# FOR 474 – FVS DATA ENTRY LAB

## BACKGROUND:

FVS's *Suppose* simulation interface is driven by three separate files; a '*Locations*' file, a '*Stand List*' file, and a '*Tree Data*' or '*Tree List*' file. A brief description of each file is provided below.

The '*Locations*' file contains one data record for each unique location. A location is defined as any set of stands within a given project area (*e.g.,* stands within a watershed, stands across multiple watersheds, stand within a ranger district, stands across an entire state). Each record within the 'Locations' refers to a '*Stand List*' file.

The '*Stand List*' file contains data entries for each stand with the location. This includes stand identification information, information describing the inventory sampling protocol (*e.g.,* BAF, plot size, number of plots), specific site data, and name of the '*Tree Data*' or '*Tree List*' file associated with a particular stand. The '*Stand List*' file contains other information such as a code identifying the geographic variant of FVS that should be used to simulate the stand growth dynamics, and the identification of groups to which the stand belongs (*e.g.,* vegetation or forest type, project name). Each record within the 'Locations' refers to a '*Stand List*' file.

## OBJECTIVE:

The primary objective of this lab is for each of you to learn how to generate the three aforementioned files ('*Locations*', '*Stand List*', and '*Tree Data*' files), and use FVS to project future stand conditions. Furthermore, you will each learn how to generate basic FVS tabular and graphical outputs describing current and future stand conditions.

**Task 1:** Use the '*FVS Writer*' program to generate a '*Locations*', '*Stand List*', and '*Tree Data*' file for one stand on Moscow Mountain.

1. Open '*FVS Writer*'
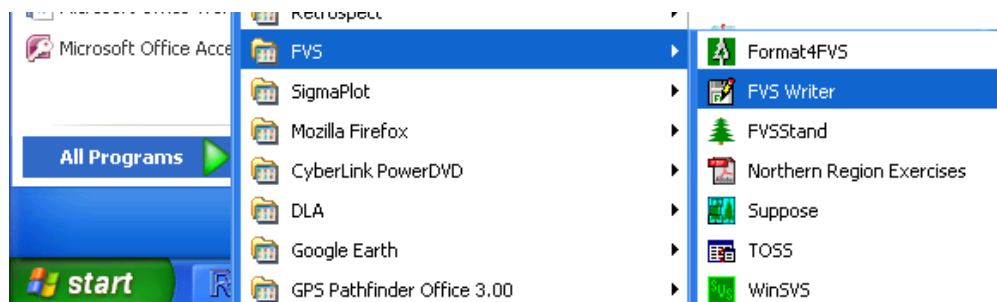
2. The first step is to generate the '***Tree Data***' file. Browse to the class directory and create a file named 'MosMtTrees.FVS'. Find the attached tree data form and enter all the tree information line by line. After you done entering a line of tree data click the Add Record button. After you are through entering and adding all 26 tree records click the Save button, then click the Next Window button to advance to the '***Stand List***' file creation interface.

3. Generate a '***Stand List***' file. Browse to the class directory and create a file named 'MosMtStnads.slf'. Browse to the '***Tree Data***' file you created in the previous step. Enter 'Moscow Mt. Stands' in the grouping code box (include the quotation marks). Find the attached stand data form and enter the data. When all the fields are entered click the Add Record button, the save the '***Stand List***' file. Click Next Window button to advance to the '***Locations***' file creation interface.

4. Generate a '*Locations*' file. Browse to the class directory and create a file named 'MosMtSuppose.loc'. Browse to the '*Stand List*' file you created in the previous step. Enter 'Moscow Mt.' in the Location/Project Name box. Click the Add Record button, and then save the '*Locations* file. Click the Exit button when you are through.
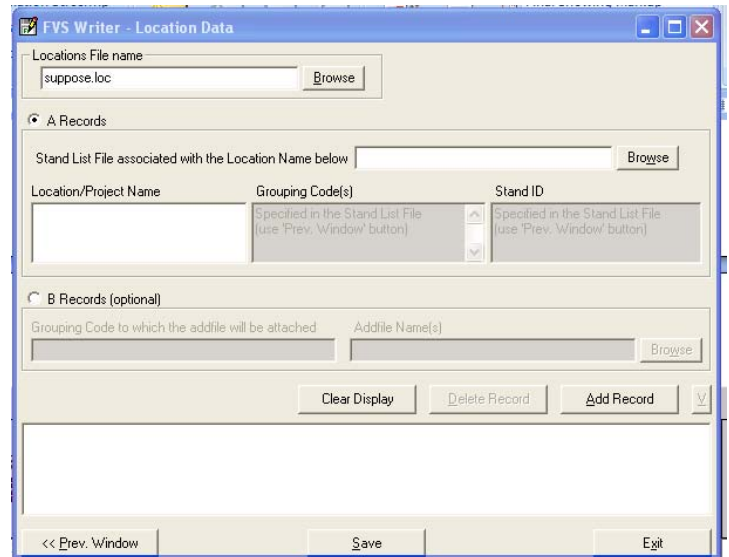


**Task 2:** Use the *FVS Suppose* interface to project forest growth for the stands you just entered.

- If you don't know how to do this the instructor will provide an example to the entire class.