

USDA Forest Service Perspective on Bonanza Creek LTER



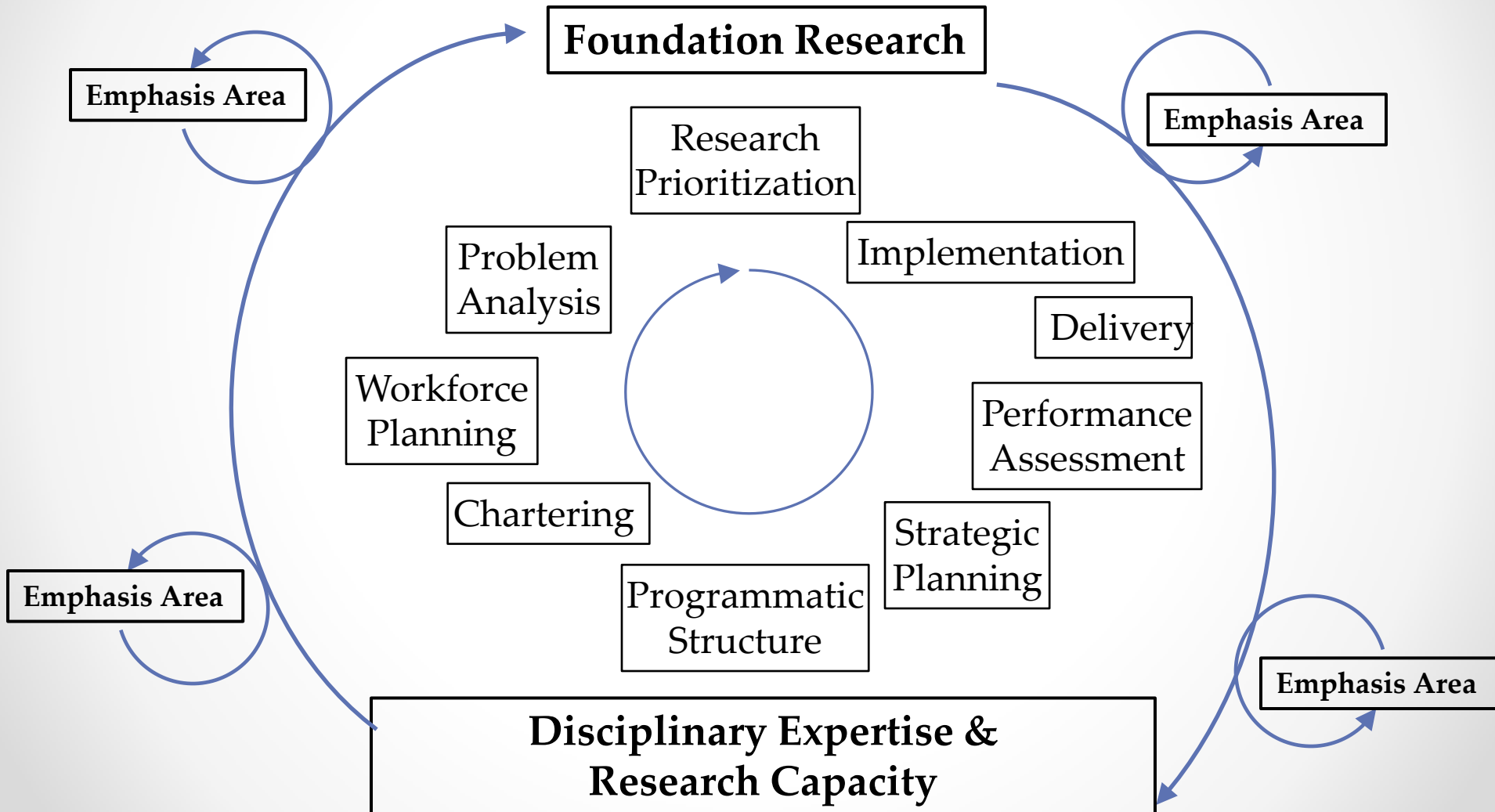
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Long-term, Large-scale Studies as Key Elements of PNW Foundation Research

- The Forest Service research mission is outcome oriented with an emphasis on meeting societies needs now and into the future
- In contrast to some other federal research entities, the Forest Service has a large land base it manages
- The capacity to conduct long-term studies and monitoring has been an important distinguishing feature of Forest Service research

One Representation of the PNW Strategic Framework



Current Research Emphasis Areas

- Socioeconomic-biophysical Interactions
- Resource Management and Landscape Restoration
- Natural Disturbances
- Climate Change
- Inventory and Monitoring

Foundation Elements of PNW Research

- Experimental Forests and Ranges

- Long-term monitoring
- Process and function studies
- Applied management experiments
- Multi-organizational collaborations
- Place-based inference
- Network potential
- Permanent infrastructure

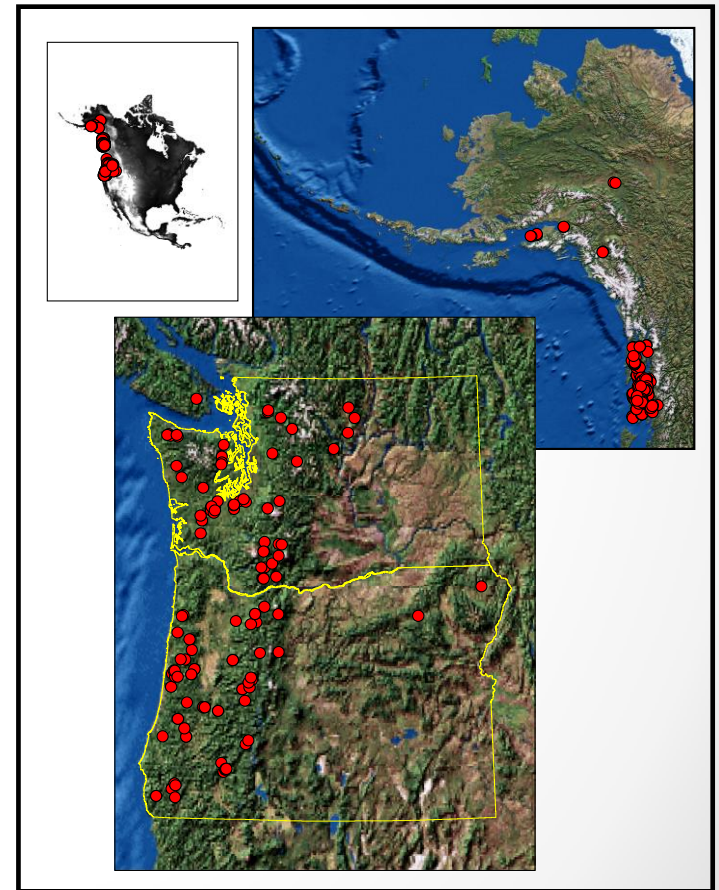
- Large-scale, Operational Experiments

- Applied management experiments
- Objective driven
- Multi-organizational collaborations
- More or less adaptive
- Multi-site: off or on EFRs
- Network potential
- Transitory infrastructure



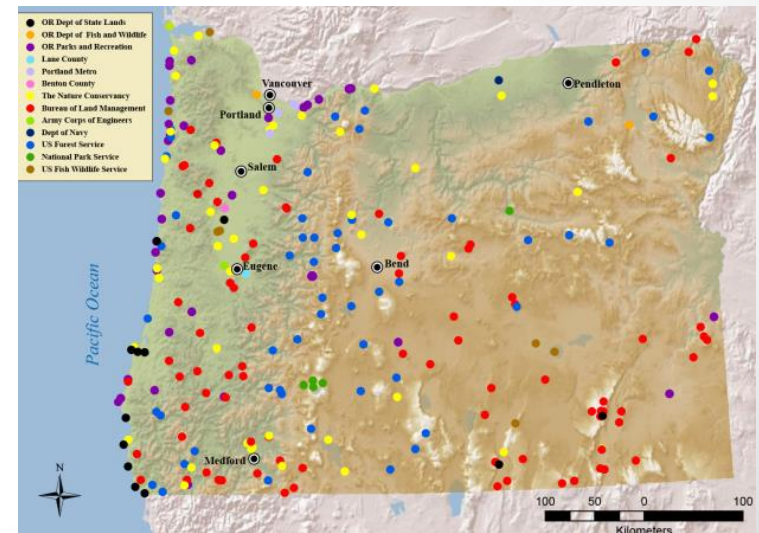
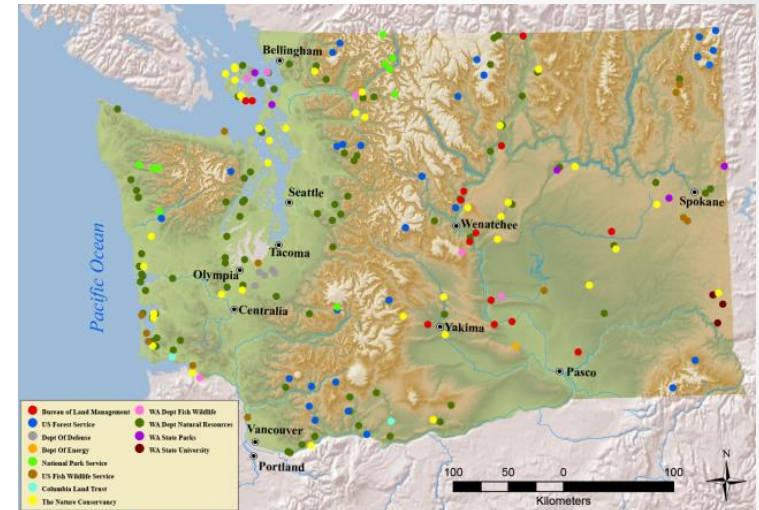
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Foundation Elements of PNW Research

- Research Natural Areas
 - Representation of the diverse array of ecosystems and communities
 - Observational studies
 - In some cases manipulated to restore important process characteristics



Foundation Elements of PNW Research

- **Resource Monitoring**
 - Long-term monitoring
 - Watershed or landscape assessments
 - Extensive landscape or ecoregion inference
 - Permanent and transitory infrastructure
 - Distinct mission mandates and accountability
- **Programmatic studies**
 - Scientist or unit driven
 - Variety of biological, physical, and social research
 - Variety of research environments – laboratory, field, office
 - Variety of infrastructure needs
 - Variety of scale and scope of inference
 - Variety of collaboration and partnership modes

Where Are We Going With Experimental Forests?

- **Maintain our capacity to do long-term research**
- **Strive for greater scientific impact and relevance by pursuing opportunities for cross site integrated studies or synthetic analyses**
 - **Important themes**
 - **Geographic/ecological scope of inference**
 - **Leverage**
 - **Partners and advocates**
 - **Broad interest**

Information of Interest to Bonanza Creek LTER

- FIA is preparing to inventory interior Alaska
- PNW has taken the lead for USDA in establishing the Pacific Northwest Climate Hub
- HJ Andrews renewed the LTER project last year
- Wind River NEON moving forward