



Alberta Timber Supply Analysis Lessons Learned

Introduction

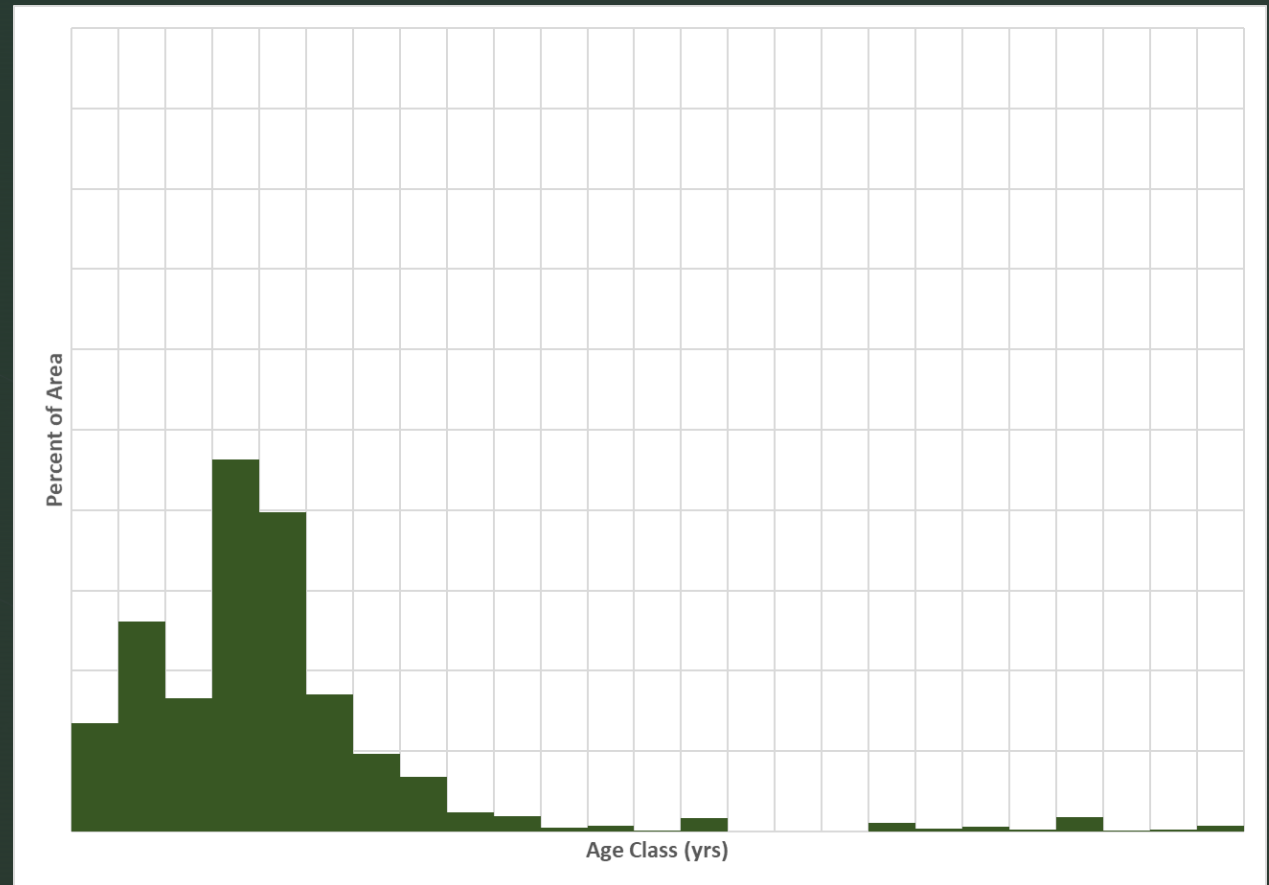
- Perspective of a Resource Analyst
 - Fog of War
 - In the Trenches
- Data is key
 - Amount, quality, ready access
- All models are wrong, but some are useful
 - ...how wrong do they have to be to not be useful - George E.P. Box
- Not a policy maker
 - ... but a policy influencer

Introduction

- Data/Models
 - Land Base Classification
 - Yield Projections
 - Timber Supply Analysis
 - Non-Timber Value Assessments

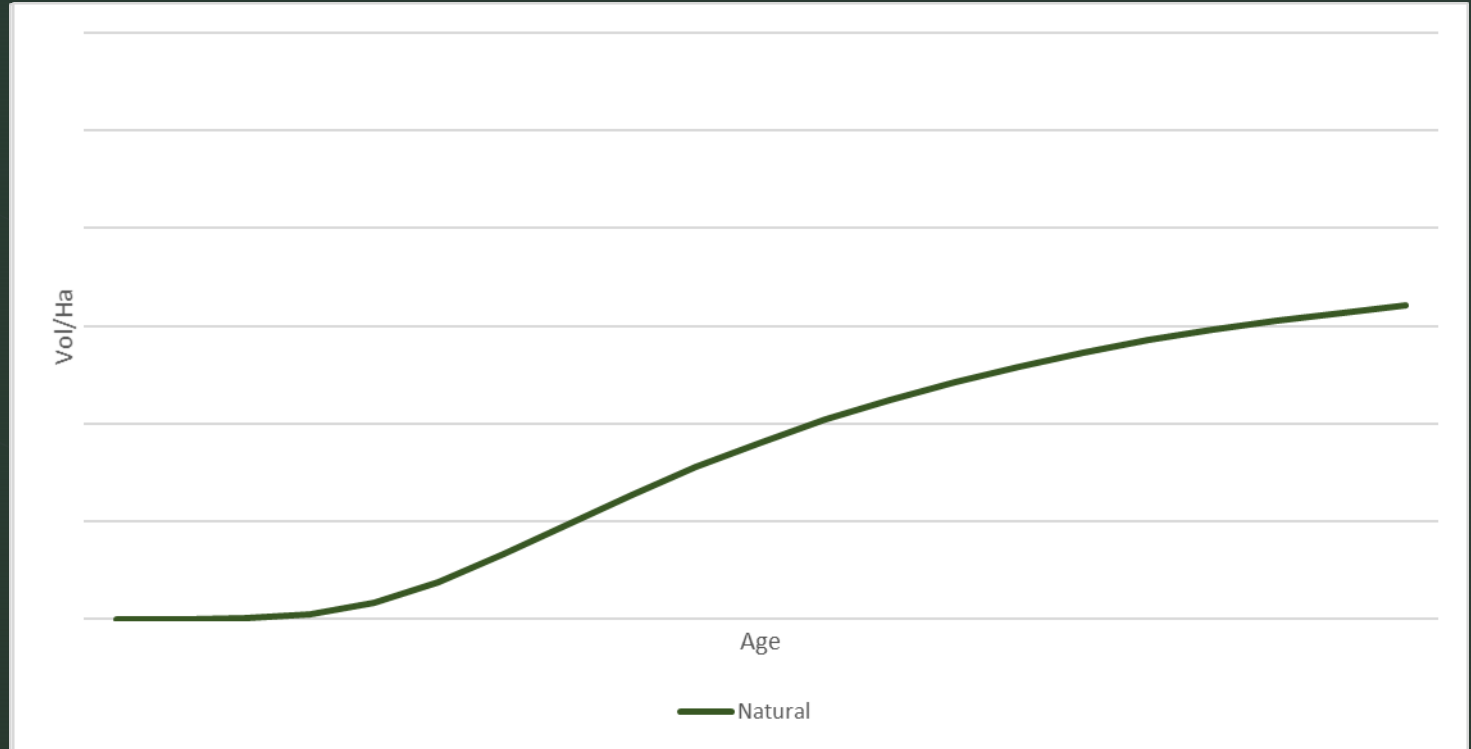
Land base

- Accounting system designed to categorize and area and define areas that are AAC contributable
- Fibre Centric
- Snapshot
- Where we were
- Where we would like to be
- Where we might be?



Forest Yields

- Fundamental to effective planning
- Where we were
- Where we want to be
- Where we might be?
- Inherent risk/uncertainty to projections
 - There is a cost – yield monitoring
 - Herbicide use

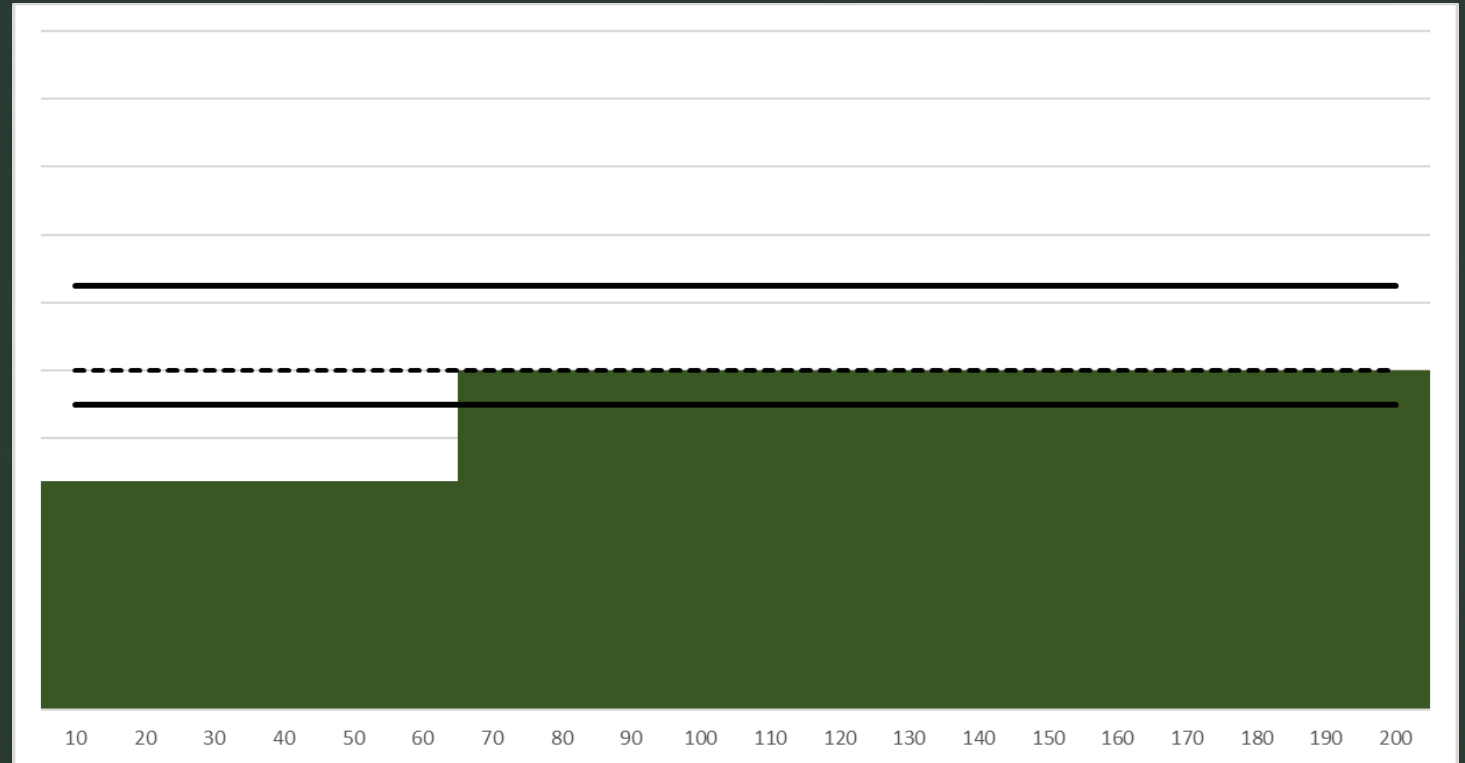


Timber Supply Analysis

- Develop a harvest schedule based on scenario analysis
 - Understand the elasticity of the land base and yield projections
- Result is highly constrained through application of Policy and defined goals and objectives.
- Regionally specific goals/objectives etc.

Timber Supply Analysis

- Where we were
- Where we are/want to be?
- Where we might be?



Non-Timber Value Analysis

- Spatially explicit validation that the TSA will not overly affect non-timber values
- Planning horizon usually less than timber analyses
- Coarse Filter
 - Seral Stage, Old Interior Forests, Equivalent Clearcut Area
- VS
- Fine Filter
 - Barred Owl, Songbirds, Marten, Grizzly Bear etc.
- Proportionality – generally models are “first out of the gate”. Lack the rigors in validation that TSA/Yield models have
- Analysis based on arbitrary administrative boundaries

Closing Comments

- All models are wrong, but some are useful
...how wrong do they have to be to not be useful

- George E.P. Box

- Keep it simple
- One size does not fit all
- Prepare to re-evaluate
... and do it quickly

Closing Comments

- As for forgiveness not permission
- It is a foresters right and responsibility to challenge policy

Thank you

