

FOREST SUCCESSION

Name:

QUESTION: How do we determine the stage of succession in a forest disturbed by fire?

RESULTS:

OLDER GROWTH FOREST	Total	%
Lodgepole Pine	24	
Western Larch	13	
Engelmann Spruce	12	
Douglas Fir	7	
Western Red Cedar	68	
Western Hemlock	47	
Western White Pine	3	
Broadleaf Plant	171	
Snag	56	

Total # of trees: 401

RECENT FIRE DISTURBANCE	Total	%
Lodgepole Pine	348	
Western Larch	44	
Engelmann Spruce	271	
Douglas Fir	37	
Western Red Cedar	1	
Western Hemlock	22	
Western White Pine	1	
Broadleaf Plant	414	
Snag	17	

Total # of trees: 1155

ANALYSIS: Use a graph to compare the presence of the pioneer species of Lodgepole Pine and Douglas Fir with the more shade tolerant species of Western Red Cedar and Western Hemlock in both areas sampled (older growth forest versus more recent fire disturbance). For a "4" you will need to complete data analysis of PERCENTAGE of these species before graphing.

CONCLUSION: Using CEAL paragraph skills, write a conclusion to the question "How do we determine the stage of succession in a forest disturbed by fire?"... Use specific data from our field trip as evidence and analyze the data discussing the accuracy of data collection, if the expected types of tree species were found in each studied plot, how the height of plants differed between the sites, and how the different light levels from older growth forest to the more recently disturbed area may affect plant species. Include how the forest may change over the next 100 years, and ask any additional research questions you may now have.

(write the conclusion on loose leaf paper and staple to this page with the graph)

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