

Donnelly Flats Site Descriptions

This file describes the location of the four sites described in USGS Open-File Report 2011-1061. The sites are within the Donnelly Flats (DF) region, near Delta Junction, Alaska, which is ~115 miles southeast of Fairbanks, at the intersection of the Alaska and Richardson Highways (Alaska state highways 2 and 4, respectively). The following text gives general directions to each of our sites and the general location of soil profiles within the site. Samples for all four sites were collected by Kristen Manies and Jon O'Donnell in August 2006.

1956 Burn (DF56)

From Delta Junction head south on the Richardson Hwy. ~1 mile. Take the left towards the Buffalo Drop Zone immediately before Jarvis Creek. The site is on left ~7.5 miles after road passes through Drop Zone, just after it crosses a creek bed (which may or may not have water in it). If road through Buffalo Drop Zone is closed the sites may also be reached from the opposite direction by turning south on Fleet Street. Take the 4th “driveway” on left (at curve in road, the road goes down). Always take rights at forks. Stop just before road crosses creek bed as described above. Follow pink and black flagging placed just within trees on left side of road to plots. Initially, the path is a two-track road, but turns into a game trail around the first aspen clump. The junction of the two perpendicular transects is at 63.94657° N, -145.60256° W (NAD 87). Transects run from this point at 180° for 120 m and 90° for 90 m.

All profiles were located along the south transect (the area of the site dominated by black spruce), south of (i.e., past) the track which passes through this transect. Profiles 3-8 were obtained on the west side of the woody debris transect, in order, as you head south. Profiles 9-12 were obtained on the east side of the moss plot locations, in order, as you head north, back to your

original location. A rough sketch of sampling locations can be found in Kristen Manies' field notebook #2.

1987 Wet Burn (D87W)

From the Silver Fox Cabins (Mile 1404 along the Alaskan Hwy.) drive several miles west towards Delta Junction. Take the first left after Knight Lane (the road to the Agricultural Station). This road also goes to the holding ponds for the drainage project. Approximately 1.1 miles up this road a large white X (used to mark locations in satellite photographs) and a small road will be on your right. Walk down this road ~600 m, just past the 2nd "bend" in the road. On the left side of the trail is an area marked with pink and black flagging indicated where to head left (southwest) into the burn. Sampling began at 63.92067° N, 145.37773° W and continued in a straight transect running 200 - 220°. A rough sketch of sampling locations can be found in Kristen Manies' field notebook #2.

1979 Burn (DF79)

From Delta Junction, drive past the Silver Fox Cabins (Mile 1404 along the Alaskan Hwy.) ~6 miles east. Just past a sign on the left labeled 1397 is a dirt road. Park here and look for a track going northwest along the road. (Note: if you can see the Tanana Bridge you have gone too far and need to turn around.) Follow the track until the GPS says you are close to the start of the transect, then turn north and follow the GPS to 63.84996° N, 145.03943° W (NAD 83). Profiles 1-7 were taken along a transect heading approximately 25-30° (without declination). Profiles 8-10 were along a parallel transect placed southeast of the first transect headed in the opposite direction (i.e., back the direction you came from). A rough sketch of sampling locations can be found in Kristen Manies' field notebook #2.

1910 Burn (DF10)

From the town of Delta Junction head west along the Alaskan Hwy. Take the first left after Knight Road (which is located on the left and brings you to the Agriculture Station). Just past this dirt road is a road sign labeled 1397 – if you pass this sign you have gone too far. Park at the bend in the road (in 2006 some large farm equipment was parked there) and follow the orange flagging in to 63.92597 N, -145.31909 W (NAD 87). Teresa Hollingsworth's site is marked with a 2" x 2" stake in the ground. Our transect heads off at 135° from this point. A rough sketch of sampling locations can be found in Kristen Manies' field notebook #2.