

Full SDT Telecon – January 22nd, 2014

Attendees: Sharon Billings, Natalie Boelman, Steve Colt, Josh Fisher, Scott Goetz, Peter Griffith, Guido Grosse, Forrest Hall, Bob Harriss, Dan Hayes, Jeremy Karchut, Eric Kasischke, Libby Larson, Michelle Mack, Donald McLennan, Juha Metsaranta, Mike Rawlins, Rob Striegl, Ruth Varner, Diane Wickland, Stan Wullschleger; Rapporteur: Elizabeth Hoy

Chapters 1- 3 writing progress:

The co-chairs are currently making updates to Chapters 1-3, however some issues within the chapters would best be discussed as a group and these issues have been deferred until the upcoming face to face meeting in Maryland (example: carbon biogeochemistry will need to be discussed further to ensure consistency in terminology).

Action Item: The co-chairs will create a draft of Chapters 1-4 and distribute prior to the upcoming SDT meeting.

Methods Working Group Updates:

The methods working groups (field, remote sensing and modeling) are working on inputs for Chapter 4; these sections are needed by the co-chairs by COB Tuesday 1/28/14. The co-chairs will review and synthesize into a draft of Chapter 4 to be delivered to the SDT by Thursday 1/30/14, giving SDT members time to review prior to the SDT meeting in early February.

Remote sensing group – The slides presented at the Ottawa meeting have been summarized to provide the SDT with a representation of the remote sensing studies/research that are/is currently underway and that are/is needed in ABoVE to address the variables important for ABoVE. A table will be available shortly for review by the remote sensing group.

Field research group – This section is in progress and a draft will be sent out by the research group co-chairs to their group soon (this group had been waiting for inputs from the remote sensing group before moving forward). The draft to be sent out will include required field activities to 1) refine and validate remote sensing, 2) understand complex interactions and processes, and 3) conduct integrative field research; it will also include broad locations of field activities.

Modeling group – This group has made progress on the models to be included in the portfolio approach (including models such as hydrology models, dynamic vegetation models, and soil thermal models). Additional understanding on human interaction and flora/fauna models are still needed. Priorities in this section will be for improving existing models and providing a schedule of modeling activities. A table of modeling variables is in progress, including variables needed to drive and initialize models, and conduct calibration and validation. A conference call among group members is being planned to discuss this section, and its relationship to the other methods groups.

Chapter 4 Strategy:

The co-chairs provided an overview of the overall strategy for Chapter 4 and discussed this strategy with the full SDT. Important points from the discussion included ensuring linkages between the different methods sections (field, remote sensing, and modeling). Additionally, the need for calibration and validation of modeling and remote sensing datasets by field data was discussed. Ensuring that there is

an appropriate level of synthesis between these different methods is important to the overall campaign. Having a section of chapter 4 devoted to scaling, synthesis and analysis was proposed.

Overall, Chapter 4 will need to make clear the research plan proposed to NASA by the SDT such that NASA can explain its goals to others during discussions of partnerships and collaborations for ABoVE (a section of Chapter 5 will be devoted to this).

A section of Chapter 4 will also need to address logistics and research site accessibility. Discussions are ongoing to ensure that the appropriate level of detail is included when discussing research sites to be used/partnered with for ABoVE.

A discussion of the table being created for Chapter 5 was tabled for a later date.