BioSum 5.8.9 Release Notes  
6 November, 2020

**What’s changed**

BioSum version 5.8.9 marks the transition of BioSum from a 32-bit to a 64-bit application. For users of earlier BioSum versions, this means that most of the software required to support BioSum will also need to be upgraded to 64-bit. These auxiliary components include Microsoft Office, the Microsoft Access Runtime library, and Oracle XE for non-USFS users. Previous users of BioSum, please see Appendix 1 in the BioSum Setup Instructions for details on upgrading your BioSum environment.

This new platform also means that previous 32-bit versions of BioSum will no longer run on a computer where the auxiliary components have been upgraded to 64-bit. We recommend uninstalling previous versions of BioSum to avoid confusion.

Version 5.8.9 has the capability to work with and upgrade existing BioSum projects from versions 5.8.6 and 5.8.8. Please consult BioSum support for help with projects older than version 5.8.6 prior to upgrading your BioSum installation.

For the deeply curious, an exhaustive list of bug fixes and enhancements is provided at:  
<https://github.com/USFS-PNW/Fia-Biosum-Manager/releases>   
but we’ll highlight the major functional improvements here:

1. Oracle XE is no longer a required component for Forest Service users to run BioSum. Enhanced I/T security measures prohibit Administrator access, a requirement for installing Oracle XE. In lieu of Oracle XE, Forest Service users can connect to an internal Oracle database for BioSum functions that require Oracle access. See Appendix 2 in the BioSum Setup Instructions for details on configuring your computer to use the internal Oracle database. BioSum will display an error message on start-up, and be unable to successfully load data from FIADB or from FVS output databases, if this configuration is not completed correctly.
2. Treatment Optimizer has the added capability to export output tables to an SQLite database. These tables can be used in a variety or analysis programs including an FIA Tabling program, that produces estimates and sampling errors, available upon request.