



UNRI SCIENTISTS AT WORK

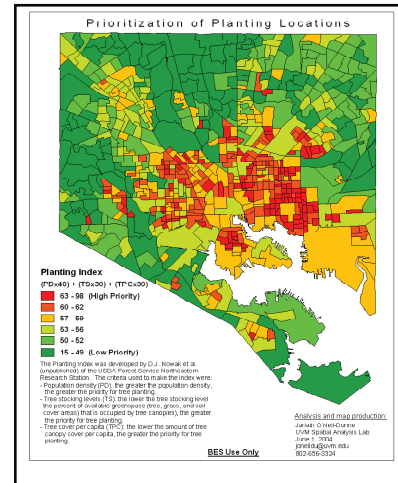


Urban regions are growing in importance to the social and environmental quality of our lives at local, regional, national, and global scales. At a local scale, residents, community groups, businesses, and government agencies are working more often to address both the social and ecological quality of their cities in order to make them more desirable and healthy places to live, work, and play.

The Forest Opportunity Spectrum (FOS) for Urban & Community Forestry offers a framework to integrate social and ecological data, achieve diverse social and ecological goals, facilitate collaboration among government agencies, community groups and NGOs, incorporate spatial heterogeneity, and address a variety of forest types that include, but are not constrained to, only street trees.

This framework recognizes that comprehensive natural resource management must incorporate biological, physical, and social data and analyses and, through the use of a systematic set of analyses, management regimes can be

"The development of approaches such as FOS will be critical as we are increasingly challenged and afforded opportunities for natural resource management."



FOS can be used to integrate social and ecological data in urban natural resource planning.

formulated at both strategic and tactical levels. Some examples of how the FOS can be used include:

- Inventorying existing forestry opportunities based upon biophysical and social data and analyses;
- Linking diverse stakeholders' desires with a variety of forestry opportunities;
- Developing inter-organizational partnerships within and among public, NGO, and private interests;
- Distinguishing between strategic and tactical analyses, where strategic analyses focus on "what, why, where, and when," and tactical analyses centers on "who, how, and how much?"

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

It is anticipated that the FOS will be modified as it is applied in new communities, and will be enhanced as it is applied in novel ways to issues such as green service districts, carbon trading credits, valuation of ecosystem services, and wildland-urban interface efforts.



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