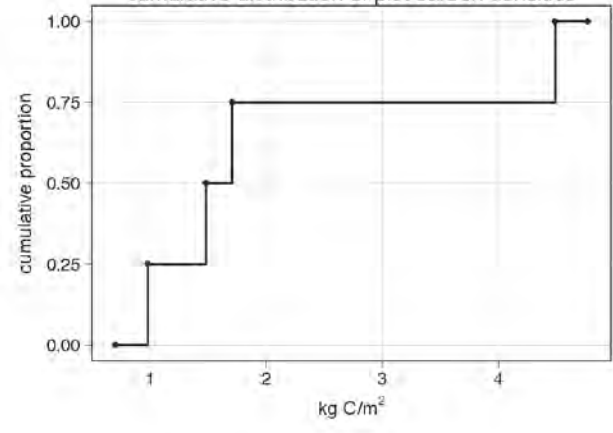
code	carbon	nTrees	carbonPct	nTreesPct
PIMO3	129,158	139	53.9	43.6
ABMA	48,256	41	20.1	13.1
TSME	31,582	46	13.2	14.7
treeDead	16,572	14	6.9	4.5
PICOM	13,918	74	5.8	23.7
PLUE	181	1	0.1	0.3

Western White Pine Woodland (n = 4)

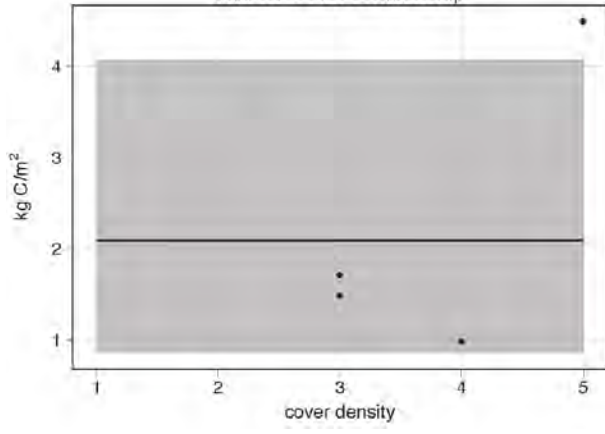
distribution of mean carbon density estimates



cumulative distribution of plot carbon densities



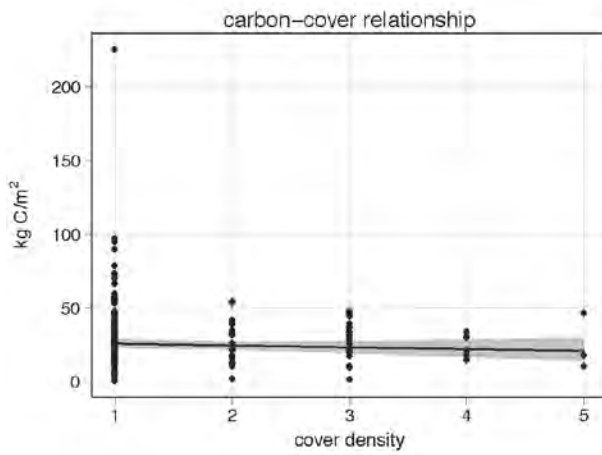
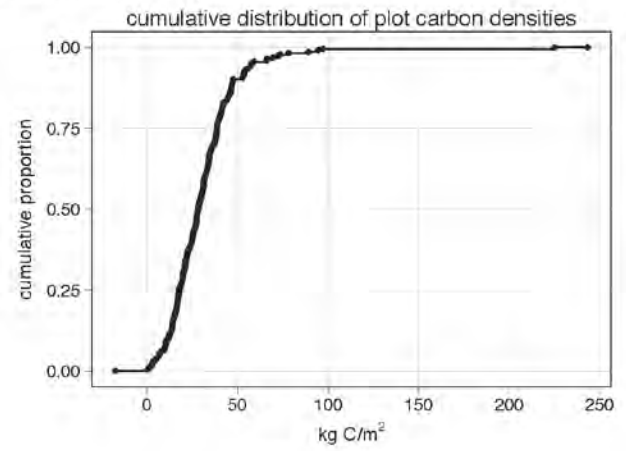
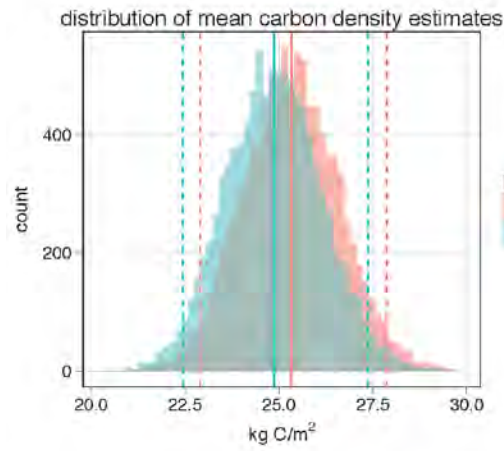
carbon-cover relationship



species composition

code	carbon	nTrees	carbonPct	nTreesPct
PIMC3	6,392	53	64.3	80.3
treeDead	3,038	1	30.6	1.5
PICOM	358	8	3.6	12.1
ABMA	137	1	1.4	1.5
ABMAS	6	1	0.1	1.5
PIAL	3	2	0.0	3.0

White Fir – Sugar Pine Forest (n = 224)



species composition

code	carbon	nTrees	carbonPct	nTreesPct
ABCO	3,331,974	8,378	50.6	56.6
PILA	1,631,938	1,069	24.8	7.2
treeDead	699,566	1,968	10.6	13.3
CADE27	421,130	2,217	8.4	15
PIPO	195,055	219	3	1.5
PIJE	144,698	111	2.2	0.8
QUIE	59,170	282	0.9	1.9
ABMA	29,722	54	0.5	0.4
SEGI2	29,959	24	0.5	0.2
ABMAM	8,504	16	0.1	0.1
ABMAS	6,402	81	0.1	0.5
PIGOM	6,012	26	0.1	0.2
POBAT	5,757	6	0.1	0
PSME	5,342	13	0.1	0.1
QUCH2	5,313	118	0.1	0.8
ACMA3	959	25	0	0.2
ALRH2	0	1	0	0
COCOC	0	3	0	0
CONU4	1,228	130	0	0.9
JUOC	0	1	0	0

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