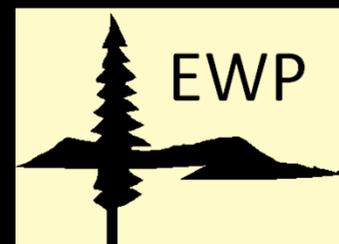


Fire Science Users in the U.S. Pacific Northwest: *A Diverse and Dynamic Bunch*



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Presented at the 5th International Fire Ecology and Management Congress in Portland, Oregon on December 5, 2012

The “situation”

Lots and lots and lots of good fire science and research out there...BUT

“We get a fire hose of information, and it’s often delivered with the fog nozzle on.”



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Change the nozzle setting...



Southern Fire Exchange

Need:

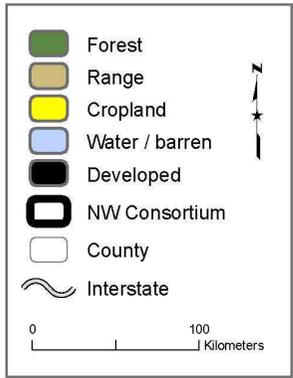
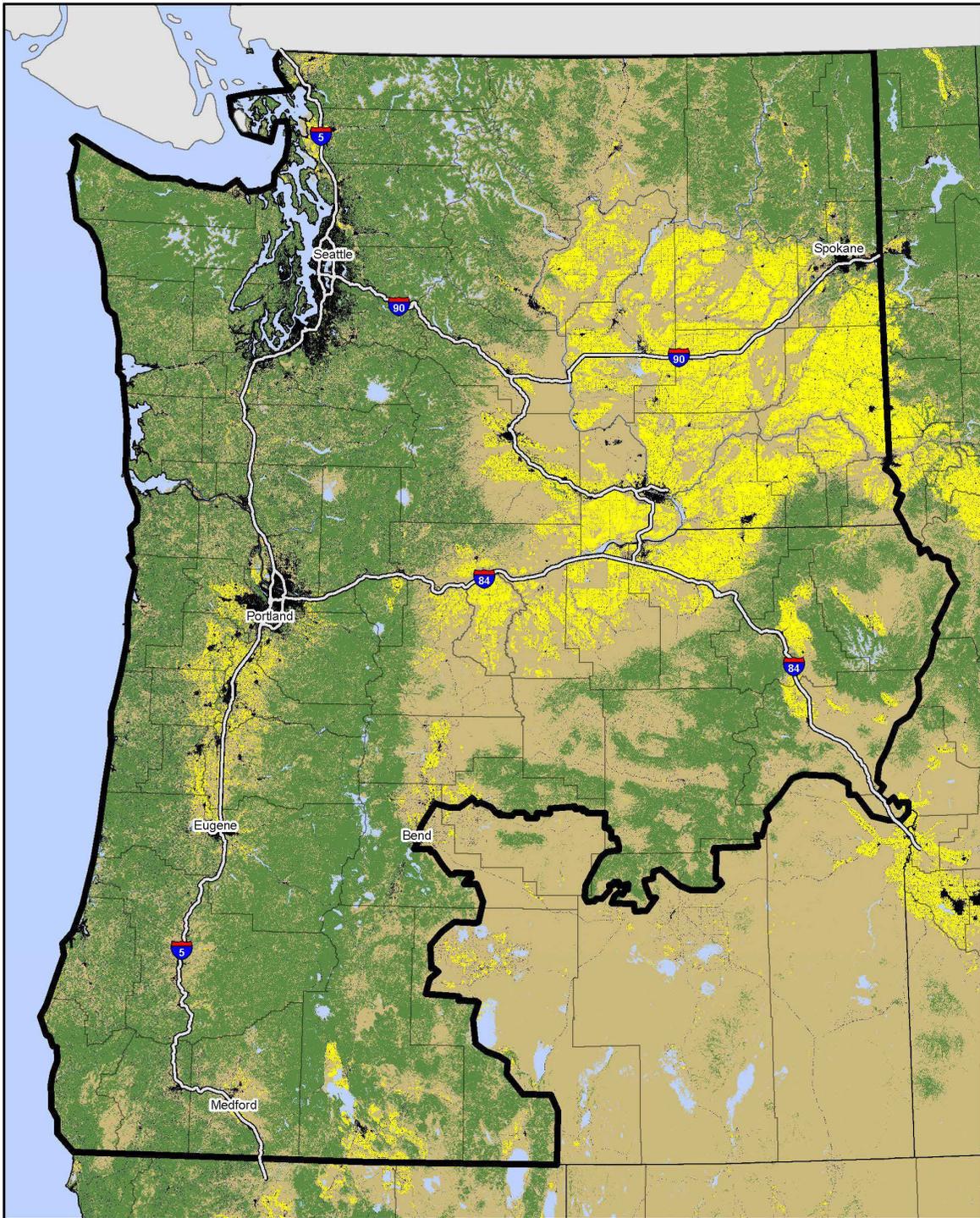
- Connect, engage, and exchange information between researchers and diverse science user groups.
- Enhance exchange of fire science and technologies.
- Approach that assists fire and land managers in evaluating and adopting relevant fire science.

Northwest Fire Science Consortium

A JFSP KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONSORTIUM



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What we know and don't know...

- Fire is prominent force in NW landscapes
- Variety of science users

- Limited understanding of:
 - Who users are
 - What users need
 - Access and use existing delivery mechanisms

Needs Assessment

- Semi-structured interviews of end users
 - Fire science use
 - Content
 - Access
 - Collaborative and participatory research
- 16 team members conducted interviews – standardized protocol
- Purposive sample
- May – July 2011

Needs Assessment

Agency or interest	Number of interviews
Federal land managers	27
Conservation & community-based NGO's & collaboratives	13
State agencies	12
Counties and municipalities	9
Private landowners/consultants	8
Tribal entities	2
TOTAL	74

Themes

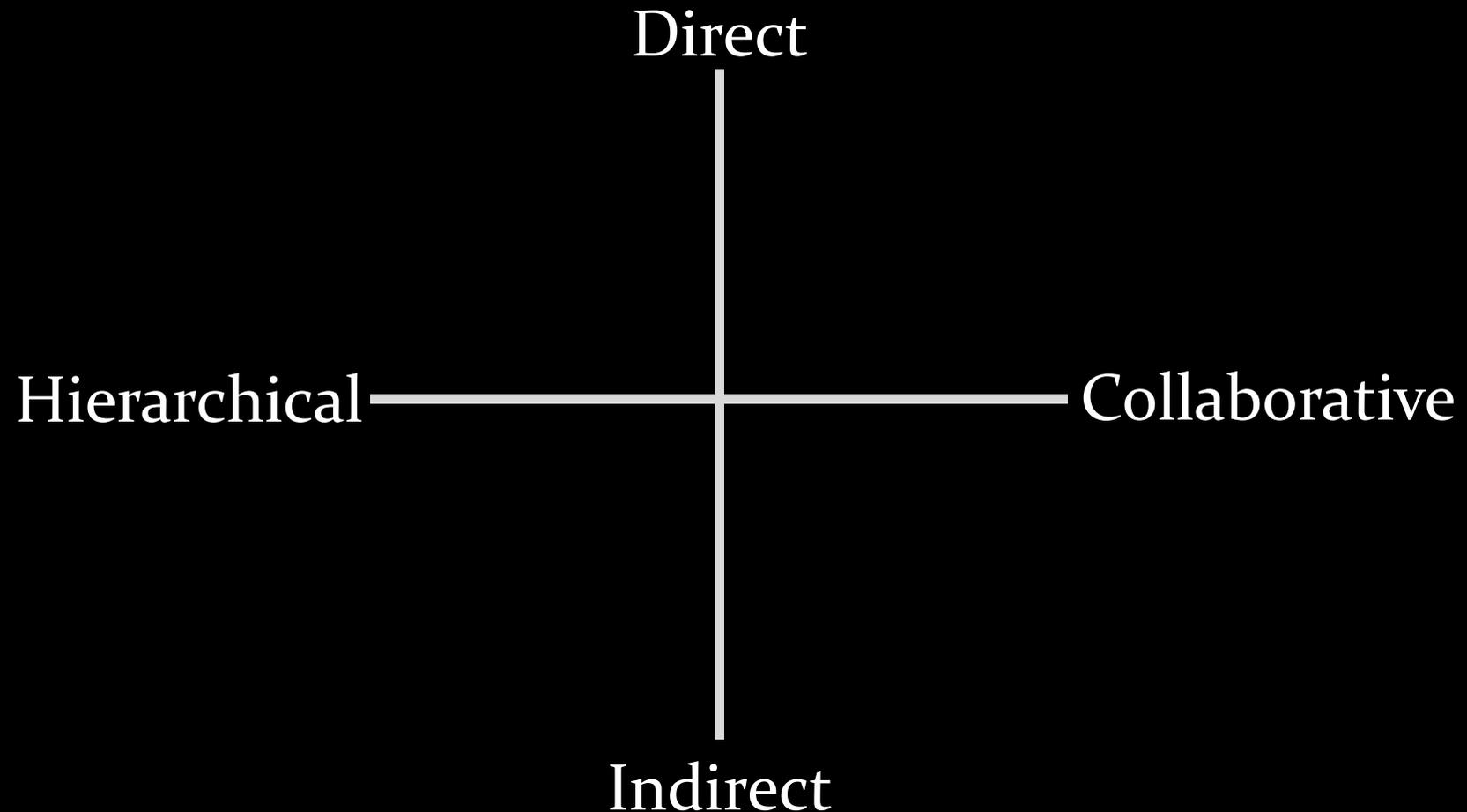
1. Fire science use

Direct

Indirect

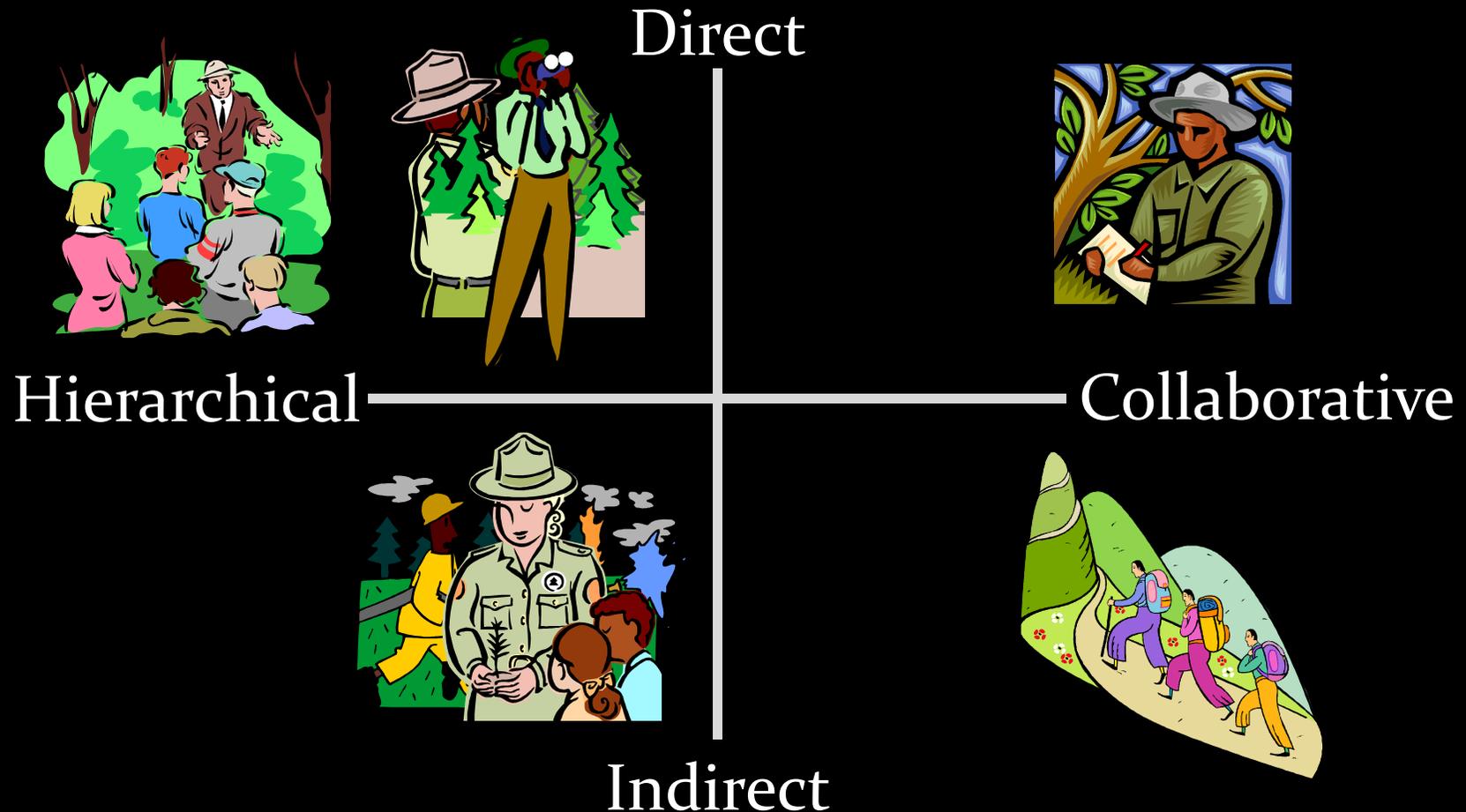
Themes

2. Fire science users – adult learners



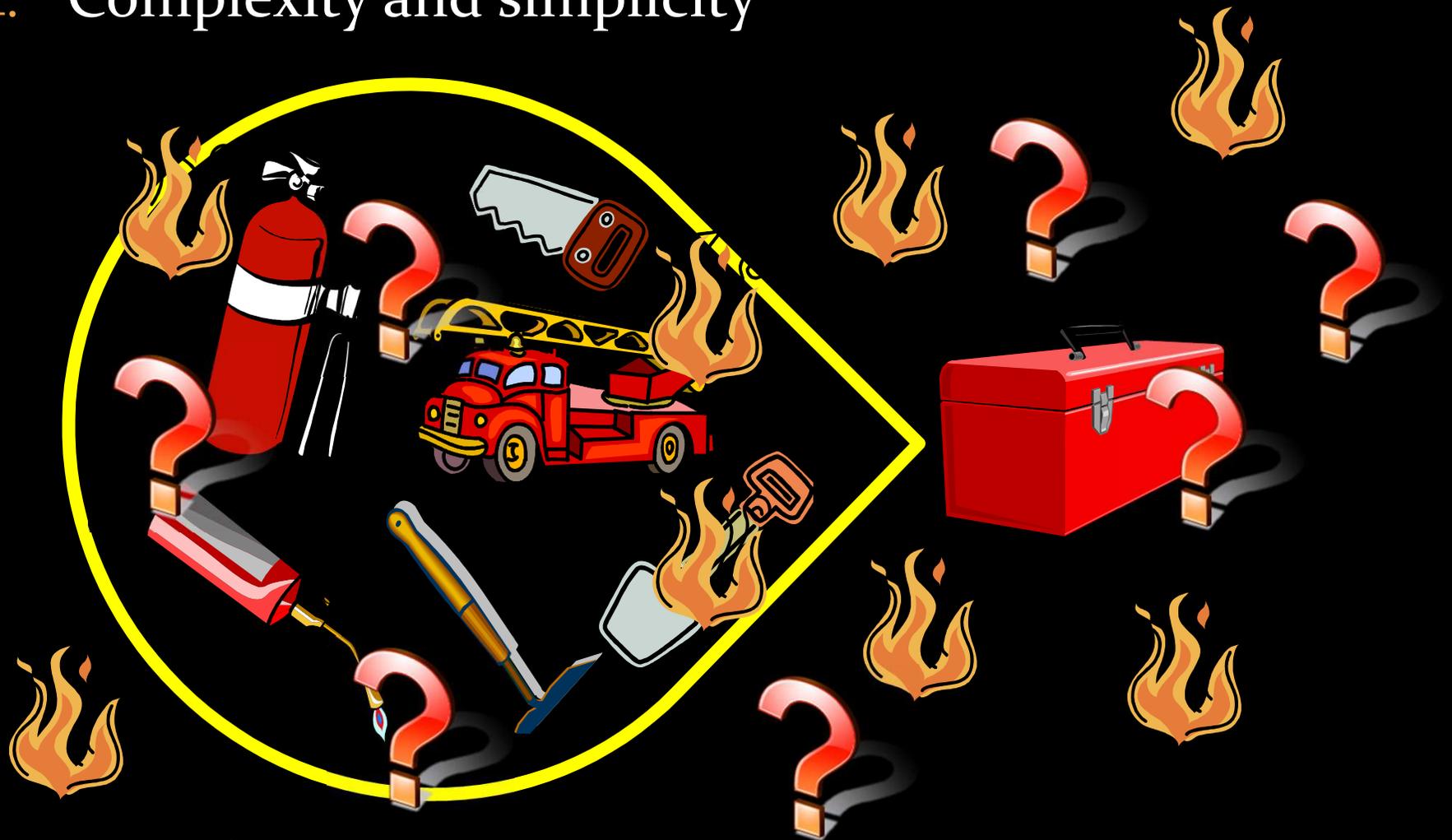
Themes

3. Multiple dynamic roles shape science needs



Themes

4. Complexity and simplicity



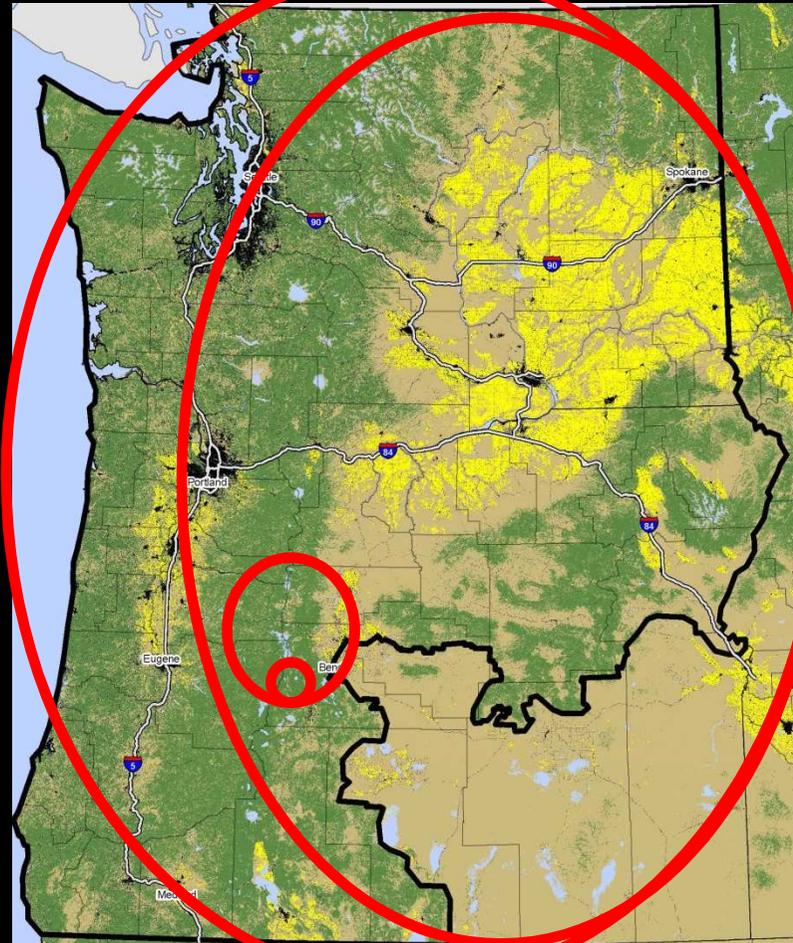
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Themes

5. Uncertainty and specificity

Specific Requests

1. Landscape-scale management
2. Economic development
3. Carbon accounting



Themes

6. Unstable authority of science



Peer review
White papers

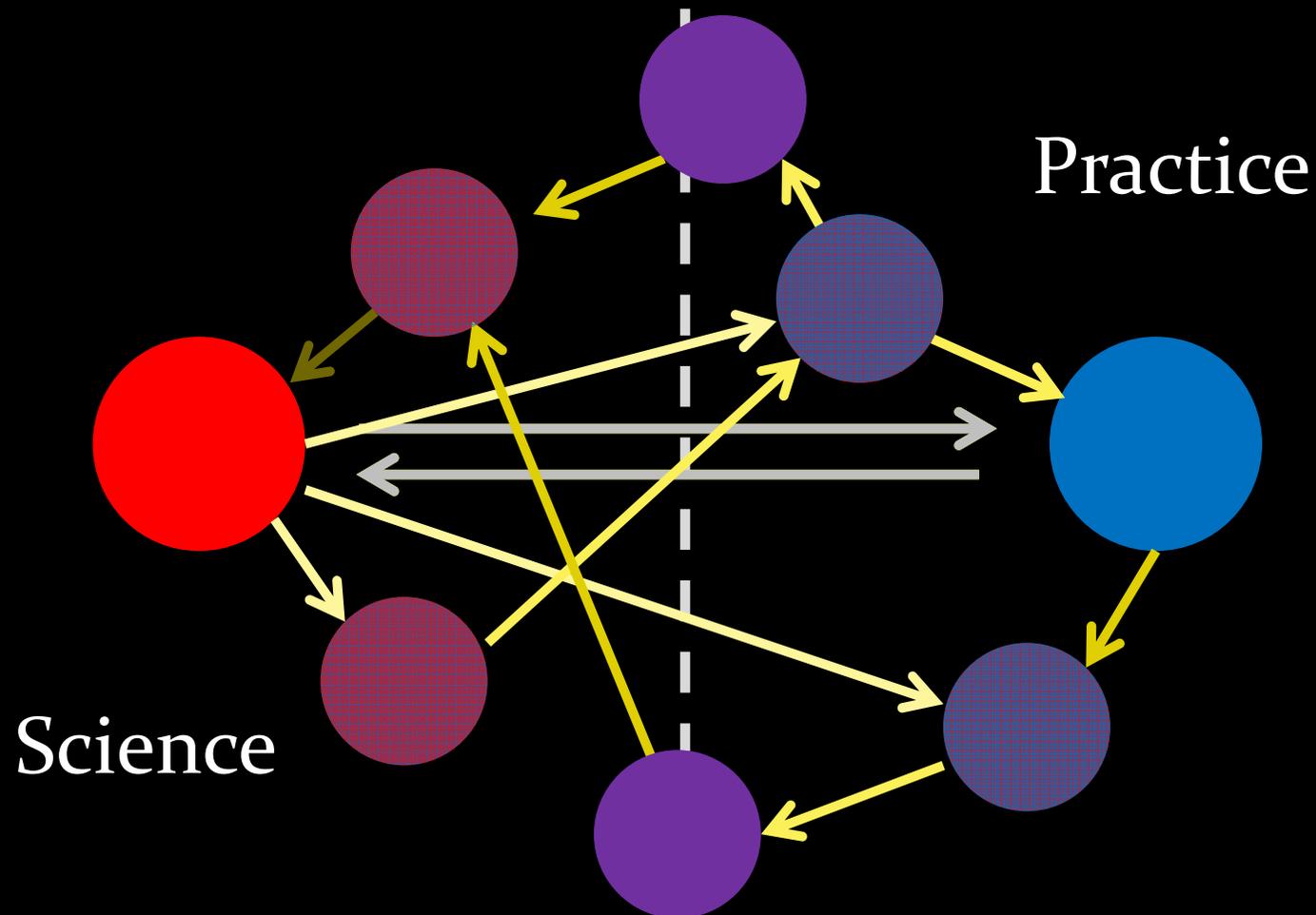
Agenda?

Peer review disconnect
Interest group suspicion

No suspicion of info
from experts,
clearinghouses

Themes

7. Get science through interaction



Other Tidbits

- Field tours
- Syntheses
- Webinars
- Digital resources
- Web clearinghouse



- Social media – love it and hate it

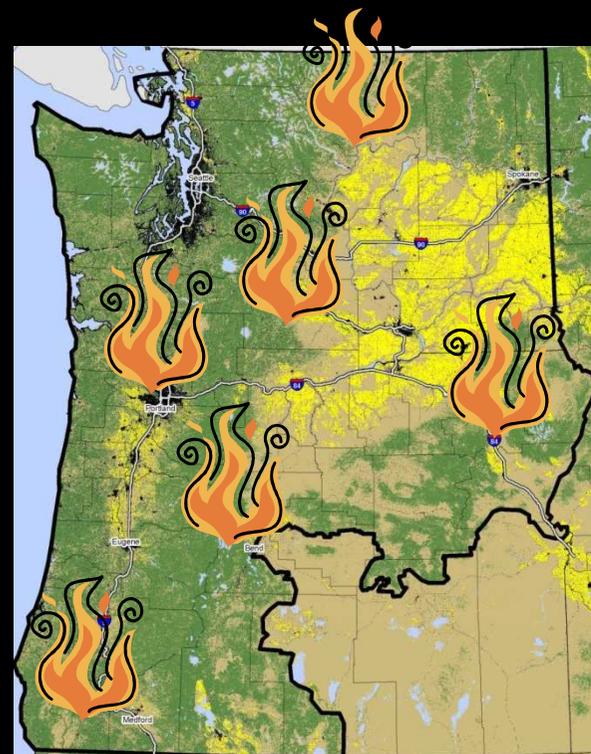


- Local fire histories
- Implications of climate change
- Model integration

What are we doing with this?



- Digital resources
 - Website with search
 - Weekly email digest
 - Webinars
- Synthesizing resources
 - Fact sheets
 - Videos
 - Syntheses
- Networking resources
 - Field tours
 - Mixed Conifer Summit – spring 2013
 - Participatory research examples



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Fire Science Needs in the Pacific Northwest
Ecosystems Workforce Program Working Paper #33
ewp.uoregon.edu/publications/working

The Diversity and Dynamism of Fire Science User Needs
Davis et al. In Review at *Journal of Forestry*

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Presented at the 5th International Fire Ecology and Management Congress in Portland, Oregon on December 5, 2012