



Lichens and Air Quality Workgroup

Current Programs

Our current programs are listed below. To find out more about any individual project, contact the project lead(s), identified in parentheses. See [Member Directory](#) for contact information.

Information gathering and storage:

- Creation of regional electronic databases containing historic lichen monitoring data from the USFS. Some NPS data included. (A. Ingersoll)
- Creation of an archive of historic reports on National Forest and some Park lands (A. Ingersoll)
- Development of a lichen sub-module for the USFS NRIS-Air corporate database to serve as a permanent repository for all USFS lichen-related data (and NPS tissue data) (S. McKinney)
- Development of metadata including standards, definitions, and sources for the NRIS-Air lichen sub-module (A. Ingersoll)
- Program development and sampling for the NPS Western Airborne Contaminants Assessment project (T. Blett)
- Development of NRIS data templates by the NRIS Group to coordinate data entry from each USFS region (S. McKinney)
- Development of NPS lichen monitoring programs for use by NPS Inventory and Monitoring Programs (T. Blett)

Information analysis:

- Air pollution gradient models for Oregon and Washington states (L. Geiser and P. Neitlich)
- Calibration and integration of lichen tissue chemistry data from the USFS and NPS (J. Bennett and L. Geiser)
- Development of thresholds for tissue concentrations of pollutants for clean and pollution enhanced sites (L. Geiser)
- Follow-up to workshop report to prioritize lists of desired information products and plan their development (core group, no lead selected yet).

Information sharing and communication:

- Web based list-server and website (S. Pittam),
- Semi-annual group info-sharing meetings
- Strategic Planning Document (L. Geiser)
- Workshop Report (L. Geiser)
- Formation of a Data Co-op through the Northwest Association for Computational Science and Engineering (J. Hanus)
- Website Clearinghouse providing access to identification guides, reports, publications and references, spatially linked data, interpretive tools (lichen sensitivities, thresholds) (A. Ingersoll)

Future programs may include

- Development of pamphlets and brochures.
- Organizing workshops and conferences.
- Facilitating the inclusion of lichen monitoring in Forest Plans under development.