

**FOREST INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS  
NATIONAL CORE FIELD GUIDE**

**VOLUME I: FIELD DATA COLLECTION PROCEDURES FOR PHASE 2 PLOTS**

Version 5.0



**NORTHERN RESEARCH STATION**

**FOREST SERVICE**

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

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U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service. 2010. Forest Inventory and Analysis *National Core Field Guide*: field data collection procedures for phase 2 plots. Version 5.0. Unpublished information on file at <http://www.fia.fs.fed.us/fia/data-collection/>.

“Anyone who establishes a permanent plot should recognize that he or she hereby assumes responsibility for furnishing workers with a complete picture of conditions on the plot at the time of its establishment. Not only must each plot be properly marked and all measures are in near perfect order, but all notes and records must be complete. Otherwise, the plots may fail to yield the desired results and those who in later years become responsible for their care and for the analysis of the data, may be led to serious mistakes.”

[U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service 1935.]

NRS Note to User: Data elements and procedures from the previous regional guides may no longer be applicable. Version 5.0 is based on the *National Core Field Guide, Version 5.0*. All data elements are national unless indicated as follows:

- National data elements that end in “+N” (e.g., x.x+N) have added values/codes\*. Any additional regional text for a national data element is hi-lighted or shown as a “NRS Note.”
- All regional data elements end in “N” (e.g., x.xN). The text for a regional data element is not hi-lighted.
- All state specific regional data elements end in “N-XX” (e.g., x.xN-ME). The text for state data element is not hi-lighted.
- National data elements or procedures with light gray text are not applicable in the North.

\* It should be noted that all national data elements with added regional values/codes must be collapsed back to existing national standards by the Information Group unless supported by NIMS.

Please direct questions or comments about this document to:

Bob Ilgenfritz  
Forest Inventory and Analysis Unit  
USDA Forest Service  
11 Campus Blvd., Ste. 200  
Newtown Square, PA 19073

(610)557-4061  
rilgenfritz@fs.fed.us

James Blehm  
Forest Inventory and Analysis Unit  
USDA Forest Service  
1992 Folwell Ave  
St. Paul, MN 55108

(651)649-5198  
jblehm@fs.fed.us