

Aspen Stand Structure: Data Form

Date

Quad Map, section #	Location description	Approx. size of stand
Forest, District	Allotment	Pasture
GPS Setting (circle one) NAD CONUS 27 NAD 83 WGS84	% Slope/Aspect	Elevation
Recorder & Group Members	General stand notes/ nearby features	

Plot 1	GPS Easting			GPS Northing		Selection basis		
% cover overstory aspen	% cover recruitment trees	% cover understory trees	% overs. trees senescent	Understory notes	Animal sign	Conifer notes	Other notes	
Photos	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 							

Plot 2 Waypoint	GPS Easting		GPS Northing		Selection basis		
% cover overstory aspen	% cover recruitment trees	% cover understory trees	% overs. trees senescent	Understory notes	Animal sign	Conifer notes	Other notes
Photos	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.						

Definitions

Visually estimate cover of understory, recruitment, and understory aspen within the plot.

1. Overstory trees are equal to or greater than 75% of mature stand height (which varies according to site conditions).
2. Recruitment trees are equal to or greater than 2 m tall and up to 75% of mature stand height.
3. Understory trees are less than 2 m tall.
4. Senescent overstory: Determine the percent of overstory trees that are dead or showing signs of decline, including many dead limbs, conks, or weeping cankers.

Note: Percents can total less or more than 100% due to layering

Useful digital photos

1. *General aspect* of the stand, taken horizontally from the center of the plot
2. *Overstory aspen* taken directly up in the center of the plot
3. *Understory forbs and grasses*, taken at an angle down, from the center of the plot
4. *Horizontal view* of the stand looking a noted direction

Quantitative analysis

Depending on the purpose of the rapid assessment, any or all of the following quantitative analyses are easily generated for a given group of stands if data are entered into an Excel table:

1. Average percent cover of overstory, recruitment, understory and senescent aspen
2. Proportion of stands with senescent overstory in plots
3. Percent/proportion of stands sampled that are
 - a. *Single-tier stands*: Recruitment tree cover 0-0.3 times that of the overstory
 - b. *Two-tier stands*: Recruitment tree cover 0.4-1.7 times that of the overstory; sparse understory trees.
 - c. *Multi-age stands*: Overstory cover less than 65%; recruitment cover 0.4-1.0 of the overstory; and more than 5% cover of understory trees.
 - d. *Replacement stands*: Recruitment cover over 40%; and more than 1.7 times that of the overstory.