Comments on Lab #3
Vegetation Measuring

1) When using the Nudds boards always kneel at the same height for each direction and strata reading. Do not stand to read higher strata.
2) In grasslands, the Nudds board is put at plot center and an observer moves around the plot and takes measurements. Distance measurements are taken at 2 m.
3) In forests when reading the Nudds board, an observer stands at plot center and the board moves around the plot. Distance measurements are taken at 10 m.
4) Measure forest canopy cover with a densiometer at the Nudds board locations and plot center. There are 24 boxes thus 96 imaginary dots (1 per corner of each box). Percent canopy cover can be calculated as: (number of imaginary dots covered by vegetation) / 96.
5) Measure height (and record the species) of the nearest overstory tree to plot center. Take the measurements with a clinometer at a distance of 33 ft from the base of the tree. Read numbers in the view on right side of the clinometer at base and top of tree. Take the difference of these numbers (add if bottom number is negative) then divide by 2. You do not need to divide by 2 if you are 66 ft from the base of the tree.
6) Measure dbh of all overstory trees (and species) in the large plot (11.3 m radius).
7) For basal area with a 20 BAF prism, multiply the number of overlapping trees by 20 = basal area.