

Monthly Technical Report

(Due to AQRP Project Manager on the 8th day of the month following the last day of the reporting period.)

PROJECT TITLE	Targeted Improvements in the Fire INventory from NCAR (FINN) Model for Texas Air Quality Planning	PROJECT #	14-011
PROJECT PARTICIPANTS (Enter all institutions with Task Orders for this Project)	The University of Texas at Austin ENVIRON International Corporation	DATE SUBMITTED	10/8/14
REPORTING PERIOD	From: September 1, 2014 To: September 30, 2014	REPORT #	4

A Financial Status Report (FSR) and Invoice will be submitted separately from each of the Project Participants reflecting charges for this Reporting Period. I understand that the FSR and Invoice are due to the AQRP by the 15th of the month following the reporting period shown above.

Detailed Accomplishments by Task

- SMARTFire data from Susan O'Neil (U.S. Forest Service) has been obtained for 2012 and may serve as an additional resource for fire detection.
- A GIS expert, Kevin Sampson, from NCAR, has been appointed for a limited period to begin updates of the fire point and land cover processing. Initial plans have been formulated and programming activities have begun.
- Dr. Wiedinmyer is currently working with a colleague at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to produce a FINN-ready file from the Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite (VIIRS) fire products for 2012. These data support fire detection and characterization of burned area.
- The team has merged the Popescu et al. (2011) and National Agricultural Statistical Service Crop Data Layer (CDL). Preliminary results are shown below. Figure 1 shows the Popescu land cover characterization obtained from TCEQ. The spatial resolution is 30 m with Lambert Conformal projection parameters shown in Table 1. Figure 2 is the CDL 2012 raster file with Albers Equal Area Conical projection parameters shown in Table 2. The CDL raster was reprojected to match the Popescu raster using the ArcGIS "Resample" tool with the "nearest" algorithm to determine pixel values. The snap raster feature was enabled to align pixels of the two rasters. Areas classified as agricultural were identified for each land cover dataset. For the Popescu database these included Class 8 (herbaceous cultivated) and 17 (cultivated woody vegetation). For the CDL database, these included identifiers 1 to 99 and 200 to 255. Each pixel was examined to determine if one or both of datasets identify it as agricultural. Green pixels in Figure 3 represent regions considered by both datasets to be agricultural, while blue and red pixels indicate areas that are identified as agricultural by only one dataset. In order to merge the two datasets, pixels that were identified as agricultural in the CDL, applied the CDL characterization, regardless of the Popescu et al. classification. For pixels identified as agricultural in the Popescu et al. database but not in the CDL (blue pixels), the CDL's non-agricultural characterization was substituted. All other pixels remained the same as in

the Popescu et al. database. Note that the CDL data layer was not available for Mexico. The merged raster is shown as Figure 4. In order to include all land cover types into single byte (256) in Figure 4, the CDL's non-agricultural land cover types (100-199) are rearranged into 150-199 and Popescu's land cover types, originally 1-36, are stored in 101 to 136.

Figure 1. Popescu et al. (2011) land cover characterization.

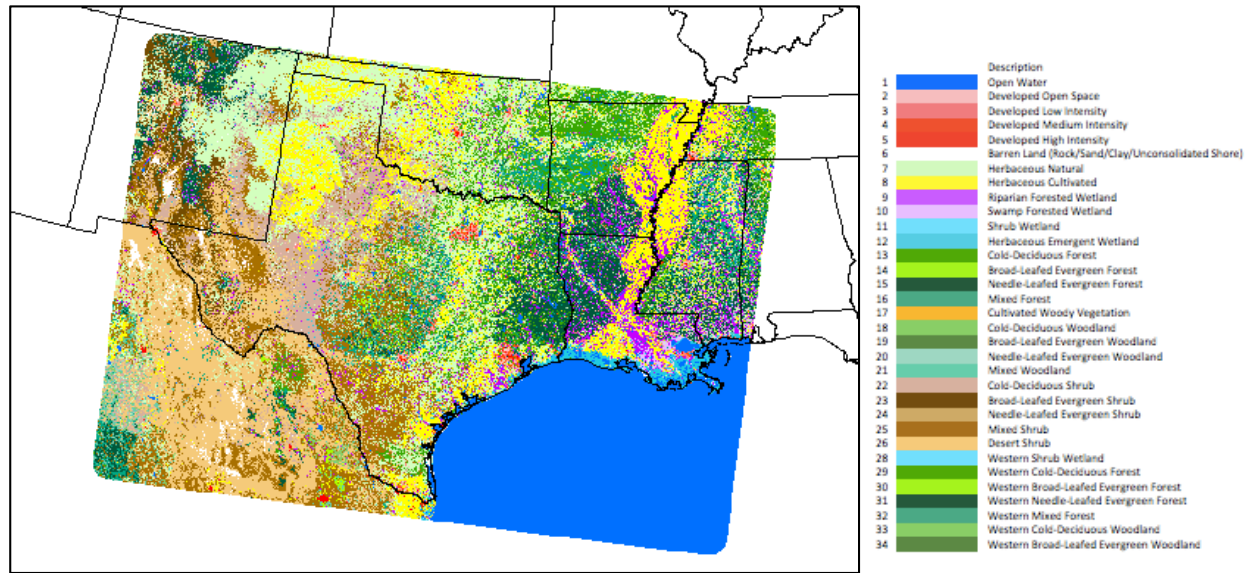
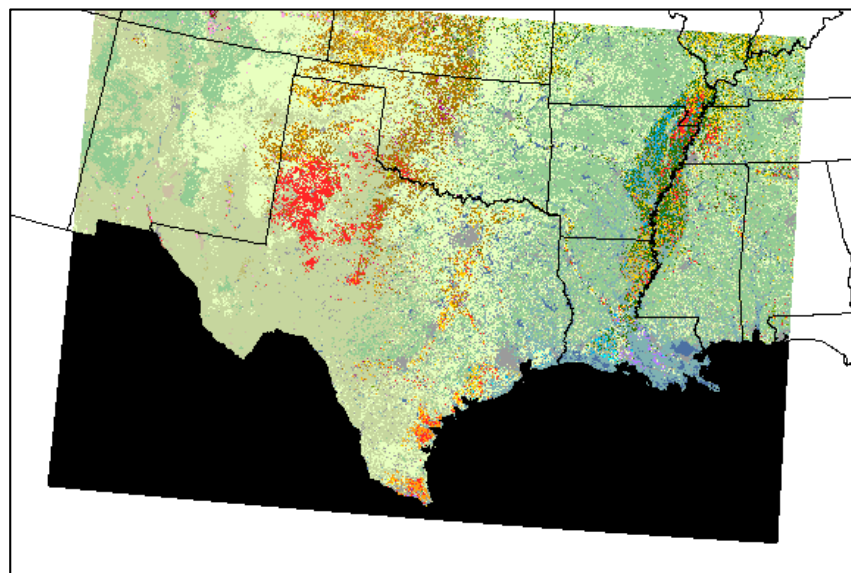


Figure 2. National Agricultural Statistical Service 2012 Crop Data Layer.



	Class_Name
1	Corn
2	Cotton
3	Rice
4	Sorghum
5	Soybeans
6	Sunflower
10	Peanuts
11	Tobacco
12	Sweet Corn
13	Pop or Orn Corn
14	Mint
21	Barley
22	Durum Wheat
23	Spring Wheat
24	Winter Wheat
25	Other Small Grains
26	Dbl Crop WinWht/Soybeans
27	Rye
28	Oats
29	Millet
30	Speltz
31	Canola
32	Flaxseed
33	Safflower
34	Rape Seed
35	Mustard
36	Alfalfa
37	Other Hay/Non Alfalfa
38	Camelina
39	Buckwheat
41	Sugarbeets
42	Dry Beans
43	Potatoes
44	Other Crops
45	Sugarcane
46	Sweet Potatoes
47	Misc Veggies & Fruits
48	Watermelons
49	Onions
50	Cucumbers
51	Chick Peas
52	Lentils
53	Peas
54	Tomatoes
55	Caneberries
56	Hops
57	Herbs
58	Clover/Wildflowers
59	Sod/Grass Seed
60	Switchgrass
61	Fallow/Idle Cropland
63	Forest
64	Shrubland
65	Barren
66	Cherries
67	Peaches
68	Apples
69	Grapes
70	Christmas Trees
71	Other Tree Crops
72	Citrus
74	Pecans
75	Almonds
76	Walnuts
77	Pears
81	Clouds/No Data
82	Developed
83	Water
87	Wetlands
88	Nonag/Undefined
92	Aquaculture

	Class_Name
111	Open Water
112	Perennial Ice/Snow
121	Developed/Open Space
122	Developed/Low Intensity
123	Developed/Med Intensity
124	Developed/High Intensity
131	Barren
141	Deciduous Forest
142	Evergreen Forest
143	Mixed Forest
152	Shrubland
176	Grassland/Pasture
190	Woody Wetlands
195	Herbaceous Wetlands
204	Pistachios
205	Triticale
206	Carrots
207	Asparagus
208	Garlic
209	Cantaloupes
210	Prunes
211	Olives
212	Oranges
213	Honeydew Melons
214	Broccoli
216	Peppers
217	Pomegranates
218	Nectarines
219	Greens
220	Plums
221	Strawberries
222	Squash
223	Apricots
224	Vetch
225	Dbl Crop WinWht/Corn
226	Dbl Crop Oats/Corn
227	Lettuce
229	Pumpkins
230	Dbl Crop Lettuce/Durum Wht
231	Dbl Crop Lettuce/Cantaloupe
232	Dbl Crop Lettuce/Cotton
233	Dbl Crop Lettuce/Barley
234	Dbl Crop Durum Wht/Sorghum
235	Dbl Crop Barley/Sorghum
236	Dbl Crop WinWht/Sorghum
237	Dbl Crop Barley/Corn
238	Dbl Crop WinWht/Cotton
239	Dbl Crop Soybeans/Cotton
240	Dbl Crop Soybeans/Oats
241	Dbl Crop Corn/Soybeans
242	Blueberries
243	Cabbage
244	Cauliflower
245	Celery
246	Radishes
247	Turnips
248	Eggplants
249	Gourds
250	Cranberries
254	Dbl Crop Barley/Soybeans

Figure 3. Contingency of agricultural versus non-agricultural land between the Popescu et al. and National Agricultural Statistical Service Crop Data Layer rasters.

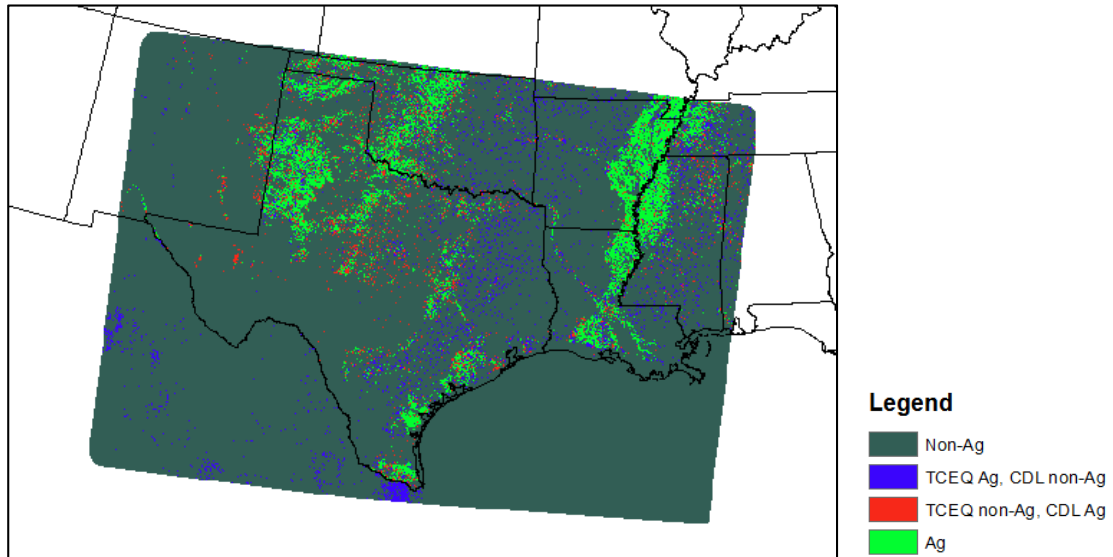
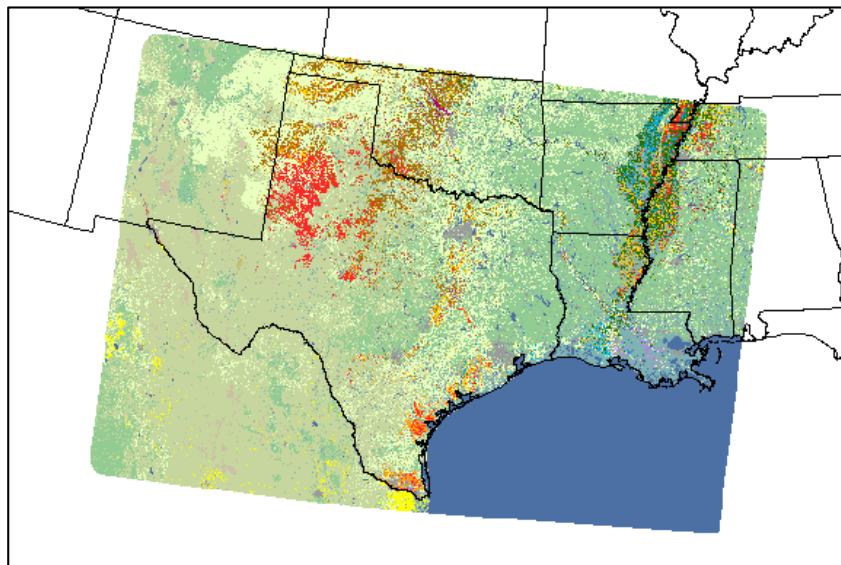


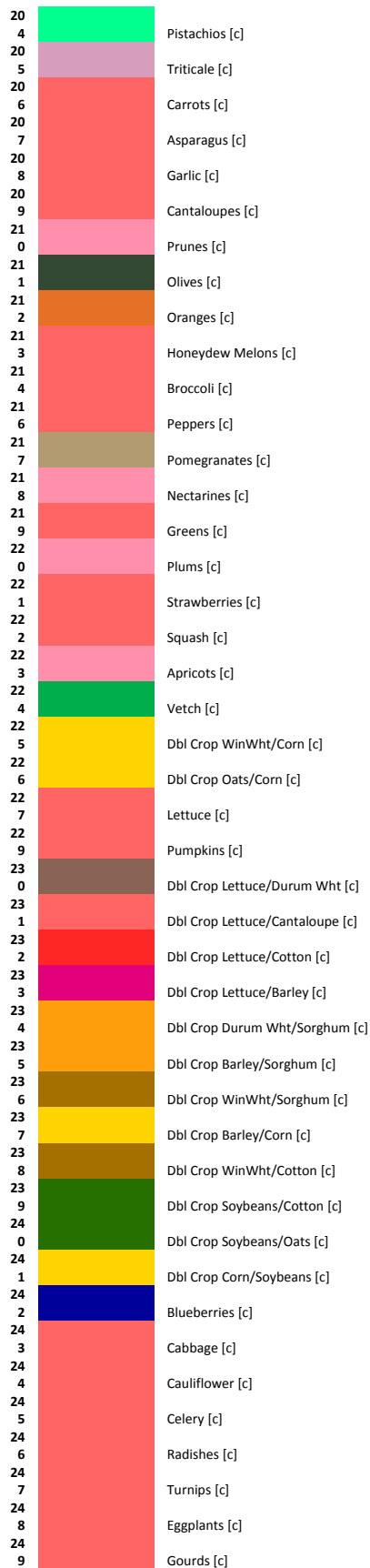
Figure 4. Merged land cover mapping.



	Class_Name
1	Corn [c]
2	Cotton [c]
3	Rice [c]
4	Sorghum [c]
5	Soybeans [c]
6	Sunflower [c]

	Class_Name
10	Open Water [t]
1	Developed Open Space [t]
10	Developed Low Intensity [t]
2	Developed Medium Intensity [t]
10	Developed High Intensity [t]
3	Barren Land (Rock/Sand/Clay/Unconsolidated Shore) [t]
10	
4	
10	
5	
10	
6	





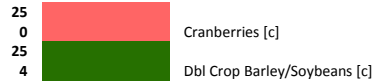


Table 1. Popescu et al. (2011) raster file spatial reference.

Reference spheroid	Sphere, radius = 6370997 m
Projection	Lambert Conformal Conic
Central Meridian	-90 deg
Standard Parallel	30 deg and 60 deg
Latitude of origin	40 deg

Table 2. National Agricultural Statistical Service Crop Data Layer raster file spatial reference.

Reference spheroid	NAD 1983
Projection	Albers Conical Equal Area
Central Meridian	-96 deg
Standard Parallel	29.5 deg and 49.5 deg
Latitude of origin	23 deg

Dr. Wiedinmyer is developing a presentation that includes some of the fire emissions work in Texas for an invited presentation at American Association for Aerosol Research 33rd Annual Conference in Orlando during October 20-24, 2014. The abstract is presented below.

Constraining Emissions from Open Burning Sources and Their Atmospheric Impacts

CHRISTINE WIEDINMYER, Serena H. Chung, Robert J. Yokelson, Elena McDonald-Buller, Tomohiro Oda, Christopher Elvidge, Louisa Emmons, John Orlando, *National Center for Atmospheric Research*

Abstract Number: 243

Working Group: Biomass Burning Aerosol: From Emissions to Impacts

Abstract

Open burning of biomass and other materials contributes significantly to the atmospheric aerosol budget. However, estimates of emissions from these sources are highly uncertain, posing challenges to quantifying their impacts in the atmosphere. Uncertainties in the estimates are associated with fire location, timing and area, as well as the vegetation burned and the amount consumed. Changes in the model inputs can lead to factors of two to 10 differences in regional emission estimates. For example, in the western United States, monthly fire emissions can vary by as much as three when different land cover and burned area inputs are applied. Recent satellite products, such as the VIIRS, can provide data on fire location, timing and area burned, particularly for smaller fires that are challenging to detect. These new products have been implemented within the Fire Inventory from NCAR to provide emission estimates in Indonesia and results will be shown.

Uncertainties in the impacts of the fire emissions on atmospheric aerosol are also associated with estimates of primary particulate emissions as well as the gas-phase constituents that can react and form secondary particles in the fire plume. Recent efforts to more accurately represent the volatile organic compound emissions from burning improve the modeled plume chemistry and can lead to better predictions of the atmospheric impacts of biomass burning emissions.

Preliminary Analysis *(Include graphs and tables as necessary.)*

As described above.

Data Collected *(Include raw and refine data.)*

As described above.

Identify Problems or Issues Encountered and Proposed Solutions or Adjustments

None this period.

Goals and Anticipated Issues for the Succeeding Reporting Period

The team will continue to pursue several goals, including the incorporation of new emission factors and fuel loadings for croplands and potential improvements in the model processing and approaches for fire detection and estimates of area burned, as discussed with Mr. Sampson. A series of sensitivity studies are anticipated that will compare the new version of FINN to previous versions and the individual effects of land cover, emissions factors, and are burned assumptions.

Detailed Analysis of the Progress of the Task Order to Date *(Discuss the Task Order schedule, progress being made toward goals of the Work Plan, explanation for any delays in completing tasks and/or project goals. Provide justification for any milestones completed more than one (1) month later than projected.)*

Ongoing.

Submitted to AQRP by:

Principal Investigator: Elena McDonald-Buller