

FIREPRO Database
Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve
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"FIREPRO.dbf" contains the site data from ground truths completed from 1983 through 1987. It is in the subdirectory FIREPRO. Two index files can be used with this file. To index the ground truths by site number use "Site.ndx". "Quad.ndx" will index the ground truths by USGS Quad name and number.

FIREPRO.dbf

The fields for this file are:

SITE: FIREPRO site number.
DATE: Month, day and year, e.g. August 2, 1987 would be entered 8/2/87.
USGSQUAD: Quad name and number.
VEGTYPE: Level three of Viereck, 1986 (see Appendix 1).
SLOPE: Percent slope.
ASPECT: Degrees.
ELEVATION: Feet.
SPECIES: Six letter codes for vascular plants, complete genus name for unknown species. Entries are separated by a space and entered in capital letters.
SPECIES2: Eight letter codes for mosses, lichens and liverworts.
INITIALS: Initials of the person who entered data.
EDIT: Number of times the data has been edited. 1 = data entered; 2 = data edited once; 3 = data edited three times.

An example of a completed "FIREPRO.dbf" record follows:

SITE: 123-5047-005
USGSQUAD: Yakutat C7
VEGTYPE: Closed Sitka Spruce forest
SLOPE: 3
ASPECT: 200
ELEVATION: 100
SPECIES: PICSIT ALNSIN ECHHOR VACOVA RUBSPE VERESC ATHFIL STRAMP
RUBPED LISCOR PYRSEC LYCANN CORCAN PLAHYP EPIPAL DESBER
SPHAGNUM
SPECIES2: DICRFUSC MNIUGLAB PELTSCAB DREPANOCLADUS CLIMDEND
INITIALS: mbc
EDIT: 3

Data entry and retrieval

This database file uses DBASE III+ software. If the user is not familiar with the use of this software, the tutorial should be completed or instructions should be received from a knowledgeable individual.

It is important for data retrieval that all entries are entered in the same format. For example, all FIREPRO sites should have ten digits with two dashes surrounding the middle four digits. Also, unless the command for recognizing capital letters is suppressed, data must be consistent for lower and upper cases.

There are two operable modes in dBASE III Plus, the "Assist" mode and the "Dot Prompt" mode. Although the "Assist" mode is easiest to use initially, the "Dot Prompt" mode facilitates data retrieval. To enter the "Dot Prompt" mode, touch the escape key after entering DBASE. A dot (.) will appear in the left hand corner of the screen. A few helpful commands follow. These should be typed after the dot, exactly as written, without the parenthesis or quotes. "FN" = filename.

To access a database file, type:

```
"use (FN)"  
"use Herbariu.dbf"
```

To access a database file with an index file, type:

```
"use (FN) index (FN.ndx)"  
"use Herbariu.dbf index Herbariu.ndx"
```

To add records to an existing file, type:

```
"append"
```

To edit records, type:

```
"edit"
```

To look at records as a spread sheet, type:

```
"browse"
```

To locate a particular record number, type:

```
"goto (record number)"  
"goto 90"
```

To delete a particular record number first type:

```
"delete (record number)"  
"delete 90"  
then type:  
"pack"
```

To delete the next "n" number of records after a particular record, first type:

```
"delete next (n)"  
"delete next 10"  
then type:
```

"pack"

To go to the top of the file, type:
"goto top"

To go to the bottom of the file, type:
"goto bottom"

To locate a record with a particular data entry, for instance all records from USGS Quad Nabesna A3, type:

"locate all for (field name) = '(data entry)'"

"locate all for Quad = 'Nabesna A3'"

The single quotes must be included around the data entry.

A few more examples of the locate command follow:

"locate all for site = '106-2022-001'"

"locate all for species = 'crispa'"

"locate all for vegtype = 'open White Spruce forest'"

Once the program locates the record it will display the record number. Type "edit" or "browse" to view the record. If this is not the record desired, type: "continue". The program will search for the next record and field matching the locate command.

To edit a single field of the entire file, type:

"change fields (field name)"

"change fields species"

To edit more than one field, type:

"change fields (field name 1, field name 2)"

"change fields species, quad"

To turn the bell off that rings when hitting the end of a data field, type:

"set bell off"

To copy a dbase file to WordPerfect software, while in the file to be copied, type,:

"copy to (file name to be assigned) type delimited with blank"

"copy to Herbariu.txt type delimited with blank"

Currently, the OKIDATA printer is not printing from DBASE. The Star SG-15 must be used.

Pages 5-1 through 5-211 of "Learning and Using dBase III Plus" have many useful "Dot Prompt" commands.

Appendix 2. Determining vegetation type, FIREPRO ground truths, for FIREPRO database entry using Viereck, 1986.

The following discussion follows the outline in appendix 1. If the data on the ground truth form conflicts with the 35 mm slide, use the slide to make the assessment, and make note on the data sheet that the photo was used to determine the vegetation type.

1. Forest

- * Common names for species are used instead of "needleleaf" or "broadleaf".
i.e., Open White Spruce forest
Open Balsam Poplar forest
- * If more than one needleleaf species or broadleaf species has a cover class ≥ 2 , both species are listed and are separated by a slash (/). The dominate species is listed first.
i.e., Open White Spruce/Black Spruce forest
Open Quaking Aspen/Black Cottonwood forest
- * If more than two species are present with cover class ≥ 2 , only the two dominate species are listed unless all three have the same cover class, then all three are listed.
- * "Open" or "Closed" always precedes the species names, "mixed" or "dwarf tree scrub".
- * If Willows or Alders are 3.0 meters or taller and if a canopy is closed due to their presence and if other tree species are present then the vegetation type is a forest type and the Willows or Alders are called trees. For example, a ground truth form has BEPA with a cover class of 2. This would indicate a woodland. But on looking at the photo, the aerial view shows this is a closed stand due to the presence of Willows as tall or taller than the Paper Birch. The vegetation type would be "Closed Willow Tree/Paper Birch forest". If no other tree species are present, the vegetation type would be "Closed Tall Scrub". If the Willows are not as tall as the tree species, use only the tree species cover class to determine the vegetation type.

1C. Mixed forest

- * A tree species is included in mixed status only if it has a cover class ≥ 2 . For example, if BEPA has cover class 1 and PIGL has cover class 3, this is an "Open White Spruce forest" not a mixed stand.
- * In listing the mixed composition, only the two dominant species are listed unless all three species have equal cover, then all three species are listed.
- * The word "mixed" always precedes the species names, i.e.,

"Open mixed White Spruce/Paper Birch forest".

* A slash (/) is always used between species.

2. Scrub

* The species name is indicated only if it is clearly dominate. If Alder has a cover class of 1 and Willow a cover class of 2 or greater, then this is "Willow scrub". If there is more than one species with cover class 1, and one species with cover class 2, the vegetation type is "Scrub". If both Alder and willow have cover classes of 2 or greater then the vegetation type is "Scrub".

* "Open" or "closed" always precedes "tall" or "low".

2A. Dwarf Tree Scrub

The species name is inserted where 'tree' is, i.e., "Dwarf Black Spruce scrub woodland" or "Open dwarf Black Spruce scrub".

2D. Dwarf Scrub

Level three, Dryas, Ericaceous or Willow, is indicated only if the other dwarf scrub species have a cover class of 1 or less.

3. Herbaceous

If the total shrub or tree cover is cover class 2 or less then it is a herbaceous vegetation type. There may be up to 25% shrub cover in a herbaceous type.

3C. Bryoid Herbaceous

Mosses or lichens must have a cover class of 2 or greater with other species having a cover class of 1 or less for the vegetation type to be moss or lichen. Mosses or lichens must be clearly dominate for the type to be bryoid moss or bryoid lichen.