Bioenergy, Sustainability, and Land-Use Change Report Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) January 2013

ORNL Publications:

Dale, VH, MH Langholtz, BM Wesh, and LM Eaton. 2013. Environmental and socioeconomic indicators for bioenergy sustainability as applied to Eucalyptus. International Journal of Forestry Research. vol. 2013, Article ID 215276, 10 pages, 2013. doi:10.1155/2013/215276

ORNL Presentations:

January 16-17 – Keith Kline gave a presentation on "Bioenergy Sustainability: Addressing the Science and the Need" at the University of Queensland and then led a workshop on this topic.

January 31 – Keith Kline led a webinar on "Bioenergy policy and land use change" from The University of New England in Armidale, New South Wales.

Other ORNL Activities:

January 18 – Esther Parish and Virginia Dale delivered a Quarter 1 milestone report on the "Assessment of Spatially Explicit Multivariate Analysis Tools to Evaluate Indicators of Bioenergy Sustainability" to Kristen Johnson of the DOE EERE Biomass Technologies Office.

January 21-25 – Keith Kline and Maggie Davis participated in ISO PC248 plenary meetings in Australia for the draft standard on Sustainability Criteria for Bioenergy (ISO 13065). Kline continues to serve as leader of the Editing Committee and contributed in parallel sessions for WG1-crosscutting issues, WG2 GHG emissions, and joint meetings on contentious issues. Davis presented a work group 4 (indirect effects) report and contributed to parallel meetings of WG3 sub-groups working on environmental, social, and economic indicators.

January 23 – Virginia Dale and Debo Oladosu delivered comments to the US Department of Energy, Policy and International Affairs on a report on "Biofuels and Food Security V0 Draft" developed by a High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE) to fulfill the request by the UN Committee on World Food Security (CFS) to "conduct a science-based comparative literature analysis."

January 24 – Rebecca Efroymson led a webinar on sustainability implications of using algae for biofuel.

January 24 – Esther Parish met with Professor Karen Seto from the Yale School of Forestry to discuss her recent work on land use change modeling and global sustainability. Dr. Seto was visiting the University of Tennessee's Howard Baker Center.

January 24 – Laurence Eaton, Esther Parish and Suresh Santhana Vannan met with Jessica McCord, Tim Rials and Mladen Grbovic of the University of Tennessee's Institute of Agriculture (UTIA) to discuss finalization of an online Southeastern Biomass Atlas funded through the Sun Grant Initiative. UTIA plans to present the online atlas at the Regional Biomass Feedstock Partnership Meeting in Tunica, Mississippi on February 13, 2013.

January 23-24 - Matt Langholtz and Natalie Griffiths traveled to SRS to meet with Kristen Johnson. With collaborators from the USFS-SR and UGA, we provided a tour of the field sites and discussed our project's progress.

January 30 – Matthew Langholtz and Esther Parish met with visiting professor, Dr. Rudolf Thauer of the Max Planck Institute for Terrestrial Microbiology in Marburg Germany, to discuss the sustainability perspective of the biomass supply chain.

Upcoming ORNL Visits/Events:

February 11-14 - Carlos Cerri of University of Sao Paulo will visit ORNL to discuss soil carbon, nutrient cycling and bioenergy sustainability indicators and their measurement in Brazil.

February 20 – Rachel Burton, Research Director for Piedmont Biofuels, will give a presentation on "Enzyme Catalysis for Biomass Based Diesel Fuels."

March7-8 – Virginia Dale will serve as panelist on the National Science Foundation's Exploratory and Research Collaborative Network Grants Panel in Arlington, VA.

March 17-24 – Virginia Dale will be the keynote speaker at the 4th meeting of the Ecological Society of Mexico to be held in Villahermosa, Tabasco.

April 2-4 – Virginia Dale will be guest speaker at the 2013 Conference on Invasion Biology, Ecology and Management Conference in Lexington, KY.