Principles of Silviculture
FWF 312

Lab #1 --- Scientific Writing

a. Requirements
b. Getting it Right
c. Practicing

Good writing skills are extremely important in communicating with employers, colleagues and landowners. FWF 312 is also considered part of the UT general education requirement for writing. A requirement for this class is to submit a number of abstracts and lab reports throughout the semester. Constant improvement of your writing skills is expected as the semester progresses.

Written reports for the Lab Exercises

1. Abstracts
   a. Walk in the Woods
   b. Stand Description
   c. Best Management Practices
   d. Bent Creek Field Trip
   e. Thinning Field Trip

2. Example Lab Exercise ---- Present Lab

3. Lab Reports
   a. Regeneration Survey and Prediction
   b. Thinning Exercise
   c. Silvicultural Prescription Exercise

Abstract and lab report grades will be based on both content and format (see grading sheet)

Today’s Assignment

For this exercise, a modified lab report is required based on the following publication.

Read the publication and then summarize its contents in the following format

- Title page for the report
- Objectives
- Materials and Methods
- Results
- Discussion
- Conclusion

The purpose of this lab is to become familiar with the desired format for scientific writing that will be used for the remainder of the semester. **For this lab only, content is of little concern.** We will be grading format of the report as well as writing style. However, do not simply produce headings and incomplete sentences (outlines) for the content of the report. Write complete thoughts and sentences. What did you gain in reading the publication?

**Getting it Right!**

Your grade for this lab has already been determined. You will get a perfect score, 100, for this lab. You will be required to submit and resubmit this lab until you have produced the correct format and style for scientific writing. Refer to the handouts for more information.