

ABoVE Full SDT Telecon – 9/11/13

Attendees: Sharon Billings, Natalie Boelman, Steve Colt, Scott Goetz, Guido Grosse, Forrest Hall, Bob Harriss, Dan Hayes, Jeremy Karchut, Eric Kasischke, Dave McGuire, Juha Metsaranta, Chip Miller, Mike Rawlins, Rob Striegl, Diane Wickland; Rapporteur: Elizabeth Hoy

Agenda:

1. Announcements
2. Yukon and NW Territories Trip Discussion
3. Discussion of small group write-ups for Chapter 3

Announcements

- The EVS-2 issue has been resolved. Further comments should be directed to Diane.
- Plans are ongoing for the third SDT meeting in Ottawa, Canada from October 15th-17th.
- Next full SDT telecon on **September 26th at 1:30 pm eastern time.**
- An AGU town hall on ABoVE is being planned. Final times will be available soon.
- The SDT Leadership Committee will begin discussions of the final SDT meeting at their next telecon.

Trip Discussion

The SDT leadership team recently completed a tour of the NW and Yukon Territories. Co-chair Eric Kasischke is currently working on a memo to the group with a detailed discussion of the trip, as well as action items and proposed coordination efforts. In brief, the SDT leadership team met with over 100 individuals including researchers, academics, and government officials at the local to ministerial level. Overall, there was widespread interest in ABoVE and in the study of the arctic and boreal regions in general. The Canadian Forest Service representatives, and others, were interested in the exact geographic domain for ABoVE; this is an issue the SDT needs to think about and determine. The SDT will also need to consider how to best interact with Canadian researchers and others as ABoVE moves forward. Co-chair Eric will detail some of these initial discussions in his forthcoming memo.

General Discussion

Small groups discussed progress on their Chapter 3 write-ups. No groups distributed new versions of their write-ups prior to the telecon. Below is a table showing the progress of each group:

Group	Status/Progress
Societal	Revisions to the August 27 th draft are almost ready for dissemination to the group and include the science rationale and objectives. Additional research material is being prepared for Chapter 4.
Permafrost	This group is in the process of streamlining their text, reviewing the objectives and determining where (chapter 3 or 4) material should be included.
Flora and Fauna	This group is comfortable with their draft from August 26 th and has not altered the text since then.

Disturbance	Discussions of the objectives are underway. The group agreed on the call that the first objective could be altered as it was not entirely a research objective. Eric K. will update the text this week.
Soil Carbon	This group is in the process of updating their write-up to make it slightly longer. Suggestions were also made on the call to include more detail about soil carbon pools in the write-up. A new draft will be ready by Friday.
Hydrology	Revisions are being made to shorten the text for this write-up. One of the current objectives may fit well in in the Integrative section. It was mentioned that the group should try to include both variations in surface water and the transport of surface water in their write-up. An update draft is expected Friday.
Integrative	This question will stay as a part of Chapter 3, but there will also be a Chapter 2 objective with an integrative focus. Also, Chapter 4 will be an integrated research strategy to tie these themes together. This group will send a revised draft of their Chapter 3 question by Friday.

Plan forward

The SDT is currently on track based on the “Work Strategy for Chapters 3 and 4” document. Small groups should send final write-ups to the SDT co-chairs by this Friday (September 13th). Drafts should be approximately 2 pages and should include:

- 1) The 2nd tier research question(s), with comfort & agreement on the wording
- 2) Text with the explanation, and justification of each question
- 3) Research objective(s) associated with each question, with comfort & agreement on the wording

Early next week, the co-chairs will work on integrating these documents into a draft of Chapter 3. Prior to the next telecon, small groups should begin working on the research requirements needed to meet the objectives developed for Chapter 3. The permafrost group put together a table of research needs that others could use as a guideline.