





Instructors

- Susan Winter (FS): Economics, Planning, Regional Economics
- John Thompson (BLM): MT State office, NEPA coordinator, Planning, Economics
- Doug Smith (FS): Economics, Planning, Application development

Putting a Name to a Face.....



Susan Winter



Doug Smith



John Thompson

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Putting a Name to a Face....



Susan



Where's Doug?



John

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National Training Center

- Mark H. Chamberlain
– Training Coordinator

- Genie Ramsden –
Instructional Systems
Specialist

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Why Are You Taking This Class?

- It's free and I have nothing better to do.
- Just curious
- My boss is making me
- I need economics skills in my job

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Let's Look At the Agenda

- **DAY 1: INTRODUCTION.**
 - Check in at 9:45am, trouble shooting. Class starts at 10:00am MST
 - Welcome and overview
 - Instructor intro/bios.
 - Role call and introductions. Overview of notebook
 - Overview of the class
 - History of the class: Explain shift in class structure.
 - Goals and Expectations
 - Objectives: Provide background necessary to understand to specifics covered in the followup sessions.
 - FS/BLM contacts
 - WHY DO ECONOMIC ANALYSIS
 - Legal, statutory and administrative mandate
 - NEPA, FLPMA, NFMA
 - Public demand for meaningful economic analysis
 - NEPA – if raised as an issue, economics should be addressed.
 - FLPMA
 - Standards for credible economic analysis (what we're hearing from attorneys and appellants)
 - PLANNING EXAMPLE: Malta RMP
 - PROJECT EXAMPLE: Shepherd Ah Nei
- Class dismissed for individual work on class exercises.

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Agenda

- **DAY 2: FEAST and TMECA.**
 - Review Day 1
 - Entertain questions about previous afternoon's homework. Discuss worksheet.
 - Introduction to the Excel spreadsheet FEAST (using Malta RMP) and TMECA.
 - Response Coefficients.
 - FEAST and TMECA demonstration.
 - Class dismissed for individual work on class exercise.

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Agenda

- **DAY 3: IMPLAN.**
 - Review previous day and answer questions.
 - Introduction to the IMPLAN software and data package.
 - Input-Output models
 - Study Area definition
 - Lessons Learned.
 - Class dismissed for individual work on class exercises.

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Agenda

- **DAY 4: CASE STUDY.** Build Malta RMP from start to finish using FEAST and IMPLAN.
- Weekly follow-up sessions on specific resources.
 - Study area definition
 - Recreation
 - Timber and fire
 - Grazing and minerals
 - Travel management
 - Build a model for a student

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How Great is the Demand for Economics Skills in Your Job?

- None
- Occasional
- Growing
- Frequent

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Class Notebook Overview

- Tab 1: Introduction
- Tab 2: Why Do Economic Analysis
- Tab 3: Planning Example
- Tab 4: Project Example
- Tab 5: FEAST and TMCA
- Tab 6: Response Coefficients
- Tab 7: IMPLAN
- Tab 8: Study Area
- Tab 9: Lessons Learned
- Tab 10: Reading

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History of the Class

- Good Ol' Days:
 - Forest economist on almost every forest.
 - Workshops extremely technical.
- Currently:
 - Almost no FS regional economists
 - BLM in a worse situation

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History.....

- Solution
 - Automate repetitive tasks, calculations and reports.
 - Divide and conquer; clearly define roles
 - Economist
 - Resource specialists

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History.....

- Solution....
 - Technical Guides and Technical Advice Bulletins
 - Training to support the partnership
 - Course material presented ****backwards****
 - Start with output, build understanding of process
 - Class with detailed follow-up sessions

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Goals

- Learn about economic impact analysis tools (IMPLAN, FEAST)
- Understand the data needed from resource specialists to run FEAST
- Understand appropriate application and limitations of IMPLAN
- Understand the skills needed and time required for IMPLAN and FEAST

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Expectations

- Planning and Resource Specialists
 - ✓ Issue recognition
 - ✓ Building vocabulary
 - ✓ Recognition of pitfalls
 - ✓ Understanding data and workforce needs
 - ✓ Building a partnership with Agency economists, collaborators, and contactors
- Economists
 - ✓ Skills for building IMPLAN/FEAST models.
 - ✓ Protocol for requesting data from specialists
 - ✓ Contract oversight

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What Economics Background Do You Have?

- None
- A Little
- A Great Deal

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Course Objectives

- Objective 1: Help you decide what tool, if any, you need
- Objective 2: Dealing with Human Capital Deficiencies
 - ✓ Divide and conquer – share the work
 - ✓ Protection against “pet economists” and “hired suits”

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Course Objectives....

- Objective 3: Help you be an educated consumer of economic information
- Objective 4: Guidance on generally accepted practice

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**Services Provided
by the Economic Analysis Unit
to the Regions and National Forests**

- ECONOMIC SOFTWARE SUPPORT
 - ✓ Examples are –
 - ✓ **IMPLAN:** Regional economic analysis for evaluation and monitoring reports, impact analysis, assessment of the Forest Service' contribution to local economies, regional assessments, SPRA assessments, etc.
 - ✓ **FEAST:** An electronic "protocol" (Excel workbook) to organize and streamline the use of IMPLAN data/results and resource management information for plan revisions/amendments, evaluation & monitoring reports, assessments, and project level analysis.

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**Services Provided
by the Economic Analysis Unit
to the Regions and National Forests**

- ECONOMIC SOFTWARE SUPPORT
 - ✓ Examples are –
 - ✓ **QuickSilver:** Efficiency analysis for the comparison of projects using cost/benefit, present net worth, etc.
 - ✓ **TMECA:** A variant of FEAST designed for travel management analysis.

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**Services Provided
by the Economic Analysis Unit
to the Regions and National Forests**

- ECONOMIC DATABASES
 - ✓ Distributed via FS intranet website
 - ✓ Data in support for Forest Plan Revision/Amendment, Project level NEPA related analysis, monitoring, etc.
 - ✓ Examples are –
 - ✓ IMPLAN county and community level databases
 - ✓ Forest-level Program Expenditures
 - ✓ Recreation Expenditures (NVUM)
 - ✓ PILT & 25% Fund data and key links

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**Services Provided
by the Economic Analysis Unit
to the Regions and National Forests**

- **Contacts**
 - Susan Winter, economist, (970) 295-5726, swinter@fs.fed.us
 - Doug Smith, economist, FEAST specialist (509) 684-7182, dhsmith@fs.fed.us

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**Services Provided
by the Economic Analysis Unit
to the Regions and National Forests**

- **Other Helpful Contacts**
 - FS Regional Economists:
 - R1: Keith Stockmann kstockmann@fs.fed.us
 - R2: Julie Schaefer jschaefer@fs.fed.us
 - R6: Elisabeth Grinspoon egrinspoon@fs.fed.us
 - R9: Rick Hokans rhokans@fs.fed.us
 - FS TEAMS: Barb Ott, economist/social scientist, bott@fs.fed.us

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**Services Provided
by the Economic Analysis Unit
to the Regions and National Forests**

- **Other Helpful Contacts**
 - BLM:
 - MT: John Thompson jthompso@mt.blm.gov
 - WY: Roy Allen Roy.Allen@blm.gov
 - University of WY:
 - Tex Taylor ttaylor@uwyo.edu

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2.1

IMPLAN: The IMPLAN Model is the most flexible, detailed and widely used input-output impact model system in the U.S. It provides users with the ability to define industries, economic relationships and projects to be analyzed. It can be customized for any county, region or state, and used to assess "multiplier effects" caused by increasing or decreasing spending in various parts of the economy. This can be used to assess the economic impacts of resource management decisions, facilities, industries, or changes in their level of activity in a given area.

The Forest Service in the mid-70s developed IMPLAN (Impact analysis for PLANning) for community impact analysis. The current IMPLAN input-output database and model is maintained and sold by MIG, Inc. (Minnesota IMPLAN Group). Over 1,500 clients across the country use the IMPLAN model, making the results acceptable in inter-agency analysis. Typical applications of regional economic analyses are: affected environment, land use planning, strategic planning and policy analysis.

Forest Economic Analysis Spreadsheet Tool (FEAST) is a modeling tool used to assist in the development of economic impacts. FEAST was designed to streamline data entry and preparation for the generation of economic impact tables that can be used in resource management planning and EISs. The goal for FEAST model is to assist both economists and planning specialists in completing economic impact analyses. FEAST uses a Microsoft Excel workbook as the interface between user inputs and data from an existing IMPLAN model. Individual worksheets contain the formulas that drive the FEAST model while visual basic for applications was used to create the FEAST menu bar and the macros (visual basic procedures and functions) that make FEAST operational.

What does this mean?

- IMPLAN is a professionally accepted, widely used tool (computer model) to predict economic impacts of resource management decisions. It is analytic (40 CFR 1502.2) and it provides evidence that the agency used professional integrity, including scientific integrity, in NEPA analysis (40 CFR 1502.24) concerning the economic impact assessment.
- FEAST streamlines data entry for economic impact tables. FEAST helps clarify the relationship between resource management decisions and the effects on local employment, labor income, agency revenues and payments to counties, and agency related contributions to the area economy.