Legacy Tree Data:

A national repository of tree volume, weight, and wood properties measurements

Phil Radtke Forest Resources &

Environmental Conservation



Timber Measurements Society, April 9, 2015



Broad-Scale Forest Assessments: Volume; Biomass; Carbon

- US Forest Service mandate: Timber resources
 - McSweeney-McNary, RPA
- Global carbon assessments
 - IPCC, NOAA, EPA, USDA
- Link from volume :: mass :: carbon
- Bioenergy production
 - DOE
 - Canada: ENFOR

Need for Forest Assessments: Volume; Biomass; Carbon

- Stem volume is a starting point
 - We do it well
 - Much of the tree is in the stem
 - Weight and content by (density) conversion
- Allometry
 - Effort and time intensive
 - Expensive
 - Variation (large n helps)
 - Species, geography, growing conditions

Legacy Data Compilation

· Goals:

- Catalog past efforts to measure trees in detail
 - Location, species, dbh, height, ...
 - Stem attributes
 - Taper
 - Weight: green & dry
 - Density (lb/ft³)
 - Volume: inside & outside bark
 - Bark thickness
 - Stump dimensions
 - Growth rings
 - Wood/bark properties



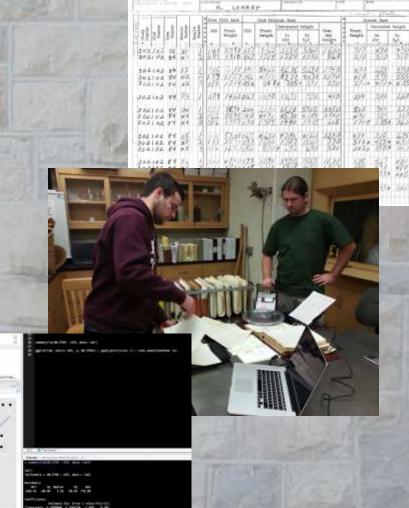
Legacy Data Compilation

- Goals: (cont.)
 - Catalog past efforts to measure trees in detail (cont.)
 - Branches
 - Diameter & length
 - Weight: green & dry
 - Number, position
 - Foliage
 - Mass
 - Leaf area
 - Roots



Legacy Data Compilation

- Goals: (cont.)
 - Locate legacy data
 - Copy
 - Digitize
 - Analyze
 - Archive







- Extent
- Search effort vs. cost
- Digitization costs, priorities
- Media
- Data quality



Project Considerations

- Database
 - Robust, flexible, stable, expandable, accessible
 - Metadata & references
 - Documentation
 - Maintenance & accountability
- Licensing & attribution







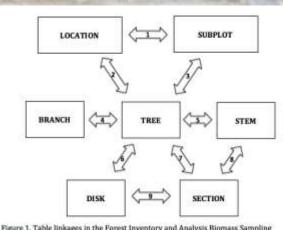
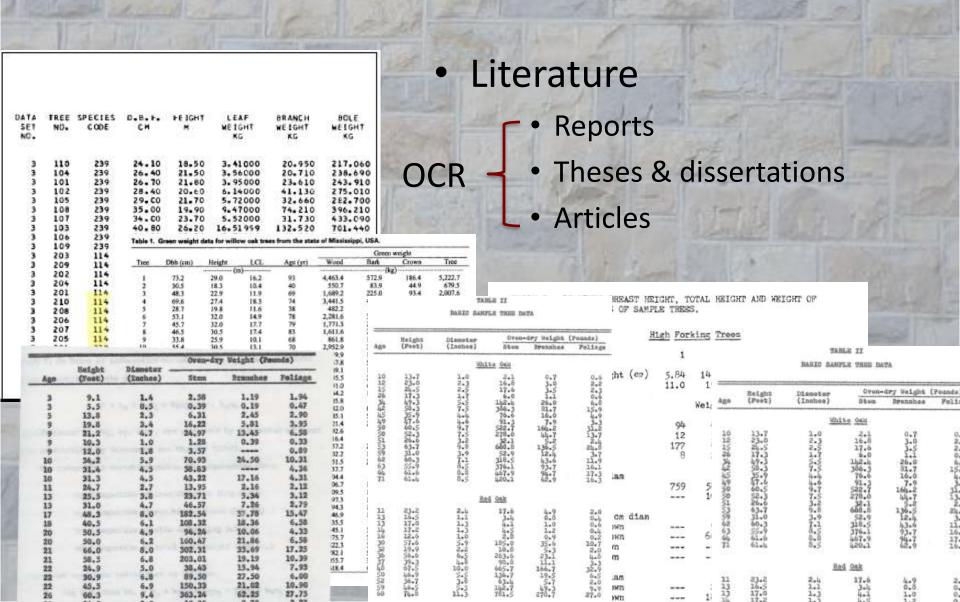
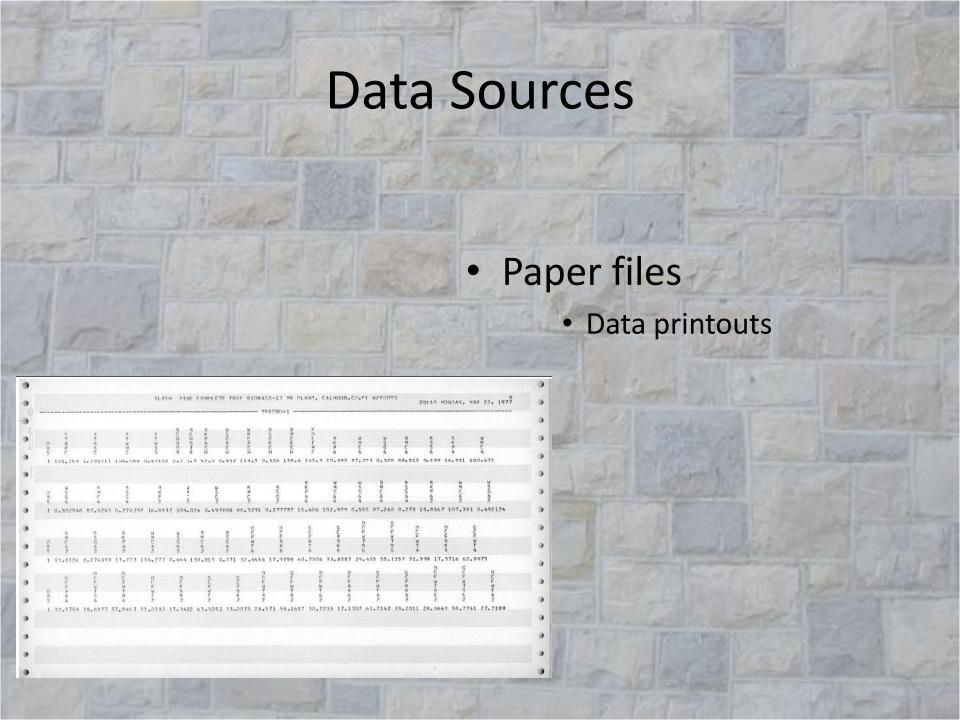
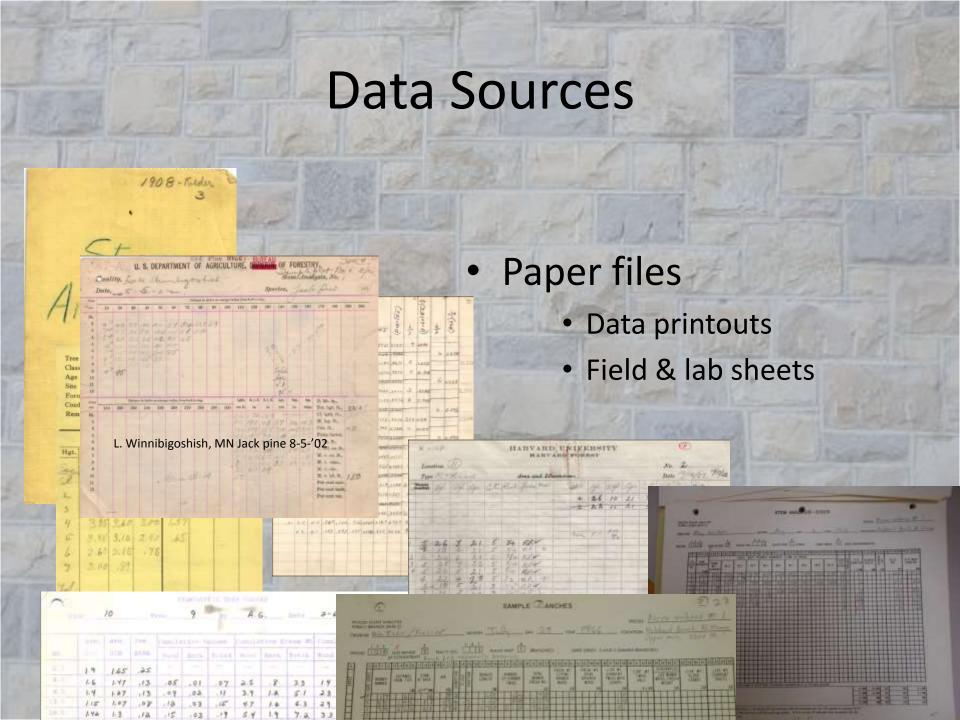


Figure 1. Table linkages in the Forest Inventory and Analysis Biomass Sampling Database

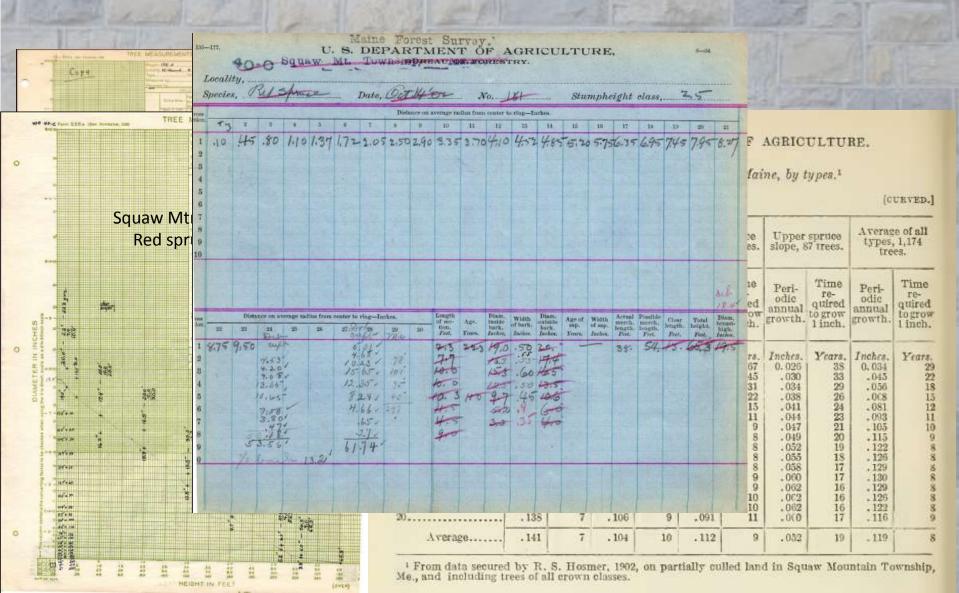
Data Sources

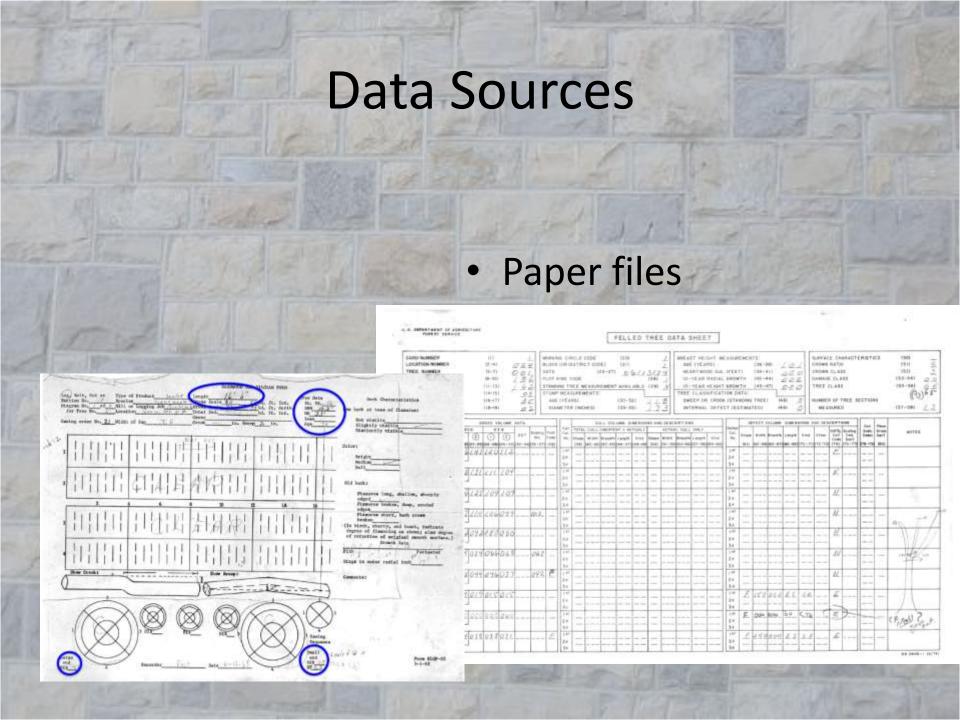






Data Sources





Data Sources - Many Untapped



Forest Service

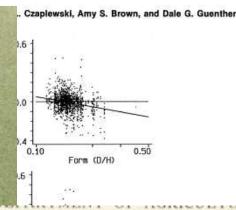
Rocky Mountain Forest and Range **Experiment Station** **Estimating Merchantable Tree** Volume in Oregon and Washington **Using Stem Profile Models**

TECHNICAL BULLETIN No. 305

JULY, 1932

Volume Tables for Pacific Northwest Trees

(A Compilation)



THE STRENGTH AND RELATED PROPERTIES OF REDWOOD

R. F. LUXFORD Associate Engineer

AND

L. J. MARKWARDT

Senior Engineer, Forest Products Laboratory Branch of Research, Forest Service



Agriculture Handbook No.

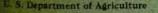
THE GROWTH AND MANAGEMENT OF DOUGLAS FIR IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST.

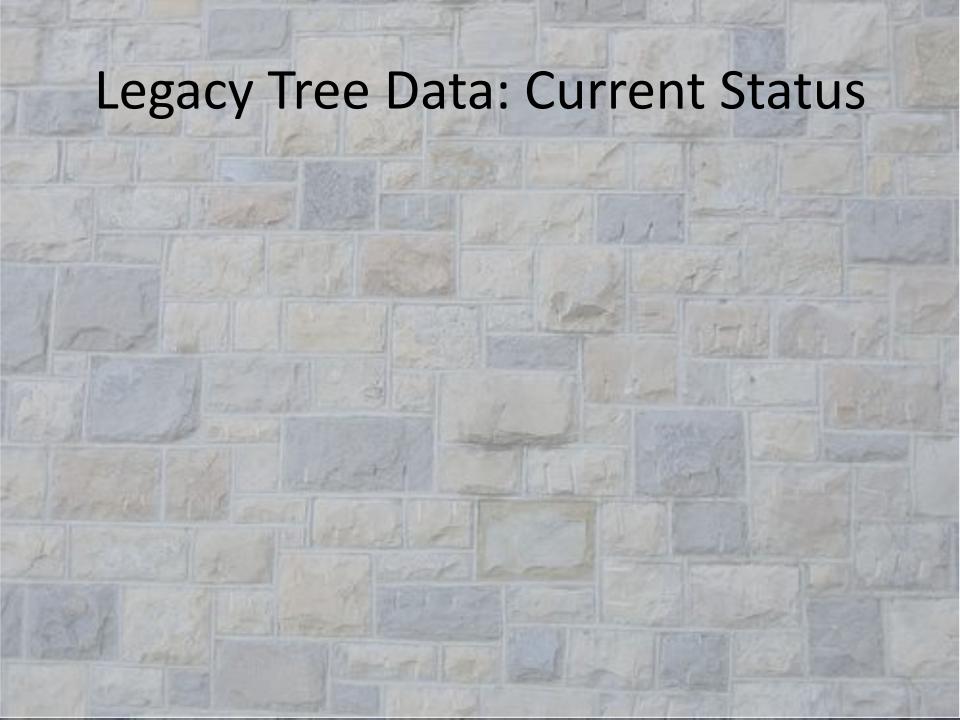
FOREST SERVICE-Circular 175.

HENRY 5. GRAVES, Forester.

THORNTON T. MUNGER,

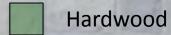
Forest Service





Biomass: 13,038 Trees from 132 Species

Common Name	Number Sampled	Common Name	Number Sampled
loblolly pine	987	northern red oak	207
sweetgum	703	sugar maple	186
slash pine	583	chestnut oak	169
red maple	496	scarlet oak	158
ponderosa pine*	479	water oak	157
Douglas-fir*	470	water tupelo	150
white oak	431	black cherry	141
yellow-poplar	388	flowering dogwood	140
lodgepole pine*	291	red spruce	139
hickory spp.	271	shortleaf pine	130
quaking aspen	240	blackgum	128
black spruce	238	black oak	125
ash spp.	229	American beech	116



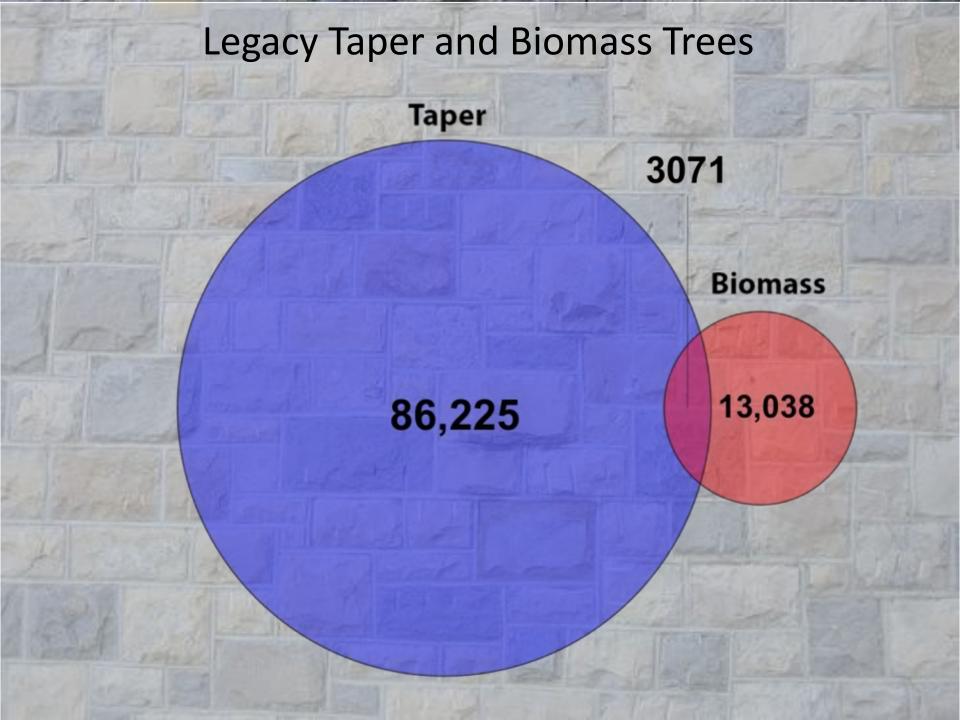


Taper: 86,225 Trees from 115 Species

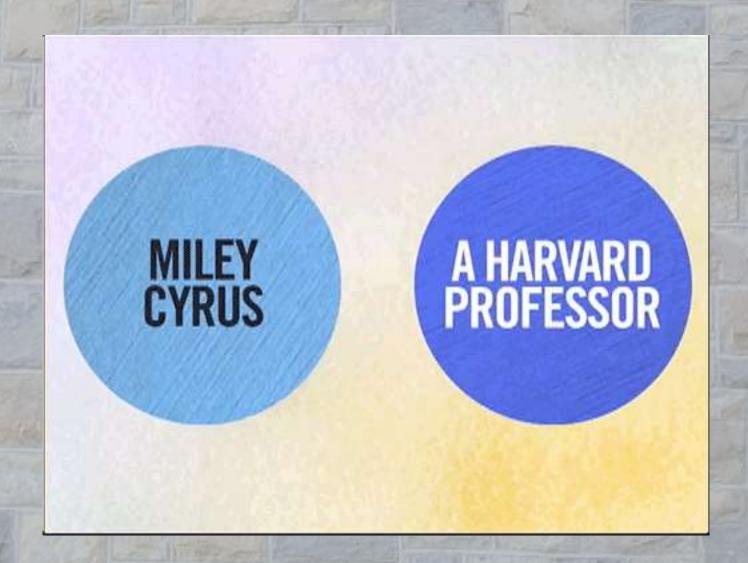
Common Name	Number Sampled	Common Name	Number Sampled
loblolly pine	8878	ponderosa pine*	2026
slash pine	5995	hickory spp.	1948
shortleaf pine	5139	sugar maple	1846
longleaf pine	4168	Virginia pine	1838
jack pine	3181	yellow birch	1587
balsam fir	2922	chestnut oak	1580
white spruce	2873	paper birch	1443
white oak	2859	red pine	1428
black spruce	2738	scarlet oak	1171
sweetgum	2620	northern red oak	1167
eastern white pine	2408	black oak	1146
red maple	2342	swamp tupelo	1094
yellow-poplar	2205	southern red oak	980





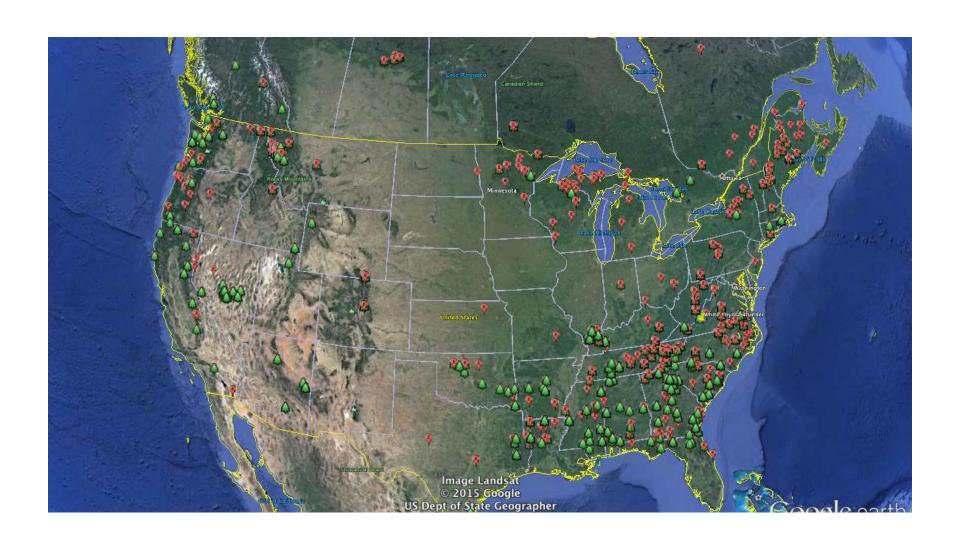


Venn Diagram, Seth Meyers* Style

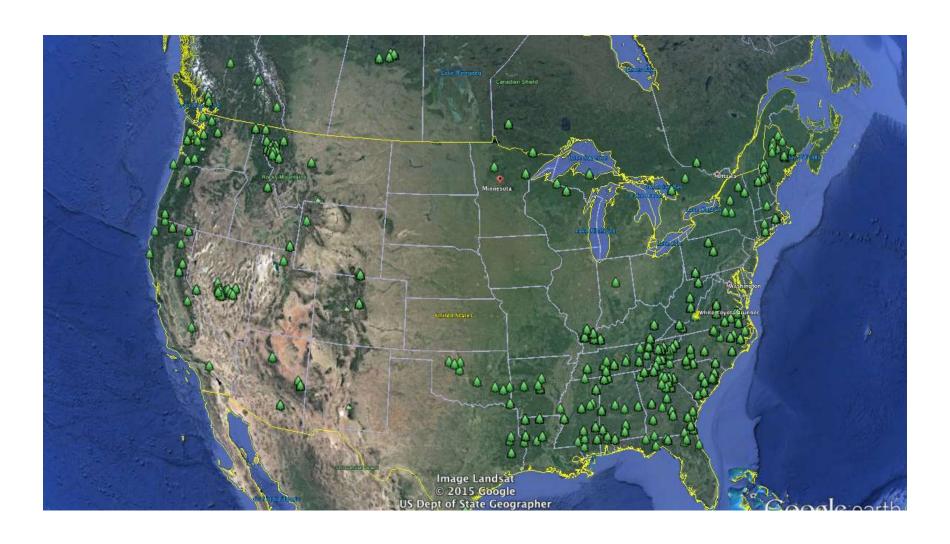


*NBC late-night comedian

Potential Sources



Compiled



Collaborators, Partners















