

2005 JFSP Principal Investigator Workshop

Project Progress Report

Project Title: Red Mountain Mastication Study

JFSP Project No.: (2005-02-local needs)

Project Location: Sequoia National Forest, Greenhorn Ranger District

Principal Investigators: JoAnn Fites

Contact Information (Phone, e-mail): 530-478-6151, jfites@fs.fed.us

Brief Description of Project:

The purpose of the project is to compare and quantify the effects of several variations of mastication and burn treatments on fuel conditions, potential fire behavior and tree mortality. The study site is in a ponderosa pine plantation on the Sequoia National Forest that represents conditions found throughout ponderosa pine plantations in much of California. The project includes a formal experimental design with replicated randomized blocks. The treatments that will be compared are: mastication alone, mastication and prescribed burning, mastication with pull-back of material from trees and burning and a control. Response variables include: fuel loading and configuration, tree mortality, and fire behavior during prescribed burns (soil and surface temperature, rate of spread, intensity and fire type).

Status Report (include planned and accomplished science delivery and application efforts, deliverables, and management implications of your research- summarize information with bullet statements):

- The experimental blocks and pre-treatment sampling have been completed.
- Mastication treatment is scheduled to begin in the study area on October 1, 2005, and is expected to be complete prior to the onset of fall/winter precipitation.
- A website is under construction, and will be completed and updated by the end of September, 2005.

Issues/Concerns; changes in research objectives, methods, or products:

None