

Natural Disturbance Landscapes Intermediate Scale Findings

Foothills Model Forest
Edmonton Workshop
March 29th 1999

Relevance of Results ?



- Identifies stand attributes of Historic landscapes
- Describe the patterns of historical landscapes
- Results provide the specifics of “where” and “how”
- Customized to Subregions
- Have application when conducting PSB's of >1000ha

-
- Describe post-burn pattern attributes which help establish goals for PSB's and evaluate burn success
 - Can defend patch size/pattern
 - Island remnants and riparian corridor results as to what are the features and what do they contain

Opportunities ?

- Facilitates Adaptive Management - Working Experiments
- May reduce risk of severe events- “Cooling the Forest” - can apply to insects and disease as well as fire
- Incorporation into License and compartment operating design -- Berland 21 Project

-
- Has potential to relate fire intensity and fuel relationships to post-fire patterns

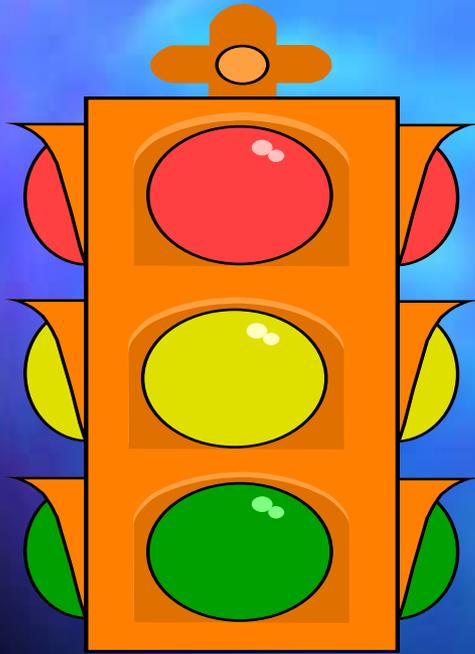
Constraints ?



- Possible Forest Health concerns -- Insect Epicenters
- Public Perception
- Conditions that may have existed historically can be unacceptable environmentally and socially
- May not be compatible with other values at risk

-
- Fuel accumulation complicates restoration
 - Potential impacts on AAC -- Working Forest

What Do WE Need to Proceed?



- Societies Buy In
- Flexible Ground Rules -- Adaptive Management
- Consider entire landscape - not just areas traditionally operated (riparian)
- Understand outcomes of past activities and how they may influence future activities

-
- Need to combine information from a variety of disturbance studies -- fire, succession, wildlife, archeological
 - Link historic burn metrics to preburn condition to assist in harvest plan design
 - Must be defensible
 - Need to mitigate potential risks

The Future-Obtaining the Balance !!

