

# LANDIS-II Biomass Succession v7.0 Extension User Guide

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# Table of Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>3</b>
1.1	Extension Description.....	3
1.1.1	Cohort reproduction – disturbance interactions.....	3
1.1.2	Cohort reproduction – Initial biomass.....	4
1.1.3	Cohort growth and ageing.....	4
1.1.4	Cohort senescence and mortality.....	6
1.1.5	Dead biomass decay.....	6
1.1.6	Initializing biomass.....	7
1.1.7	Shade calculations .....	7
1.1.8	Interactions with age-only disturbances .....	8
1.1.9	Dynamic inputs for climate change or others .....	9
1.2	Major Releases.....	9
1.2.1	Version 7.0 (August 2024).....	9
1.2.2	Version 6.0 (May 2021).....	9
1.2.3	Version 5.3 (March 2021).....	9
1.2.4	Version 5.2 (September 2019).....	9
1.2.5	Version 5.1 (March 2019).....	10
1.2.6	Version 5.0 (August 2018).....	10
1.2.7	Version 4.0 (June 2017).....	10
1.2.8	Version 3.2 (May 2015).....	10
1.2.9	Version 3.1 .....	10
1.2.10	Version 5.2 .....	11
1.2.11	Version 2.2 .....	11
1.2.12	Version 2.1 .....	12
1.2.13	Version 2.0 .....	12
1.3	Minor Releases (this major release).....	13
1.4	References.....	13
1.5	Acknowledgments .....	13
<b>2</b>	<b>SUCCESSION INPUT FILE.....</b>	<b>14</b>
2.1	LandisData .....	14
2.2	Timestep .....	14
2.3	SeedingAlgorithm .....	14
2.4	InitialCommunities .....	14
2.5	InitialCommunitiesMap .....	14
2.6	ClimateConfigFile (Optional).....	14
2.7	CalibrateMode .....	15
2.8	SpinupMortalityFraction.....	15
2.9	MinRelativeBiomass Table.....	15
2.9.1	First Row – Ecoregions.....	15
2.9.2	Other Rows.....	15
2.9.3	Shade Class.....	15
2.9.4	Minimum Biomass Percentage per Ecoregion.....	15
2.10	SufficientLight Table.....	16
2.10.1	Species Shade Tolerance Class .....	16
2.10.2	Probability of Establishment, given light conditions.....	16

2.11	SpeciesDataFile .....	16
2.11.1	SpeciesCode (string) .....	16
2.11.2	LeafLongevity (double).....	16
2.11.3	WoodDecayRate (double).....	16
2.11.4	MortalityCurve (double).....	16
2.11.5	GrowthCurve (double) .....	17
2.11.6	LeafLignin (double).....	17
2.12	EcoregionParameters Table .....	17
2.12.1	First Column – Ecoregions .....	17
2.12.2	Actual Evapotranspiration (AET).....	17
2.13	SpeciesEcoregionDataFile .....	17
2.13.1	Year (integer) .....	17
2.13.2	EcoregionName (string).....	17
2.13.3	SpeciesCode (string) .....	18
2.13.4	ProbEstablish (double).....	18
2.13.5	ProbMortality (double) .....	18
2.13.6	ANPPmax (integer) .....	18
2.13.7	BiomassMax (integer) .....	18
2.14	Fire Reduction Parameters.....	18
2.14.1	Fire Severity .....	19
2.14.2	Wood Reduction .....	19
2.14.3	Litter Reduction.....	19
2.15	Harvest Reduction Parameters.....	19
2.15.1	Prescription Name.....	19
2.15.2	Dead Wood Reduction.....	19
2.15.3	Dead Litter Reduction .....	20
2.15.4	Cohort Wood Removal .....	20
2.15.5	Cohort Leaf Removal .....	20
<b>3</b>	<b>INITIAL COMMUNITIES INPUT FILE.....</b>	<b>21</b>
3.1	Example File.....	21
3.2	LandisData .....	21
3.3	Initial Community Class Definitions .....	22
3.3.1	MapCode.....	22
3.3.2	Species Present .....	22
3.3.3	Grouping Species Ages into Cohorts .....	22
<b>4</b>	<b>OUTPUTS.....</b>	<b>23</b>
4.1.1	Time .....	23
4.1.2	Ecoregion.....	23
4.1.3	NumSites .....	23
4.1.4	LiveB.....	23
4.1.5	AG_NPP.....	23
4.1.6	LitterB .....	23
<b>5</b>	<b>EXAMPLE INPUTS .....</b>	<b>24</b>
5.1	Main Parameter File.....	24

# 1 Introduction

This document describes the **Biomass Succession** extension for the LANDIS-II model. For information about the LANDIS-II model and its core concepts including succession, see the *LANDIS-II Conceptual Model Description*.

The Biomass Succession extension generally follows the methods outlined in Scheller and Mladenoff (2004). Biomass Succession calculates how cohorts reproduce, age, and die. In addition, changes in cohort biomass ( $\text{g m}^{-2}$ ) are simulated. The Biomass Succession extension tracks dead biomass over time, divided into two pools: woody and leaf litter.

The Biomass Succession extension was designed to use a temporarily dynamic input file for **three** critical parameters (maximum biomass, maximum growth rate, and probability of establishment). These inputs are by species and by ecoregion. These data can be updated at any time step (see Chapter 3 below). For example, loblolly pine establishment could vary spatially (by ecoregion) and these data could be updated every 5 years into the future corresponding to climate change. The user is responsible for supplying these data. Other extensions (e.g., PnET and NECN) calculate many of these variables internally (for each species, ecoregion, and time step).

## 1.1 Extension Description

### 1.1.1 Cohort reproduction – disturbance interactions

Recall that every disturbance will trigger succession at each site at the time step that the disturbance(s) occur. In succession, there is a hierarchy of reproduction options following a disturbance. The goal of this design was to give reproductive precedence to species with propagules available on site.

If planting (currently possible only through a Harvest extension) is triggered for one or more species, then no other reproduction will occur. Planting is given highest precedence as we assume that a viable cohort is generated. However, the probability of establishment must be greater than zero.

If serotiny (only possible immediately following a fire) is triggered for one or more species, then neither resprouting nor seeding will occur. Serotiny is given precedence over resprouting as it typically has a higher threshold for success than resprouting. This slightly favors

serotinous species when mixed with species able to resprout following a fire.

If resprouting (which can be induced by many disturbance types) is triggered, then seeding will not occur.

Finally, if neither planting, serotiny, nor resprouting occurred, seeding dispersal into a sight will occur.

### 1.1.2 Cohort reproduction – Initial biomass

Cohort reproduction is the establishment of a cohort, aged 1 year and the calculation of its initial biomass.

$$InitialBiomass = ANPP_{MAXi} \times \text{Exp}(-1.6 \times B_{SUM} / B_{MAX-ECOREGION})$$

where  $ANPP_{MAXi}$  is the maximum ANPP possible for the species  $i$ ;  $B_{MAX-ECOREGION}$  is the maximum biomass possible for the *ecoregion*; and  $B_{SUM}$  is the current total biomass for the site (not including other new cohorts). Initial biomass must be  $\geq 1$  (g / m<sup>2</sup>); if  $< 1$ , initial biomass is set equal to 1.

**Note:** *This initial cohort will be grouped ('binned') appropriately into a larger cohort (e.g., 1 – 10) at the next successional time step.*

### 1.1.3 Cohort growth and ageing

Cohort net growth is based on the principles outlined in Scheller and Mladenoff (2004). Cohort net growth takes into consideration the age of the cohort, species, ecoregion, and competition. Cohort net growth is gross growth minus development-related mortality. **Cohort growth occurs at an annual time step, regardless of the overall extension time step.**

Competition and age reduce the maximum cohort biomass ( $B_{MAX}$ ). Competition occurs when a stand contains more than one cohort. The potential biomass ( $B_{POT}$ ) represents the available 'growing space', minus space already occupied by other species age cohorts. There are two alternative calculations for  $B_{POT}$ ; the maximum of the two is used in subsequent calculations. The first estimates potential discounting space occupied by all cohorts:

$$B_{POTij} = \max \left[ 0, B_{MAXi} - \sum_{i=1}^i \sum_{j=1}^j B_{ij} \right] \quad (1)$$

where  $i$  is species,  $j$  is age cohort.  $B_{ij}$  is the biomass for a single cohort. (This equation is a correction to the original found in Scheller and Mladenoff, 2004.) The second formulation was added to allow any recent non-disturbance mortality (i.e., from cohort senescence) to contribute to growing space. The purpose of the second formulation is to allow young cohorts some growing space as may be generated by within-cell gap-phase dynamics. For example, individual trees within an older cohort are dying due to old-age. Those gaps create growing space for younger cohorts.

$$B_{POTij} = PrevYearMortality \quad (2)$$

where *PrevYearMortality* is all non-disturbance related mortality at the site during the previous year.

**Note:** *In the biomass succession extension, growth operates at an annual time step, regardless of the overall extension time step. Therefore, PrevYearMortality is literally from the previous year, not the previous extension time step.*

As of v3.0, competition ( $C_{ij}$ ) is expressed as measure of cohort biomass compared to other biomass on the site. If there are no other cohorts on the site, the competition index is equal to 1.0.

$$C_{ij} = \frac{B_{ij}^{0.95}}{\sum_{ik} B_{ik}^{0.95}} \quad (3)$$

**Note:** *In versions earlier than 3.0, competition was simply the ratio of  $B_{POTij}$  to  $B_{MAXi}$  ( $B_{PMij}$ ).*

Next, the effect of development is calculated. This is a limit to productivity due to the biomass of a cohort relative to its maximum, i.e., a very young or small cohort is not as productive as a large, mature cohort:

$$DevelopmentLimit = e^1 B_{APij}^S e^{-(B_{APij}^S)} \quad (4)$$

where  $B_{APij}$  is the ratio of cohort biomass ( $B_{ij}$ ) to cohort potential ( $B_{POTij}$ ), and  $S$  is the growth shape parameter. The growth shape parameter was added at v3.0, and previous versions functioned as if  $S = 1$ . Finally, the actual biomass for a cohort is calculated:

$$ANPP_{ACTij} = ANPP_{MAXi} \times DevelopmentLimit \times C_{ij} \quad (5)$$

Cohort net biomass change is net growth minus mortality. Mortality is caused by senescence (below) and ‘development’. Development mortality ( $M_{BIOij}$ ) is the ongoing loss of individual trees and branches. It does not include leaf litter. Development mortality is low when a cohort is young or small, accelerates during the stem-exclusion phase (between young and mature ages), and plateaus at maturity. It is also constrained by maximum biomass and competition to ensure that is appropriate relative to a cohort’s growth. As of v3.0, the equation for  $M_{BIO}$  has changed. If  $B_{APij} > 1$ , then  $M_{BIOij} = ANPP_{MAXi} * B_{PMij}$ . If  $B_{APij} \leq 1$  then:

$$M_{BIOij} = ANPP_{MAXi} \times \frac{2 \times B_{APij}}{(1 + B_{APij})} \times B_{PMij} \quad (6)$$

Cohort ageing is simply the addition of the time step to each existing cohort.

#### 1.1.4 Cohort senescence and mortality

As a cohort nears its longevity age, there will be an increase in the loss of biomass. This is called **age-related mortality**, and the age at which this mortality begins to be a factor is species-specific and controlled by the user.. The biomass will decline to near zero at the maximum life span. Cohorts are **not** randomly killed as in Age-Only Succession. If a cohort exceeds the longevity for that species, then the cohort dies.

Beginning in v6, there is also now a random mortality per time step, per species, per ecoregion. This **probability of mortality** can reflect drought or other conditions related to climate or other ecoregion circumstances (see Krechun et al. 2020). The probability of mortality is applied to all cohorts of a species and ecoregion combination, regardless of age. The probability of mortality is compared against a uniform random distribution to determine whether cohort mortality occurs.

#### 1.1.5 Dead biomass decay

When a cohort dies and is not consumed by a mortality agent (e.g., fire or harvest), its biomass is added to one or both of the two dead biomass pools: **woody** and **leaf**.

There is a mean decay rate for each pool at each site, determined by using a weighted average (weighted by mass) of the new dead material decay rate (user-determined) and the existing pool decay rate.

Disturbances can alter the dead biomass pools. They can add dead biomass (e.g., wind) and/or remove dead biomass (e.g., fire will add some woody dead biomass and remove all leaf dead biomass).

### 1.1.6 Initializing biomass

At the beginning of a scenario, the initial communities begin with appropriate living and dead biomass values estimated for each site.

**However, the user does not supply the initial biomass estimates.**

Rather, the Biomass Succession extension iterates the number of time steps equal to the maximum cohort age for each site. Beginning at time ( $t$  - oldest cohort age), cohorts are added at each time step corresponding to the time when the existing cohorts were established. Thus, each cohort undergoes growth and mortality for the number of years equal to its current age, and its initial biomass value reflects competition among cohorts. Note: this is a computationally intensive process that may require significant time for complex initial landscapes.

This biomass initialization can now account for disturbances that would likely happen prior to initialization. The optional keyword **SpinupMortalityFraction** allows additional mortality which is applied equally to all cohorts. The additional spin-up mortality is added to **age-related mortality** ( $M_{AGEj}$ ). If the **SpinupMortalityFraction** is not used, the extension will tend to overestimates initial live biomass and underestimates initial dead biomass quantities.

### 1.1.7 Shade calculations

There are six possible site shade classes ranging from zero (no shade) to 5 (highest shade). Site shade is calculated based on the percentage of biomass present on a site relative to the maximum possible biomass for an ecoregion. The highest percentage allowed is 100%. The maximum possible biomass for an ecoregion is the maximum of all species maximum biomass (from the list of maximum biomass by species and ecoregion provided by the user).

**User Tip:** *If a species cannot occur in an ecoregion (e.g., establishment probability = 0.0), set the species maximum biomass to 0 for that species and ecoregion. This will ensure that the species doesn't influence the shade calculation for that ecoregion.*



A site will remain shade class 0 until the minimum percent biomass for shade class 1 is reached. Likewise, the site will be assigned shade class 1 until the percentage for shade class 2 is reached.

For example: If the maximum possible biomass for a site is 1000 (units are arbitrary) and the actual total site biomass is 550, the resulting percentage is 55%. The function for calculating shade progresses from lowest to highest shade class. If the user lists shade class 3 = 45% and shade class 4 = 60%, then the shade class assigned to the site will be 3.

**User Tip:** *If you want to limit the highest shade class assigned, as may be the case if an ecoregion never achieves ‘closed canopy’ conditions, assign a 100% value to a lower shade class. For example, if you want to limit assigned shade classes to 4 or less, then set shade class 4 = 100% and shade class 5 = 100%. When shade is being calculated, shade class 4 will meet its requirement before shade class 5. The function that calculates shade class will therefore assign shade class 4 to the site.*

**Note:** *The calculation of shade class is independent of any growth calculations.*

### 1.1.8 Interactions with age-only disturbances

Biomass Succession was written to allow disturbances that operate on age-only cohorts to interact with the two dead biomass pools. For example, a User is able to run the Base Fire or Base Wind extensions with Biomass Succession. Although neither disturbance extension is ‘biomass aware’, a simple interface was created that enables the biomass of cohorts killed by the disturbance to be allocated to dead biomass pools. The interface allows a User to indicate a) whether and how much non-woody or woody **live biomass** is transferred to their respective dead pools by a disturbance type and b) whether and how much of the non-woody or woody **dead biomass pools** are removed by a disturbance type.

For example, if a fire kills a cohort, we would expect that all of its non-woody and some of the woody biomass to be volatilized immediately and this biomass would not enter a dead biomass pool. In addition, we would expect some of the existing woody dead biomass pool to be volatilized during a fire and perhaps all of the existing non-woody biomass pool (i.e., the forest floor) to be volatilized.

This interface does not allow dynamic changes in the transfer rates into and out of the dead pools. Rather, the interface was designed to allow existing age-cohort disturbances to be used with Biomass Succession.

Beginning in version 5.2, the interface is specified in two separate tables: FireReductionParameters and HarvestReductionParameters. The assumption is that any other disturbance (e.g., insects, wind) result in all mortality being added to the appropriate dead biomass pool.

### 1.1.9 Dynamic inputs for climate change or others

Only three sets of parameters can be updated: maximum ANPP, maximum AGB, and the probability of establishment. By allowing the parameters to be updated, the effects of climate change on succession (or any temporal dynamics related to succession) can be simulated. The inputs can be updated at any time step.

## 1.2 Major Releases

### 1.2.1 Version 7.0 (August 2024)

Updated to Core v8.

### 1.2.2 Version 6.0 (May 2021)

Beginning in v6, there is also now a random mortality per time step, per species, per ecoregion. This **probability of mortality** can reflect drought or other conditions related to climate or other ecoregion circumstances. The probability of mortality is applied to all cohorts of a species and ecoregion combination, regardless of age. The probability of mortality is compared against a uniform random distribution to determine whether cohort mortality occurs.

In addition, the species table and species-ecoregion table have been converted to csv formats.

### 1.2.3 Version 5.3 (March 2021)

Updated to Climate Library v4.2.

### 1.2.4 Version 5.2 (September 2019)

Updated to Succession Library v8 and Climate Library v4.

### 1.2.5 Version 5.1 (March 2019)

Updated to Succession Library v7.

### 1.2.6 Version 5.0 (August 2018)

Biomass Succession was recompiled for Core v7.0. In addition, the separate age-only-disturbance input text file was replaced with `FireReductionParameters` and `HarvestReductionParameters` tables in the primary input file. Doing so eliminated confusion regarding default behavior and simplified the code.

### 1.2.7 Version 4.0 (June 2017)

Added `PartialCohortMortality` interface to fix error whereby partial cohort mortality (particularly from Biomass Harvest) was not properly allocating dead material.

Access to the Climate Library was also added. This enables a suite of LANDIS-II model extensions to use the same stream of climate data (see the climate library user's manual (LANDIS-II Climate Library v1.0 User Guide)). By feeding in climate data only once, the climate is seamlessly integrated across all extensions specified in the scenario file. As outlined in the Climate Library User's Guide, the user can feed in daily or monthly data without having to calculate standard deviation.

### 1.2.8 Version 3.2 (May 2015)

Added compatibility with other succession extensions that inherit their cohorts from Biomass Cohorts through the new dependency on the Biomass Library. Any succession extension that uses a cohort structure that inherits from Biomass Cohorts should be able to be compatible with this version.

This User Guide has also been updated to reflect changes that were not well documented in earlier 3.x User Guides. These changes include the calculations of initial biomass (1.1.2), actual ANPP (equation 4), competition (equation 3) and growth mortality (equation 6).

### 1.2.9 Version 3.1

This version applies the restriction that a species must have an establishment probability  $> 0$  for planting (within a Harvest prescription) to be successful. This behavior is now consistent with the general Model Description.

### 1.2.10 Version 5.2

The extension is compatible with LANDIS-II v6.0. All succession extensions for v6.0 are required to include the initial communities text file and inputs map. Previously these were input in the **Scenario** file. These details are outlined in section 5.

v3.0 added a growth curve parameter, which determines how quickly ANPP reaches its maximum (see equation 4).

In addition, the three tables for maximum ANPP, maximum aboveground biomass (AGB), and the probability of establishment have been replaced by a single text file which allows temporal updates (as would be used for climate change research) to be defined within the file. See section 3 for further details.

The extension carries an additional species-ecoregion establishment probability modifier that is accessible to other extensions. The modifier resets to a value of 1.0 after each succession time step. Between succession time steps, **disturbance extensions can change the value of the establishment modifier for any species-ecoregion combination**. At the successive succession time step, the regular probability of establishment for each species-ecoregion is multiplied by the corresponding establishment modifier, which (if the modifier does not equal 1.0) results in an altered establishment probability for that time step. No additional inputs are required for this new functionality. This functionality can, however, be accessed by disturbance extensions.

### 1.2.11 Version 2.2

Two new optional keywords were added: **CalibrateMode** and **SpinupMortalityFraction**. CalibrateMode simply outputs additional information to the Landis-log file. This can create very large log files. SpinupMortalityFraction adds background mortality during the biomass spin-up phase. This allows a more realistic initial condition whereas previous versions often overestimated initial biomass and underestimated initial dead biomass because there is no disturbance during the spin-up phase.

In addition, a capacity reduction was added to allow the simulation of land use change. This feature is only enabled when Biomass Harvest is used in conjunction with the **PreventEstablish** parameter. In this case, the mean biomass reduction (from Biomass Harvest) is applied

to the species  $\times$  ecoregion maximum biomass. No additional inputs to Biomass Succession v2 are required for this functionality.

#### 1.2.12 Version 2.1

The initial biomass equation has been changed such that initial biomass is now relative to the maximum possible biomass for each *species*. This change removes problems arising from very large disparities in maximum biomass among species.

In addition, the processing of dead biomass has been improved, eliminating a tendency to overestimate non-woody inputs to the litter layer.

#### 1.2.13 Version 2.0

First and foremost, maximum aboveground biomass (AGB) is now an input parameter. This change was made to accommodate recent data from the literature (Keeling and Phillips 2007) that suggest that the relationship between above ground net primary productivity (ANPP) and AGB is not linear beyond  $\sim 10 \text{ Mg ha}^{-1} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ . In addition, separate input for maximum AGB better accommodates shrubs and grasses that have different relationships between ANPP and AGB.

Second, the probability of establishment given light conditions ( $P_{\text{est}} | L$ ) can now range from 0.0 to 1.0. In all previous versions of LANDIS,  $P|L$  was either only 0.0 or 1.0. The original parameters are provided in the example input file given with this version. These parameters are perhaps ‘hopeful monsters’ in that empirical or simulated data to estimate these parameters has not yet been gathered.

Finally, Meentemeyer’s decay function (Meentemeyer 1978) is now coded directly into the extension. Percent leaf lignin by species and actual evapotranspiration by ecoregion are now separate input parameters. The goal here was to simplify inputs as this is currently the most common method for calculating leaf decay parameters. If leaf decay is unimportant, the user should provide high values for AET (e.g., 1000).

### 1.3 Minor Releases (this major release)

### 1.4 References

- Keeling, H. C. and O.L. Phillips. The global relationship between forest productivity and biomass. *Global Ecology and Biogeography*. 2007; 16:618-631.
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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.foreco.2020.118005>
- Meentemeyer, V. Macroclimate and lignin control rates of litter decomposition rates. *Ecology*. 1978; 59(3):465-472.
- Scheller, R.M. and D.J. Mladenoff. A forest growth and biomass module for a landscape simulation model, LANDIS: Design, validation, and application. *Ecological Modelling*. 2004; 180(1):211-229.

### 1.5 Acknowledgments

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## 2 Succession Input File

Nearly all the input parameters for this extension are specified in one main input file. This text file must comply with the general format requirements described in section 3.1 *Text Input Files* in the *LANDIS-II Model User Guide*.

### 2.1 LandisData

This parameter's value must be "Biomass Succession".

### 2.2 Timestep

This parameter is the timestep of the extension. Value: integer > 0.  
Units: years.

### 2.3 SeedingAlgorithm

This parameter is the seeding algorithm to be used. Valid values are "WardSeedDispersal", "NoDispersal" or "UniversalDispersal". The algorithms are described in section 4.5.1 *Seeding* of the *LANDIS-II Conceptual Model Description*.

### 2.4 InitialCommunities

This parameter is the file with the definitions of the initial communities at the active sites on the landscape (see chapter 4).

### 2.5 InitialCommunitiesMap

This parameter is the input map indicating the initial communities at the active sites on the landscape. Each cell value for an active site on the landscape must be one of the map codes listed in the initial communities input file (see chapter 4).

### 2.6 ClimateConfigFile (Optional)

The climate configuration file contains required climatic inputs. The format of that file and its contents are described in the climate library user's manual (LANDIS-II Climate Library v1.0 User Guide). **This parameter is optional.** If it is excluded, Biomass Succession will continue to operate but the Climate Library will not be available to extensions that require this information.

## 2.7 CalibrateMode

An **optional parameter**, CalibrateMode determines whether additional log file data is activated. Input = ‘yes’ or ‘no’ or Y or N.

## 2.8 SpinupMortalityFraction

This parameter determines how much additional mortality is active during the biomass spin-up phase. This is used to estimate the background level of disturbance and to prevent initial overestimates of live biomass. Input is the fraction of cohort biomass that is added to age-related mortality. Expected value: 0.0 – 0.5.

## 2.9 MinRelativeBiomass Table

This table contains the minimum relative biomass for shade classes 1 - 5.

### 2.9.1 First Row – Ecoregions

The first row in the table is a list of all the active ecoregions defined in the ecoregions input file (see chapter 6 in the *LANDIS-II Model User Guide*. The ecoregions can appear in any order; they do not need to appear in the same order as in the ecoregions input file.

### 2.9.2 Other Rows

There are 5 other rows in the table, one row for each shade class.

### 2.9.3 Shade Class

This column contains shade class values:  $1 \leq \text{integer} \leq 5$ . The shade classes must be in increasing order: class 1 first and ending with class 5. Shade class 5 represents the most shade. A site will be shade class 0 (no shade) until the minimum relative biomass for shade class 1 is reached.

### 2.9.4 Minimum Biomass Percentage per Ecoregion

Each ecoregion listed in the table’s first row (see section 2.9.1) must have a separate column of minimum biomass by shade class. The percentages represent the lower threshold of biomass on a site relative to the ecoregion’s maximum possible biomass (for any species) for the site to enter the shade class indicated in column 1. Sites with less than the lowest threshold value will be assigned to shade class 0 (full sunlight). The maximum biomass for an ecoregion is the maximum growth rate (for any species) multiplied by 30 (equation 2, Scheller



and Mladenoff 2004). Value:  $0.0 \leq \text{decimal number} \leq 100.0$ . Units: percent.

## 2.10 SufficientLight Table

### 2.10.1 Species Shade Tolerance Class

This column contains shade class values:  $1 \leq \text{integer} \leq 5$ . The shade classes must be in increasing order: class 1 first and ending with class 5. Shade class 5 represents the most shade tolerant.

### 2.10.2 Probability of Establishment, given light conditions

Each possible site-level light condition (0 – 5) has an associated probability for each species shade tolerance class (1 – 5). Value:  $0.0 \leq \text{decimal number} \leq 1.0$ .

## 2.11 SpeciesDataFile

This CSV file should contain the following column headers and data:

### 2.11.1 SpeciesCode (string)

The species must be defined in the species input file (see chapter 5 in the *LANDIS-II Model User Guide*). Species may appear in any order.

### 2.11.2 LeafLongevity (double)

This parameter is the average longevity of a leaf or needle. Value:  $1.0 \leq \text{decimal number} \leq 10.0$ . Units: years.

### 2.11.3 WoodDecayRate (double)

This parameter,  $k$ , defines the rate ( $e^{-k}$ ) at which the species' dead wood decomposes in the ecoregion. Value:  $0.0 \leq \text{number} \leq 1.0$ . Unitless.

Decomposition is calculated according to Equation 7 in Scheller and Mladenoff (2004) such that  $\text{Dead Biomass}(t+1) = \text{Dead Biomass}(t) * e^{-k}$ . The time step in the equation is 1 year, and the Biomass Extension correctly applies the formula regardless of the extension time step.

### 2.11.4 MortalityCurve (double)

This parameter determines how quickly age-related mortality begins. Value:  $5.0 \leq \text{decimal number} \leq 25.0$ . If the parameter = 5, then age-

related mortality will begin at 10% of life span. If the parameter = 25, then age-related mortality will begin at 85% of life span.

#### 2.11.5 GrowthCurve (double)

This parameter determines how quickly ANPP reaches its maximum. Value:  $0.0 \leq \text{decimal number} \leq 1.0$ . A value of 1.0 is the slowest increase in ANPP and reflects the assumptions of all previous Biomass Succession extensions. As the value become smaller, ANPP will reach maximum at a faster rate.

#### 2.11.6 LeafLignin (double)

The percent leaf lignin per species. Value:  $0.0 \leq \text{decimal number} \leq 1.0$ .

### 2.12 EcoregionParameters Table

#### 2.12.1 First Column – Ecoregions

The first column in the table is a list of one or more active ecoregions defined in the ecoregions input file (see chapter 6 in the *LANDIS-II Model User Guide*). The ecoregions can appear in any order; they do not need to appear in the same order as in the ecoregions input file.

#### 2.12.2 Actual Evapotranspiration (AET)

Used to determine decay rates for leaf decomposition. Value:  $0 \leq \text{integer number} \leq 10,000$  (Note: the value is typically  $< 1000$ ). Units: mm.

### 2.13 SpeciesEcoregionDataFile

This CSV file should contain the following column headers and data:

#### 2.13.1 Year (integer)

The year that the parameters change. Value: integer.

A year expression represents the time step. **Values for time step zero are required.**

#### 2.13.2 EcoregionName (string)

An active ecoregion defined in the ecoregions input file (see chapter 6 in the *LANDIS-II Model User Guide*). The ecoregions can appear in

any order; they do not need to appear in the same order as in the ecoregions input file.

Every active ecoregion that is not listed will have default parameter values assigned to all the species (given below).

### 2.13.3 SpeciesCode (string)

The species can be listed in any order in a table. A species can be omitted. If so, it will be assigned the default parameter value for all active ecoregions.

### 2.13.4 ProbEstablish (double)

The probability that the species establishes in the ecoregion. Value:  $0.0 \leq \text{decimal number} \leq 1.0$ . Default value: 0.0.

### 2.13.5 ProbMortality (double)

The probability that a cohort in the ecoregion dies. Value:  $0.0 \leq \text{decimal number} \leq 1.0$ . Default value: 0.0.

### 2.13.6 ANPPmax (integer)

The maximum possible aboveground net primary productivity (ANPP) for the species in the ecoregion. Value:  $0 \leq \text{integer} \leq 100,000$ . Units:

**New:** The units must be **g biomass / m<sup>2</sup> / year**. Default value: 0

### 2.13.7 BiomassMax (integer)

The maximum allowable aboveground biomass (AGB) for the species in the ecoregion. Value:  $0 \leq \text{integer}$ . The units must be **g biomass / m<sup>2</sup>**. Default value: 0.

## 2.14 Fire Reduction Parameters

The `FireReductionParameters` table allows users to specify how much dead wood and litter will be removed as a function of fire severity. The reduction of wood and litter will occur **after** fire induced mortality of cohorts. After a fire kills a cohort, the dead biomass is deposited on the forest floor and is then subsequently volatilized in the same time step.

**Note:** This table is required even if fire extensions are not being used.

### 2.14.1 Fire Severity

The first column is fire severity, classes 1 – 5. Severity should be listed in ascending order.

### 2.14.2 Wood Reduction

The second column is the proportion (0.0 – 1.0) of dead wood biomass that is volatilized. The proportion will be applied to both C and N components.

### 2.14.3 Litter Reduction

The third column is the proportion (0.0 – 1.0) of dead litter biomass that is volatilized. The proportion will be applied to both C and N components.

## 2.15 Harvest Reduction Parameters

The `HarvestReductionParameters` table specifies how much dead wood and litter will be removed as a function of harvest activity ***and how much cohort wood and leaf biomass is moved off site during harvesting***. Cohort wood is typically removed from the site during harvesting. The reduction of dead wood and litter will occur **after** harvest induced mortality of cohorts. After a harvest event kills a cohort, the dead biomass is removed from the forest. If a prescription is not listed (or is not spelled identically to the name used in the harvest prescription file), the defaults are zero for all values.

### 2.15.1 Prescription Name

The first column is prescription name. Each prescription name must be identical to the prescription names in the Leaf Biomass Harvest file (see “LANDIS-II Base Harvest v2.0 User Guide”). Prescriptions can be in any order; they do *not* need to appear in the same order as in the Harvest extension input file.

Beginning with v5.2.1, prescription names can contain wildcards (\*). For example, the prescription name ‘Patch\*’ would work with harvest prescriptions ‘PatchCutting’ or ‘PatchCutMaple’. The asterisk must be at the end of the prescription name.

### 2.15.2 Dead Wood Reduction

The second column is the proportion (0.0 – 1.0) of dead wood biomass that is removed. The proportion will be applied to both C and N components.

### 2.15.3 Dead Litter Reduction

The third column is the proportion (0.0 – 1.0) of dead litter biomass that is removed. The proportion will be applied to both C and N components.

### 2.15.4 Cohort Wood Removal

The fourth column is the proportion (0.0 – 1.0) of harvested cohort *live wood* biomass that is removed from the site. *The remainder is typically regarded as slash, e.g., branches or other non-economically valuable wood.*

### 2.15.5 Cohort Leaf Removal

The last column is the proportion (0.0 – 1.0) of harvested cohort *live leaf* biomass that is removed from the site. *The remainder is typically regarded as slash. In a typical harvest situation, 0.0 is removed from the site. The exception would be some form of biomass harvest.*

### 3 Initial Communities Input File

This file contains the definitions of the initial community classes. Each active site on the landscape is assigned to an initial community class. The class specifies the tree species that are present along with the particular age classes that are present for each of those species.

#### 3.1 Example File

```
LandisData  "Initial Communities"

>>Old jackpine oak
MapCode  7
  acerrubr 30
  pinubank 80 90
  pinuresi 110 140
  querelli 40 120 240

>> young jackpine oak
MapCode  0
  pinubank 30 50
  querelli 10 40 70

>> young aspen
MapCode  2
  poputrem 10 20

>> old maple hardwoods
MapCode 55
  abiebals 10 60 120
  acerrubr 90 120
  acersacc 20 50 150 200
  betualle 40 140 200
  fraxamer 10 100 130 180
  piceglau 180
  querrubr 100 160 180
  thujocci 200 240 260
  tiliamer 20 80 110 150
  tsugcana 30 80 120 220 320 340

>> old pine - spruce - fir
MapCode  6
  abiebals 10 50 80
  piceglau 100 140 180 200 220
  pinuresi 140 160 180
  pinustro 200 280 350
```

#### 3.2 LandisData

This parameter's value must be "Initial Communities".

### 3.3 Initial Community Class Definitions

Each class has an associated map code and a list of species present at sites in the class.

#### 3.3.1 MapCode

This parameter is the code used for the class in the input map (see section 2.5). Value:  $0 \leq \text{integer} \leq 65,535$ . Each class' map code must be unique. Map codes do not have to appear in any order, and do not need to be consecutive.

#### 3.3.2 Species Present

A list of species present at the class' sites comes after the map code. Each species is listed on a separate data line.

```
species age age age ...
```

The species name comes first, followed by one or more ages. The name and ages are separated by whitespace. An age is an integer and must be between 1 and the species' Longevity parameter. The ages do not have to appear in any order.

```
acersacc 10 5 21 60 100
```

The list may be empty, which will result in the sites in the class being initialized with no species cohorts.

#### 3.3.3 Grouping Species Ages into Cohorts

The list of ages for each species is grouped into cohorts based on the succession extension's timestep. This timestep determines the size of each cohort. For example, if the timestep is 20, then the cohorts are ages 1 to 20, 21 to 40, 41 to 60, etc.

Suppose an initial community class has this species in its list:

```
acersacc 10 25 30 40 183 200
```

If the succession timestep is 10, then the cohorts for this species initially at each site in this class will be:

```
acersacc 10 20 30 40 190 200
```

If the succession timestep is 20, then the cohorts for this species initially at each site in this class will be:

```
acersacc 20 40 200
```

## 4 Outputs

For every time step, raster maps (.img files) of aboveground biomass Annual Net Primary Productivity (ANPP) ( $\text{g m}^{-2} \text{yr}^{-1}$ ) are produced. In addition, a comma-delimited log file is automatically generated with the name **Biomass-succession-v3-log.csv**. There are six columns of data, listed below.

### 4.1.1 Time

The simulation time step

### 4.1.2 Ecoregion

The ecoregion reported. Columns 4-6 are ecoregion averages for the time step.

### 4.1.3 NumSites

The number of active sites per ecoregion. This column allows rapid calculations of totals as columns 4-6 are area adjusted.

### 4.1.4 LiveB

The total aboveground live biomass ( $\text{g m}^{-2}$ ) averaged across all sites in the ecoregion.

### 4.1.5 AG\_NPP

The total aboveground biomass net primary productivity ( $\text{g m}^{-2} \text{yr}^{-1}$ ) averaged across all sites in the ecoregion.

### 4.1.6 LitterB

The total aboveground litter biomass ( $\text{g m}^{-2}$ ) averaged across all sites in the ecoregion. Dead woody biomass is not included.



## 5 Example Inputs

### 5.1 Main Parameter File

```

LandisData "Biomass Succession"

Timestep 10

SeedingAlgorithm WardSeedDispersal
>> Also NoDispersal or UniversalDispersal

InitialCommunities      "./initial-communities.txt"
InitialCommunitiesMap   "initial communities.gis"

ClimateConfigFile      ./ClimateGenerator.txt << optional

CalibrateMode no << optional parameter

SpinupMortalityFraction 0.001 << optional parameter

>> *****
    MinRelativeBiomass

>> Shade
>> Class      Ecoregions
>> -----
>>          eco1      eco2

          1          25%      20%
          2          35%      30%
          3          45%      40%
          4          60%      50%
          5          95%      80%

>> *****
SufficientLight
>> Spp Shade    Probability
>> Class        by Actual Shade
>> -----
>>          0      1      2      3      4      5
          1      1.0  0.0  0.0  0.0  0.0  0.0
          2      1.0  1.0  0.0  0.0  0.0  0.0
          3      1.0  1.0  1.0  0.0  0.0  0.0
          4      1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  0.0  0.0
          5      0.0  0.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0

>> *****
SpeciesDataFile SppData.csv

>> *****

```

```
EcoregionParameters
```

```
>>      AET
```

```
>>      mm
```

```
eco1      600
```

```
eco2      600
```

```
SpeciesEcoregionDataFile  SppEcoregionData.csv
```

```
FireReductionParameters  << You can include up to
```

```
>> severity = 5
```

```
>> Severity      WoodLitter  Litter
```

```
>> Fire          Reduct      Reduct
```

```
  1              0.0         0.5
```

```
  2              0.0         0.75
```

```
  3              0.0         1.0
```

```
HarvestReductionParameters
```

```
>> Name  Wood          Leaf          Cohort      Cohort
```

```
>>      Reduct      Reduct      WoodRemove  LeafRemove
```

```
MaxAgeClearcut 0.5    0.15         0.8         0.0
```

```
PatchCutting  1.0    1.0         1.0         0.0
```