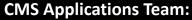




# CMS Data Products and Applications Overview

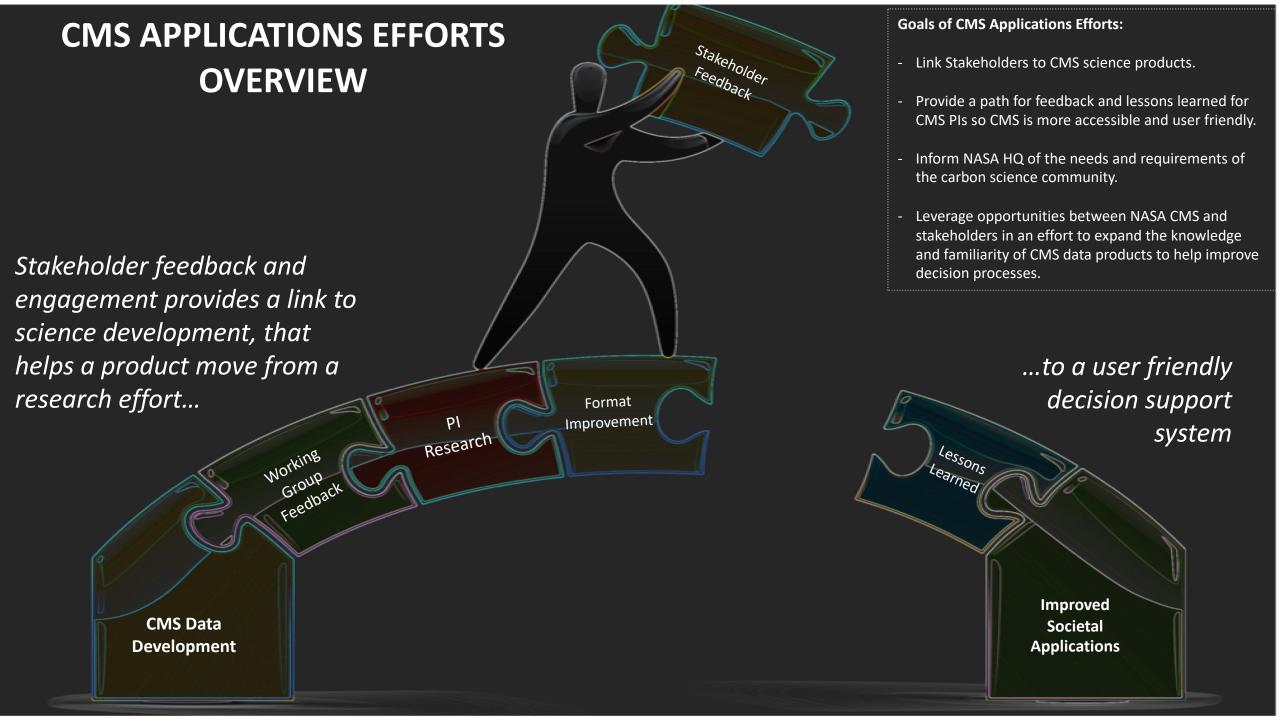
Edil A. Sepúlveda Carlo
CMS Applications Coordinator
NASA GSFC / SSAI



Vanessa Escobar, NASA HQ/Booz Allen Molly Brown, University of Maryland Sabrina Delgado Arias, NASA GSFC/SSAI Chalita Forgotson, NASA GSFC/SSAI



USFS-NASA Applications Workshop – Salt Lake City, UT Tuesday, April 30, 2019





## National Aeronautics and Space Administration

## **NASA Carbon Monitoring System**



#### **Policy Speaker Series**

Brings stakeholders to NASA to explain how carbon science data are applied to specific policies. Informs CMS science community of specific stakeholders data needs and collaboration opportunities.



#### **Applications Workshops**

Annual event with CMS Science Team and end users for a better understanding of stakeholder uses, needs and challenges for carbon monitoring and MRV as well as lessons learned.



## <u>Data</u>

#### **Data Products Fact Sheet**

Collection of CMS metadata and policy data for each product (e.g. spatial extent, resolution, uncertainty, application areas, relevant policies), Integrated into CMS website database.





#### **Application Readiness Levels (ARLs)**

Provide transparency to HQ and user community on the maturity of each CMS product. Used as a communication tool for stakeholders to assess product maturity.



#### **Surveys & Community Assessments**

Evaluate thematic user challenges within the CMS. Assess impact of CMS data products for end user organizations.



#### **Socioeconomic Studies**

Development of socioeconomic case study addressing the social value of CMS Lidar in MD DNR policy, and an ongoing assessment of the contribution of CMS flux products to the reduction of uncertainty in the carbon cycle.

## CMS Applications Program Framework



**CMS Applications** Efforts Examples. Tri-**State Area Applications** Workshop & Tutorial in Newtown Square, PA: **CMS Application** workshops and tutorials provide an opportunity for CMS Science Team members and stakeholders to engage on thematically detail objectives that help advance CMS science into appropriately scaled policy arenas.





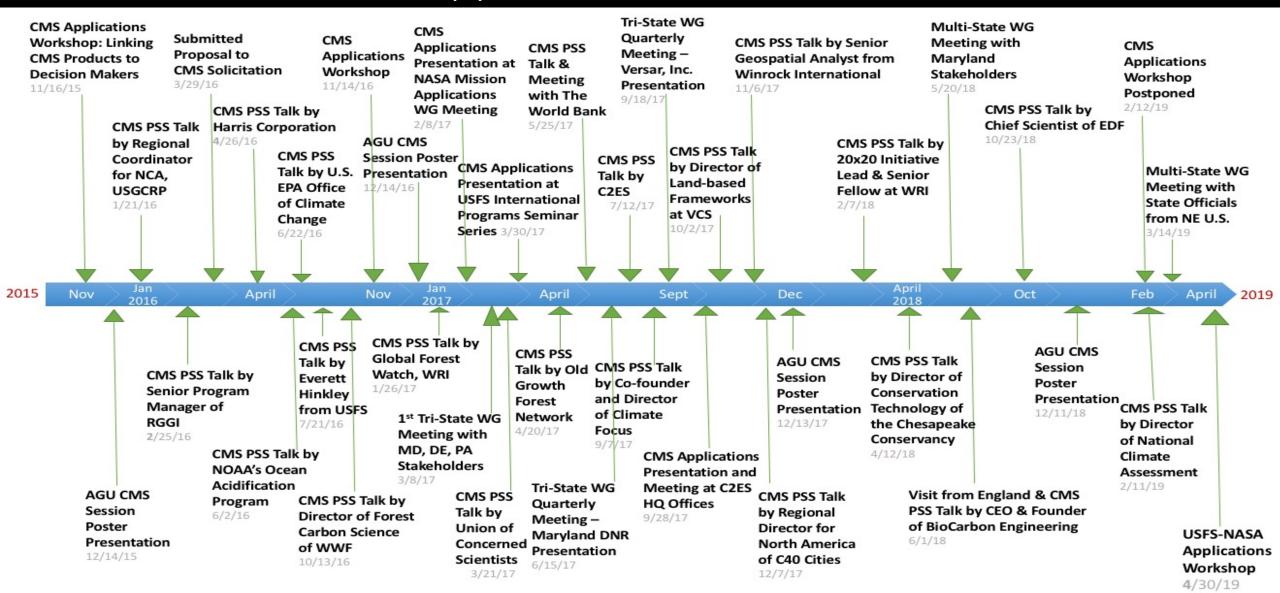
## ARL Refresher



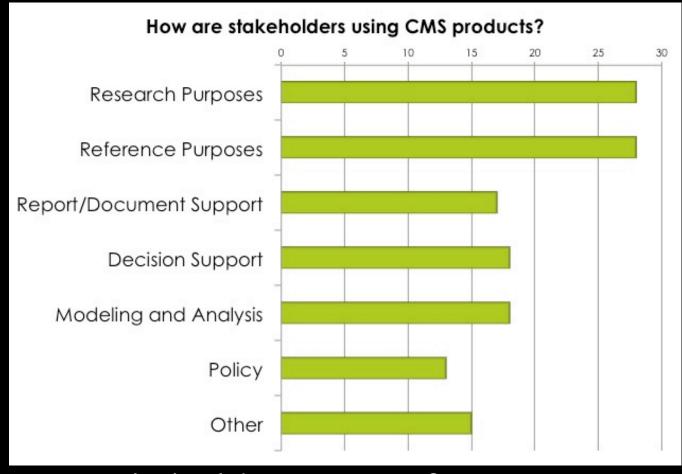
- Serve as a guide to user community
- Set expectations to user on how to use products and what feedback to provide
- ARL designated by the CMS PI
- Update as needed
- Intended to guide HQ and user community on the maturity of products



## Timeline of CMS Applications Efforts & Activities 2015-19







21 PIs responded 47 stakeholders identified

## CMS Stakeholder Survey for Science Team

- Main stakeholders: US EPA, USDA Forest Service, NOAA, CA ARB
- Not all stakeholders are using CMS data products at this moment
- All products, be research or operational products, have feedback potential



#### Stakeholders engaged by CMS Applications Efforts through Applications Workshops, Policy Speaker Series, and other engagement activities

The overarching objective of the applications effort is to broaden and strengthen the knowledge and engagement of the research and applications communities within the Carbon Monitoring System (CMS) Initiative.





Joint Global Change Research Institute



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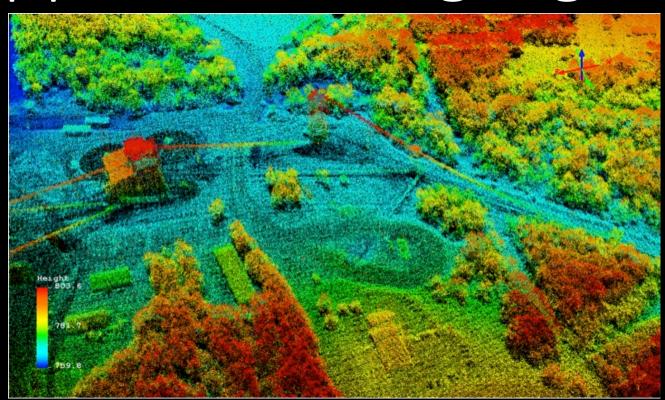








# Data Products & Applications Highlights



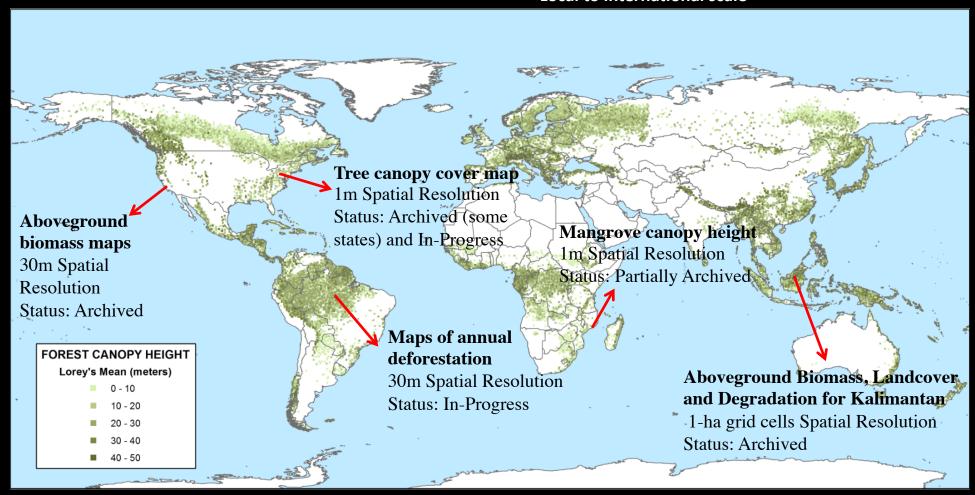




## CMS Data Products

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

**81 Projects** 170+ Data Products Local to international scale

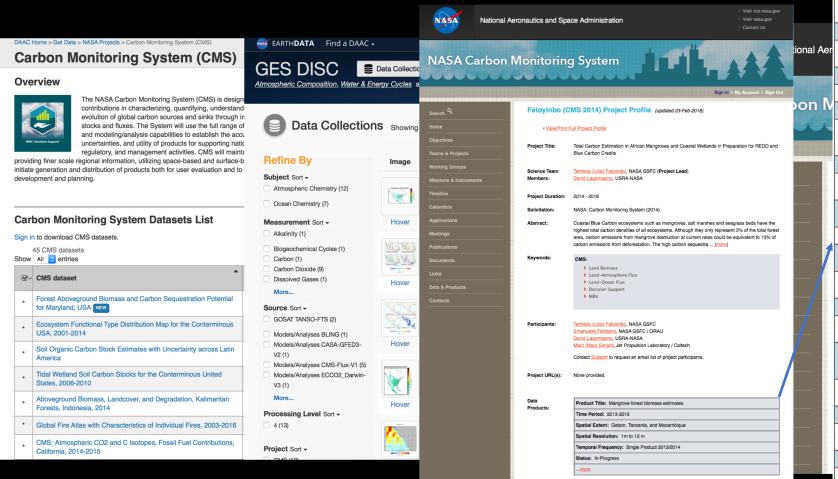


## National Aeronautics and Space Administration

## **NASA Carbon Monitoring System**

## Overview of CMS Data Products

Where can CMS datasets be found?



Metadata Fields	Explanation	
Award Year	The year the funding was granted	
Project ID	Principal Investigator's last name and project #	
Objectives	Goals that the project seeks to attain by developing data and products	
Science Theme	Type of data and products, according to components of carbon cycle research that are most relevant: Global Flux, Ocean-Atmosphere Flux, Land-Atmosphere Flux, Land-Ocean Flux, Land Biomass, Ocean Biomass, Lake Biomass, MRV, and Decision Support	
Products Keywords	Keywords that will help stakeholders identify data and products appropriate to their needs. See below for a table that explains each product keyword.	
Data Products	A description of output data and products that will be publicly available upon completion of the project	
Spatial Extent	The geographical area that the data and products cover	
Coordinates	Coordinates can be approximate. They can be the center of Spatial Extent or study sites. Shape files are welcome.	
Time Period	The time period that the data and products cover	
Spatial Resolution	Finest spatial resolution of data and products	
Temporal Frequency	Time intervals of data products	
Input Data Products	Any satellite, airborne, field, and modeled data products used. If airborne Lidar data was used, please indicate where, when, which instruments, and how much data (area, dimensions, or number and length of lines).	
Algorithm/Models Used	Any algorithm or models used to develop data and products	
Evaluation	Any efforts to evaluate the accuracy, robustness, and/or performance of data and products	
Intercomparison Efforts/Gaps	Any key intercomparison effort(s) that have been undertaken or gaps where future intercomparison efforts are warranted	
Uncertainty Estimates	Plans to quantify data uncertainty, if any	
Uncertainty Categories	Ensemble (e.g. stochastic), 2. Deterministic, 3. Model-Data Comparison, 4. Model-Model Comparison, and/or 5. Data-Data Comparison	
Application Areas	Areas with policy or societally relevant decision processes, which may benefit from the usage of data and products	
Potential Users	Possible end users of data and products once fully developed	
Stakeholders	End users engaged with CMS PIs who are using or plan to use data and products in the future	
Application Readiness Level (ARL)	The NASA index that assesses applications potential of data and products in operational settings. <a href="Detailed explanation">Detailed explanation</a> . Principal Investigators specified the ARLs of their own projects	
Future Developments	Future plans to engage stakeholders, share data and products, and raise awareness of the product development efforts	
Limitations	Any shortcoming of data and products that users must be aware of	
Date When Data/Product Available	The date (MM/DD/YY - if possible) on which data and products will be made publicly available	
Data Server URL	The URL address where a user may access data and products	
Metadata URL	The URL address where a user may access metadata	

The URL address where a user may access metadata





CMS: Forest Carbon Stocks, Emissions, and Net Flux for the Conterminous US: 2005-2010 PI: Sassan Saatchi, NASA JPL

**Description:** This data set provides maps of estimated carbon in forests of the 48 continental states of the US for the years 2005-2010.

**Spatial Coverage**: Conterminous USA (CONUS)

Spatial Resolution: 100-m resolution and

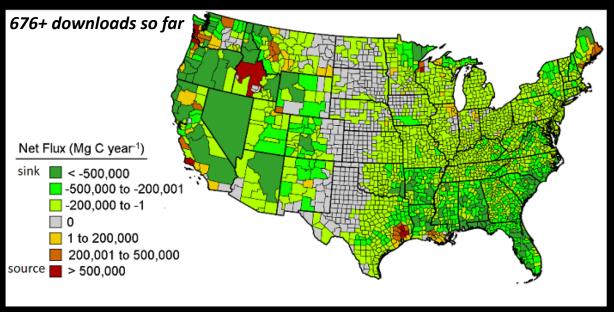
county level

**Temporal Coverage:** 2005 - 2010

**Temporal Resolution:** Annual

**ARL:** 7

**Users & Purpose**: used extensively within the science community for reference purposes, and USFS has already used the data for validation of spatial variation of carbon for couple of states



Average annual committed net carbon flux (Mg C/yr) at the combined country scale (from Hagen et al.)

### **USFS Potential Applications:**

- A land manager at a regional level could use these data products to gain insight into changes in carbon in their regional forests
- Prioritization of forest management and land use policies
- Plan by the USFS to include this methodology for Mexico and other countries with limited or no national inventory approaches
- New IPCCC guidelines about the use of RS data for carbon accounting

Limitations & Future Work: Limitations include reduced (a) spatial resolution of logging information (only at combined county-level) and (b) limited temporal resolution (5-year increment). Working to resolve limitations: moving to annual carbon mapping, and extending some of the products to Alaska.



Lidar-Derived Aboveground Biomass and Uncertainty for California Forests, 2005-2014

PI: Jonathan Greenberg, University of Nevada, Reno

**Description:** This dataset provides estimates of aboveground biomass and spatially explicit uncertainty from 53 airborne LiDAR surveys of locations throughout California between 2005 and 2014.

**Spatial Coverage**: Surveyed areas throughout

California

**Spatial Resolution:** 30-m\*

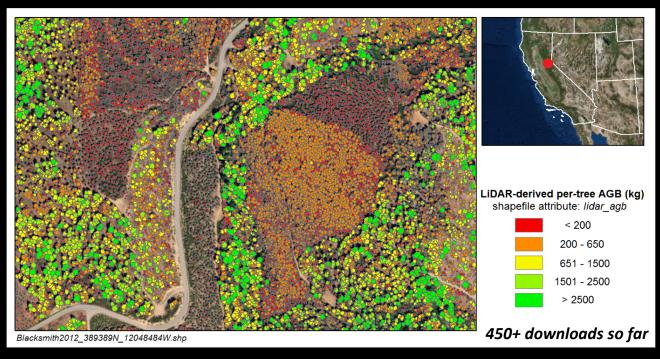
**Temporal Coverage: 2005 - 2014** 

Temporal Resolution: Once

ARL: 4

**Users:** Carlos Ramirez from USDA Forest

Service



Per-tree aboveground biomass (kg) derived from LiDAR-measured tree heights for the Blacksmith site in 2012 (from Blacksmith2012 389389N 12048484W.zip).

## **USFS Potential Applications:**

- Aboveground biomass is an important metric for assessing carbon sequestration in forests.



## National Aeronautics and Space Administration

## **NASA Carbon Monitoring System**

CMS: LiDAR-derived Biomass, Canopy Height and Cover, Sonoma County, California, 2013

PI: Ralph Dubayah, University of Maryland

**Description:** This data set provides estimates of above-ground biomass (AGB), canopy height, and percent tree cover at 30-m spatial resolution for Sonoma County, California, USA, for the nominal year 2013.

Spatial Coverage: Sonoma County, CA, USA

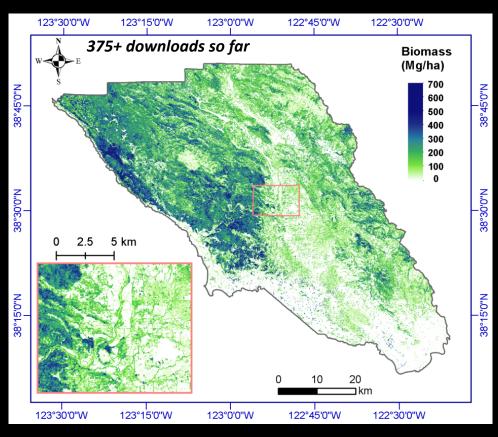
**Spatial Resolution:** Grid cells at 30-meter resolution

**Temporal Coverage: 2013** 

**Temporal Resolution:** One time

ARL: 9

Users & Purpose: The products have supported all facets of Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District's work: field reconnaissance, conservation planning and prioritization, conservation easement design, easement monitoring and enforcement, and fee land management.



Estimated aboveground biomass (Mg/ha) for Sonoma County at 30-m spatial resolution using the random forest method. Zoom-in figure is a subset near Santa Rosa, the largest city in California's North Coast.

## **USFS Potential Applications:**

- -Habitat mapping and modeling
- -Forest inventorying
- -As an input to wildfire modeling/fuel modeling
- -Disease hazard/risk

### Feedback from Stakeholders – Successes:

- The data are being used widely, for applications in forest management, disaster response, education and outreach, scientific research, conservation, among others.
- Survey showed that 13 out of 59 respondents indicated that the data are mission critical or very important; and 33 indicated that they are important or nice to have.
- These data are being used to map priority areas for land conservation, and enable Ag + Open Space and their conservation partners to write competitive grant proposals and to demonstrate the value of habitat protection to our community and funders.



## LiDAR-derived Biomass, Canopy Height and Cover for Tri-State (MD, PA, DE) Region, V2 PI: George Hurtt, University of Maryland

**Description:** This dataset provides 30-meter gridded estimates of aboveground biomass (AGB), forest canopy height, and canopy coverage for Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Delaware in 2011. **ARL:** 9

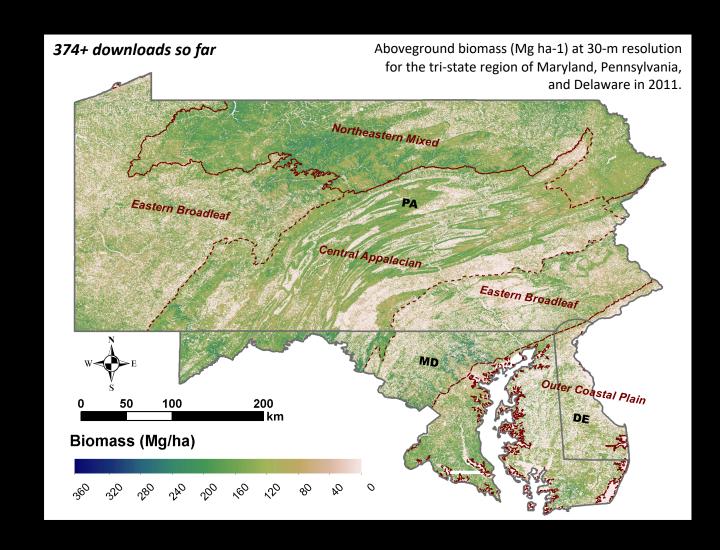
**Spatial Coverage**: Maryland, Pennsylvania, Delaware

**Spatial Resolution:** 30-meter or 90-meter

**Temporal Coverage:** 2004 – 2014

Temporal Resolution: Annual

Users in Maryland	Purpose
Maryland Department of Natural Resources	<ul> <li>Using the CMS forest cover layer in their ecosystem service valuation work, and to develop the state forest carbon sequestration map</li> <li>Also looking into ways that CMS can inform the state's forestry and sequestration sector, and help achieve the goals of the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act</li> </ul>
Maryland Forest Service	<ul> <li>Habitat location analyses for Golden Wing Warbler</li> <li>Estimating the amount of stream buffer by county</li> <li>Various metrics for a multitude of smaller projects</li> </ul>
Maryland Department of the Environment	- Modeling land cover in the Chesapeake Bay model
Baltimore City Department of Recreation & Parks (TreeBaltimore Partnership)	- To monitor Urban Tree Canopy goals in the city
The Nature Conservancy	<ul> <li>Map 'mature' forest, prioritize locations for forest inventory and inform restoration projects</li> <li>Looking at forest connectivity for climate resilience in the central Appalachian portion of western Maryland</li> </ul>
Queen Anne's, Baltimore, Worcester, Caroline, and Talbot Counties	- For use in routine planning



## **NASA Carbon Monitoring System**



## National Scale Forest Disturbance Map

PI: Christopher Williams, Clark University

**Description:** 30-m resolution map with moderate to high intensity harvesting, bark beetle outbreaks, and wildfires, including year of disturbance, and for beetle outbreak and fire disturbances

**Spatial Coverage**: Conterminous USA (CONUS)

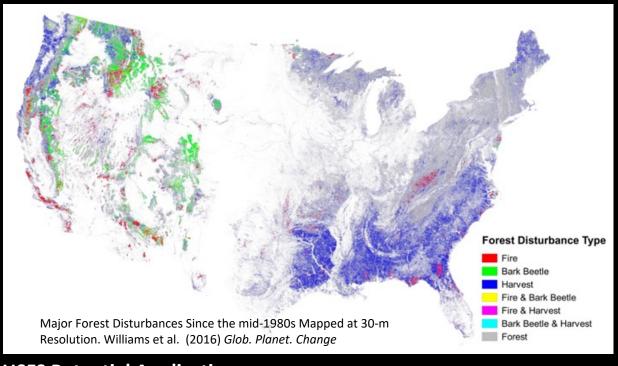
**Spatial Resolution:** 30-m resolution

**Temporal Coverage: 1986 - 2010** 

**Temporal Resolution:** Annual

**ARL:** 7

Users & Purpose: TNC and the Climate Alliance have used / are using this dataset to assess opportunities for afforestation/reforestation as a natural climate solution pathway



### **USFS Potential Applications:**

- To assess forest carbon uptake rates in diverse climate and forest type settings
- To assess the sustainability of timber resource management at state to regional levels
- To perform regional to national scale UNFCCC National Inventory Reporting
- To assess disturbance threats to US forests and impacts on the carbon balance of forested landscapes
- To assess the potential climate benefits of afforestation/reforestation
- To perform full forest sector carbon balance accounting

**Limitations:** (1) attribution to disturbance type (harvest, fire, beetle outbreaks, wind, other) remains far from perfect – collaborators should be developing better alternatives; (2) partial disturbance events are likely to be missing, including modest severity tree mortality events of scale smaller than 60 m x 60 m

Aboveground Biomass Maps for NW USA, 2000-2016 PI: Andrew Hudak, USDA Forest Service

**Description:** AGB wall-to-wall maps and lidarbased AGB maps for NW United States.

**Spatial Coverage**: Northwestern U.S. (WA, OR, ID)

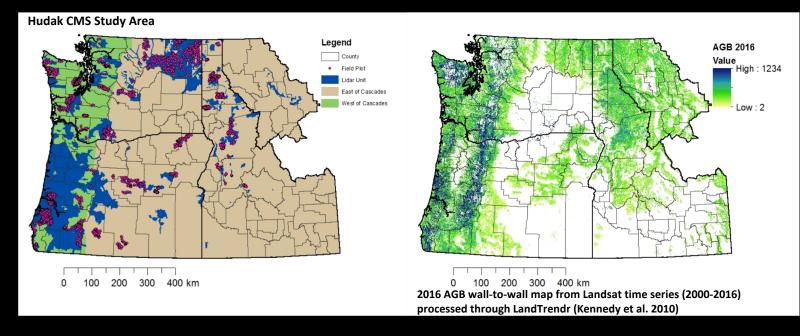
**Spatial Resolution: 30**-m

**Temporal Coverage:** 2000 – 2016

**Temporal Resolution:** Annual

ARL: 5

**Users & Purpose**: Northwest Management, Colville Tribe in WA, USFS Idaho Panhandle National Forest in ID for forest level analysis/management

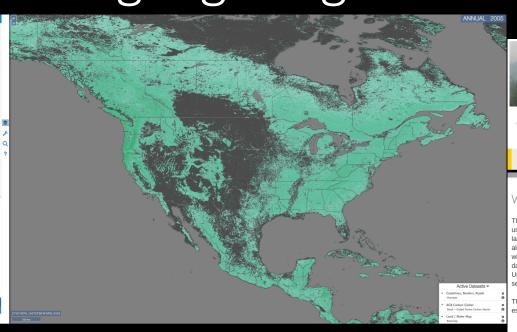


## **USFS Potential Applications:**

- Wall-to-wall AGB maps would provide sufficient information for forest level analysis/management; Lidar-based AGB maps would be preferred for project level analysis
- Can help in the development of the Five-Year-Action-Plan (5-YAP) (e.g. USFS Region 4 & 6)
- Forest management for carbon sequestration

**Lessons Learned:** The needs and objectives of forest managers will remain local, centered on the lands they are charge to manage; because lidar is so informative for multiple natural resource management objectives, we can expect demand for lidar-derived products will continue, regardless of political priorities.

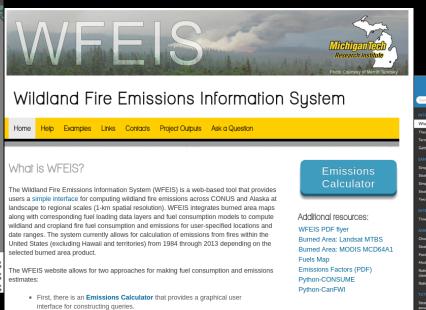
## Highlighting Relevant CMS Tools for USFS



## **Carbon Mapper**

PI: Riley Duren, NASA JPL

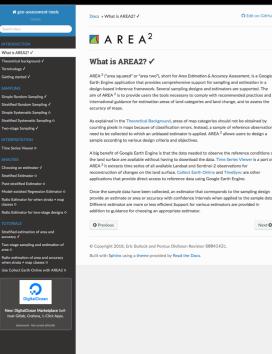
Description: a prototype data portal and analysis tool, which provides a common platform for visualizing information contained in selected CMS data sets.



WFEIS Online Modeling Tool, PI: Nancy French Products for CMS were developed with the tool

 Second, the WFEIS website responds to queries submitted via property encoded URL requests (i.e. it implements a RESTful Web API). Examples of valid WFEIS URLs, accessed via the emissions calculator within the KMI

delivered in multiple spatial and non-spatial formats including text reports, CSV, ESR



AREA<sup>2</sup> developed by CMS PI Pontus Olofsson, BU



## **Discussion Questions**

- What are your carbon data needs and interests?
- Are you using satellite or other remote sensing data for your work / decision-making?
- What other carbon science information (e.g. land cover change maps, methane flux estimates, coastal wetland carbon stocks and fluxes, etc.) do you need/want to support your agency/organization's decision framework?
- What are the lessons learned you can share from using NASA CMS products, or similar products?
- Are there any improvements that can be made short term? Accessibility, time domain, spatial scale, and frequency of data updates?
- When and how should the carbon science information be delivered?
- What are some ongoing local initiatives in which NASA could contribute data and expertise?

#### CONTACT INFORMATION