

# Principles of Vegetation Measurement and Assessment

**Assignment 1** worth 25 points- Submit response by midnight Tuesday 28-Aug through [Blackboard](#)

This first assignment is designed to ensure you understand the terms you will encounter in this course related to vegetation measurement and assessment.

- Read all required readings and work through the lessons.
- Answer the following questions
- Remember that your answers will be evaluated on accuracy, completeness, and specificity. In general, you will get a “**C**” if you do a good job but don’t respond to all questions. You’ll get a “**B**” if you do a good job of giving me exactly what is requested. However, an “**A**” will only be given to a good solid answer that goes above and beyond what is requested.
- You will note that I list questions as “short answer” or “essay.” For me an essay is written in paragraph style with complete sentences. A short answer can often be addressed in bulleted statements or incomplete sentences.

1. (Short Answer, 3 points) What is the difference between inventory and monitoring?
2. (Short Answer, 2 points) How is monitoring used in the “adaptive management” of natural resources?
3. (Short Essay, 5 points) What roles do policies, laws, and mandates play in determining what vegetation monitoring will be done and how it will be done? Offer specific examples
4. (Case Study, 10 points) Find a specific example of vegetation monitoring that is currently underway or recently completed. You can find such an example by searching a good library, visiting a local land management agency, looking in your files, or simply searching the internet. (I googled “Vegetation Monitoring Protocol” and found several good examples). Create a “case study” of this example. Summarize what is being done and why. Then, evaluate the protocol for evidence that it has adhered to the seven steps for monitoring outlined in Lesson 2 of Module 1.

For the following questions, identify or create a specific situation and plant community that could be managed for some specific reason. This scenario can come from a book, your work, your back yard, your imagination or the internet. The area of this real or fictitious monitoring site could be from a few acres to thousands of acres.

5. (Short Answer, 5 points) Write a SMART management objective for your real or fictitious scenario for two of following land uses: (Be creative but specific. Follow style of examples given on pages 46-48 in *Measuring and Monitoring Plant Populations*.)
  - a. Watershed health
  - b. Wildlife habitat
  - c. Wildland fuels
  - d. Livestock grazing