

### NFDRS2016: New Dead Fuel Moisture Model

Lesson #4 (Part 2)



NFDRS 2016 Rollout Workshop



### **Presentation Options**





### New Dead Fuel Moisture Model

**Nelson Model Modifications** 





# New dead fuel moisture model



#### New Dead Fuel Moisture Model

- ► The previous version of NFDRS required direct user input of State-of-the-Weather (SOW) and changing R to O in WIMS to calculate fine dead fuel moisture before any indices are produced.
- ▶ It also required a separate model for calculating 1/10 hr and 100/1000hr dead fuel moistures.
- ► The old 1hr 1000hr fuel moistures models will be replaced by the scalable Nelson Dead Fuel Moisture Model



### New Fine Dead Fuel Moisture Model **Nelson**

- ▶ Nelson Model:
  - More accurately models diurnal and seasonal dead fuel moisture using hourly fire weather observations
  - Requires no daily human intervention (I.E. No stateof-the-weather)
  - Has been running in a prototype mode in operational WIMS since December, 2011 and has been part of fire behavior prediction tools (FARSITE, FlamMap) for over a decade



### Nelson Dead Fuel Moisture Model



- Calculated HOURLY
- Nelson has 4 weather inputs:
  - Temperature
  - Relative Humidity
  - Solar Radiation
  - Precipitation

We define an instance of the Nelson model of the four timelag dead fuel classes used in NFDRS:

Time Lag	Stick Radius	
	in	cm
1-hour	0.08	0.20
10-hour	0.25	0.64
100-hour	0.80	2.00
1000-hour	1.50	3.81



### Nelson Model Specifics

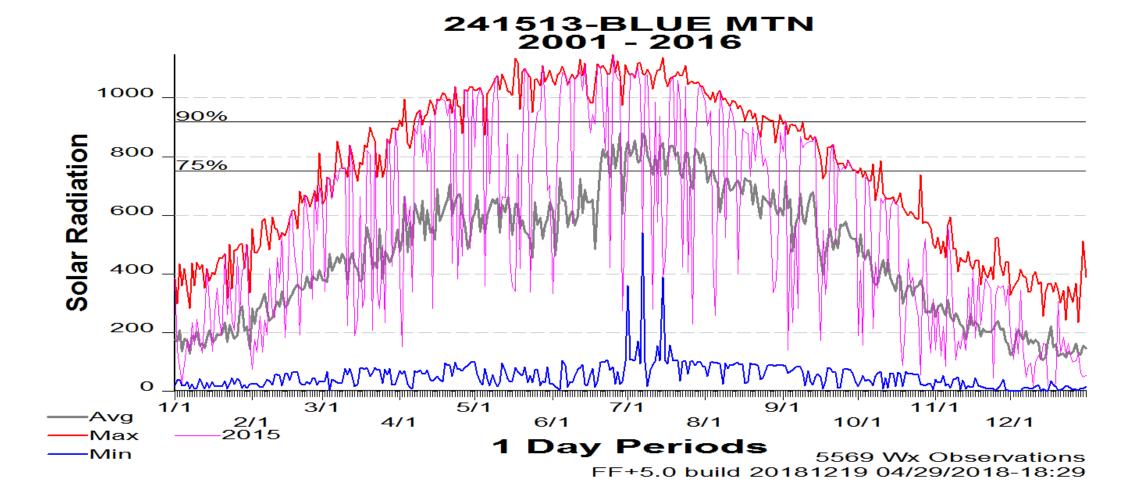
- Accounts for diffusive and capillary water transport between the fuel and the atmosphere
- Derives surface temperature from an energy balance
  - Net input of heat gains and losses
- Accounts for dew formation on fuel surface
- Scalable to any size dead fuel



### Fuel Energy Balance

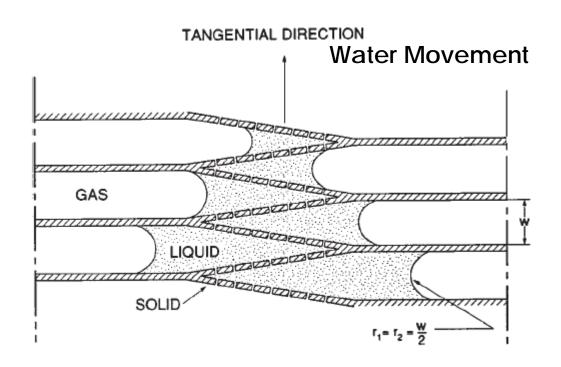
**Heat Loss = Heat Gain** 

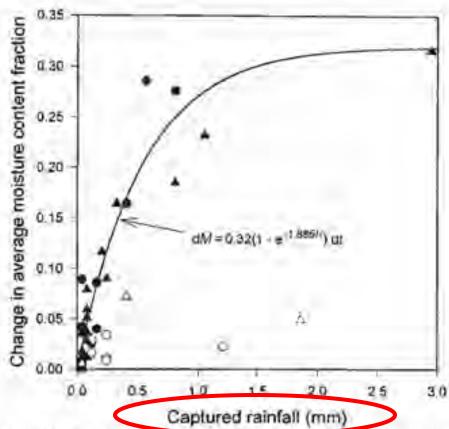
- Conduction + Longwave Radiation + Evaporation
  - = Solar Heating + Convective Heating



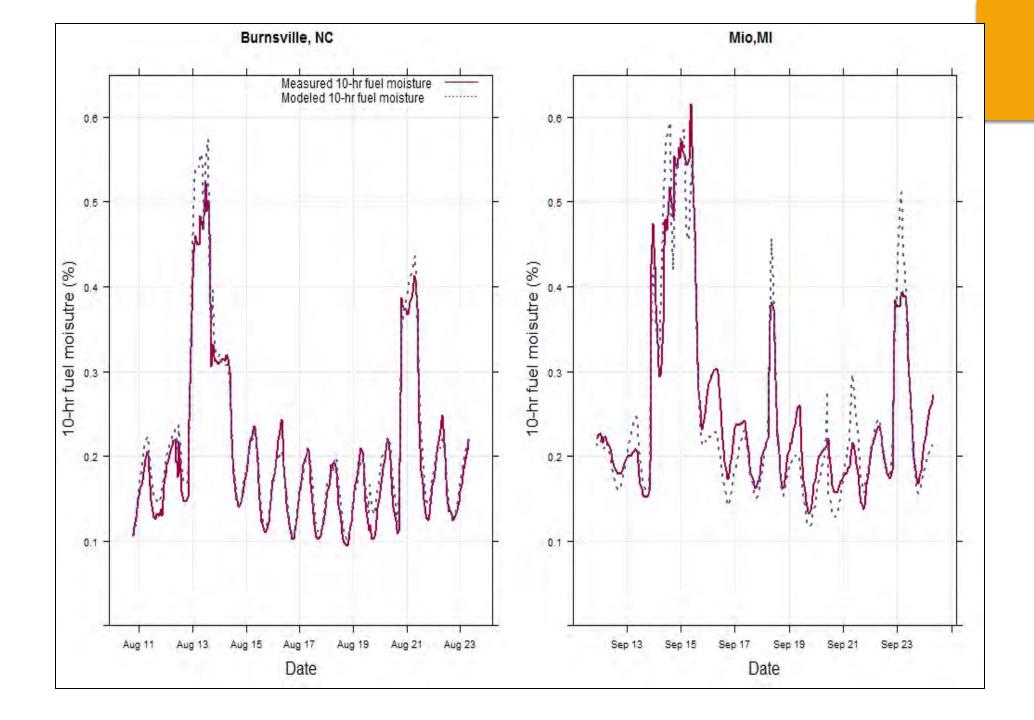


### Capillary water transport in Nelson

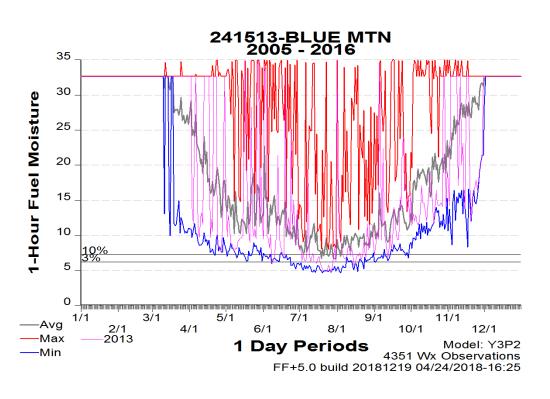


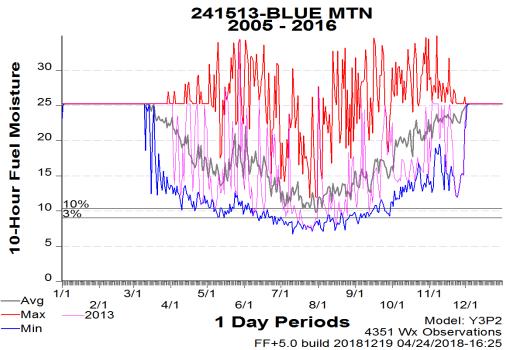


Changes in stick average moisture content fraction versus hourly captured rainfall (dt = 1 h) during field experiments in Burnsville, N.C. (circles), and Mio, Mich. (triangles). Solid symbols, initial moisture fraction smaller than 0.4, open symbols, initial fraction greater than 0.4 (from Nelson, 2000).

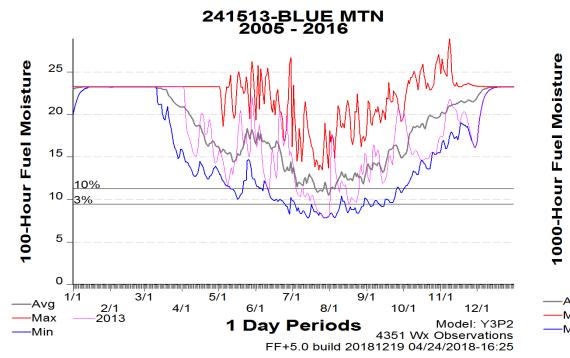


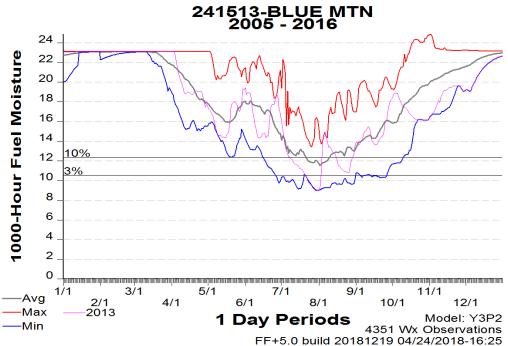
### Example Nelson 1hr and 10 hr fuel moistures





#### Example Nelson 100hr and 1000hr fuel moistures



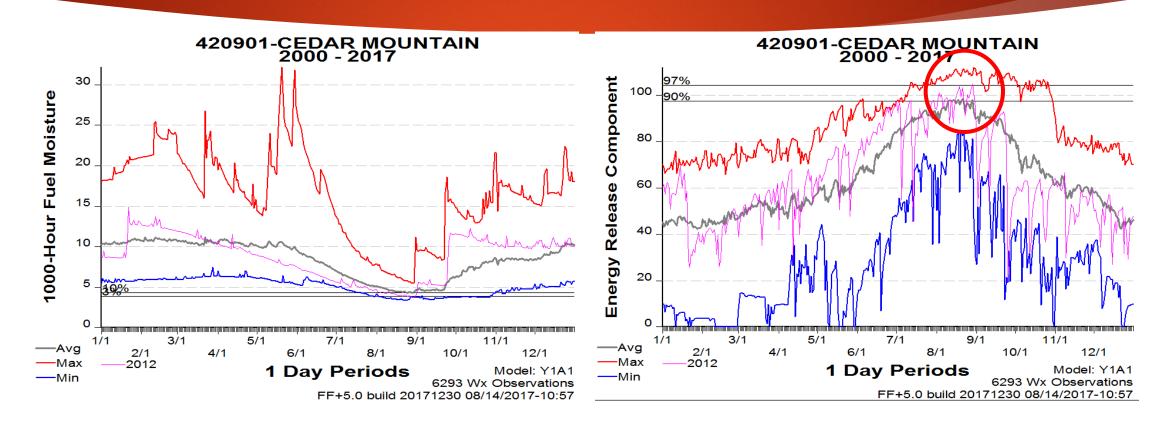




### Recent Nelson 1000-hr Model Modifications

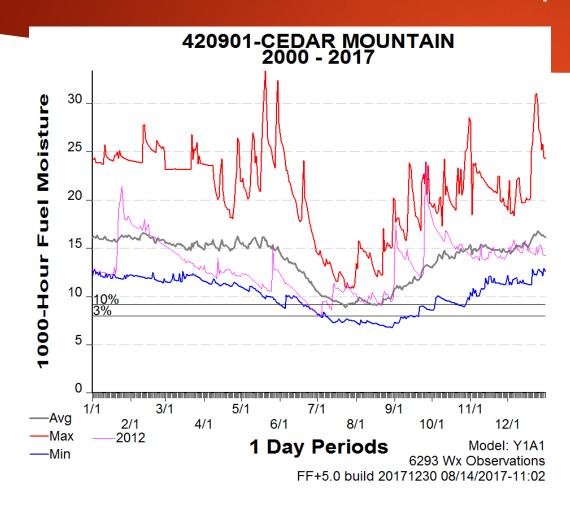


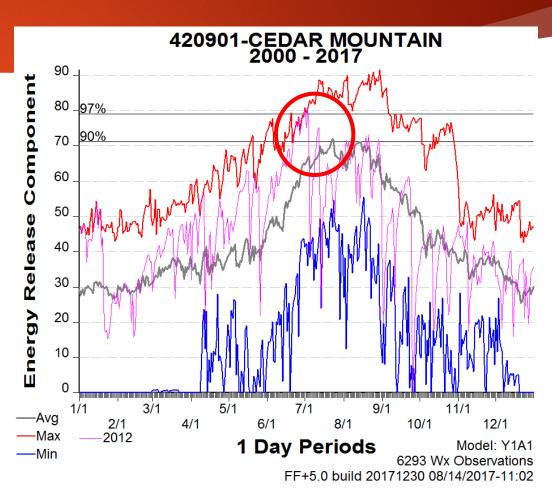
## Uncorrected Nelson 1000hr and subsequent ERC





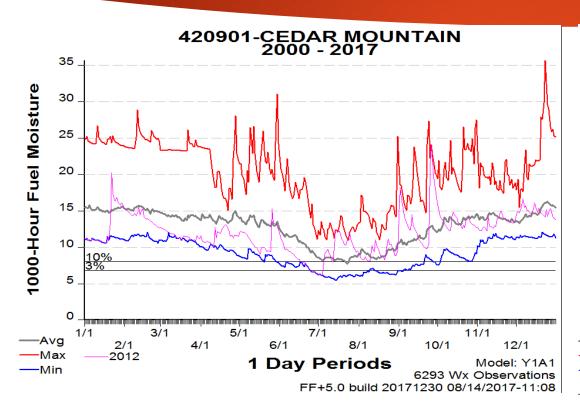
### New Minimum Adsorption Rate

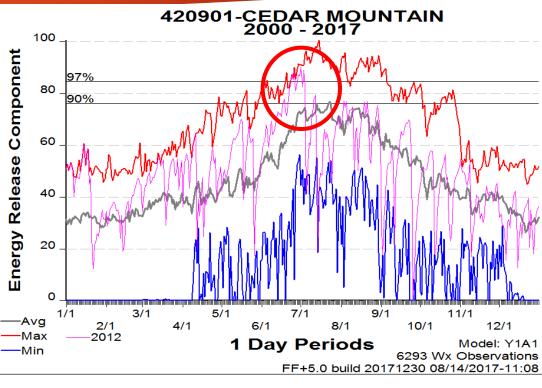






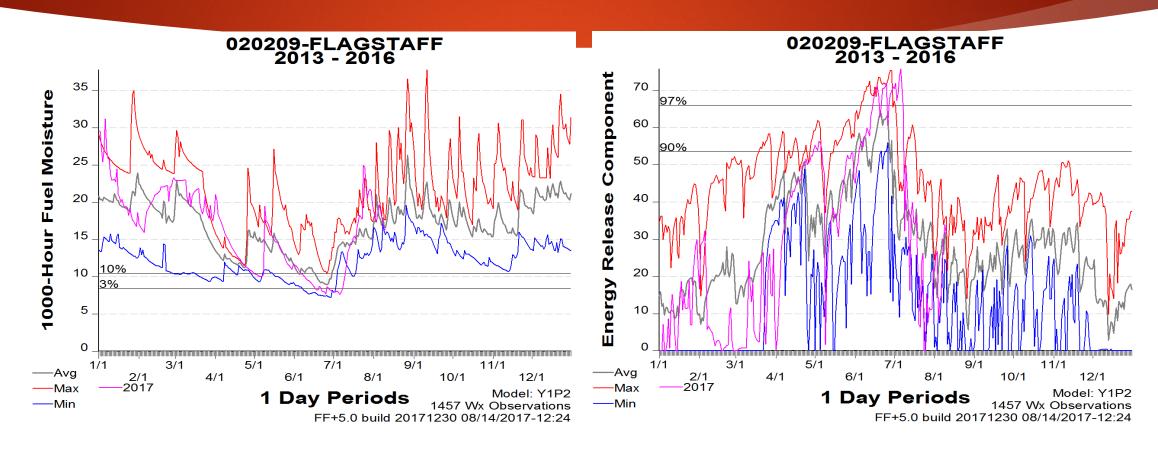
## New minimum Adsorption Rate and Realigned fuel stick diameters





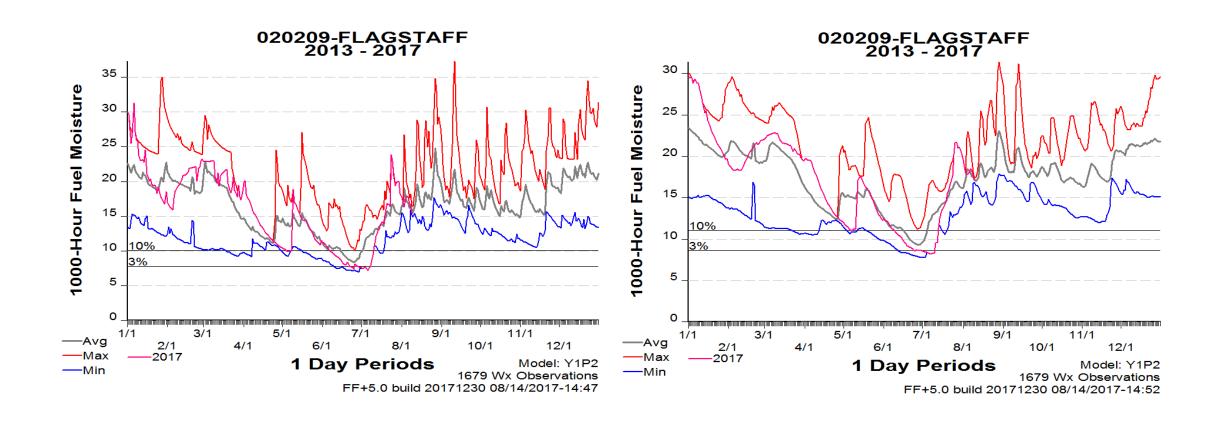


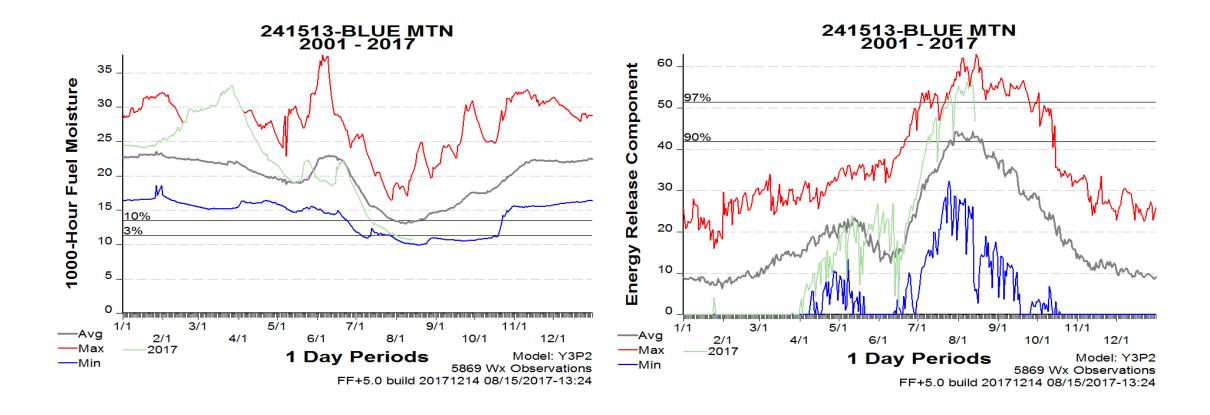
### Flagstaff example: New Model with 2017

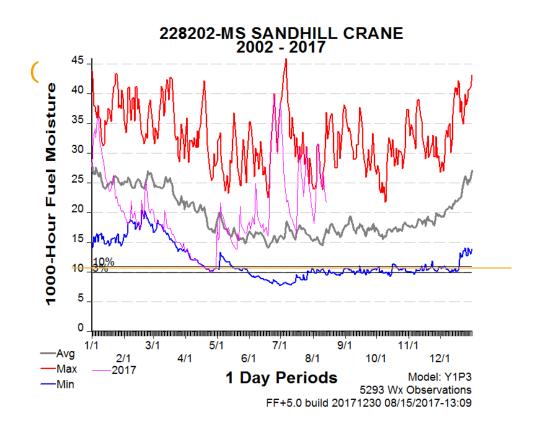


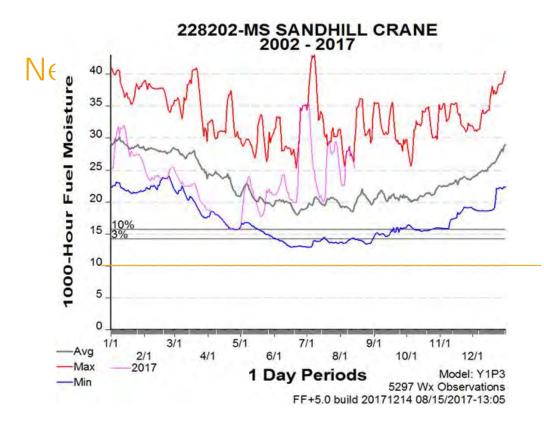


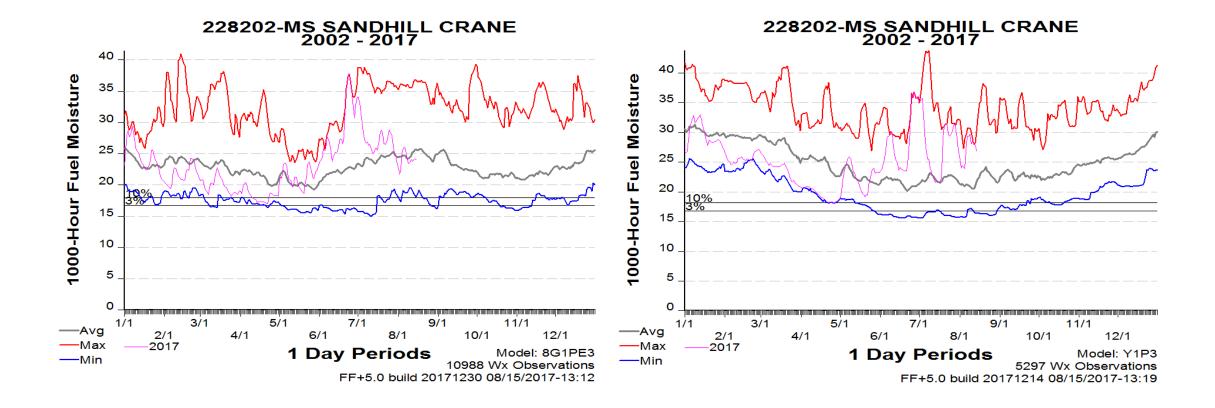
### Determining stick moisture from nodes

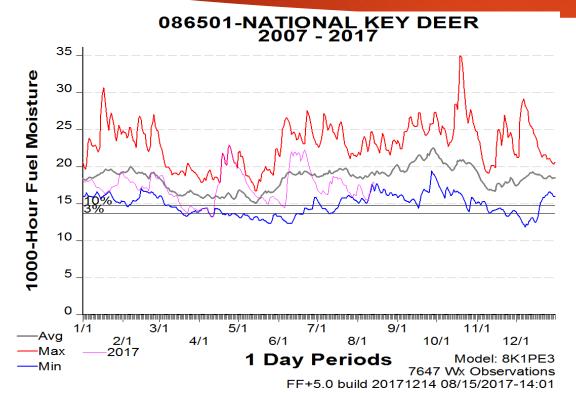


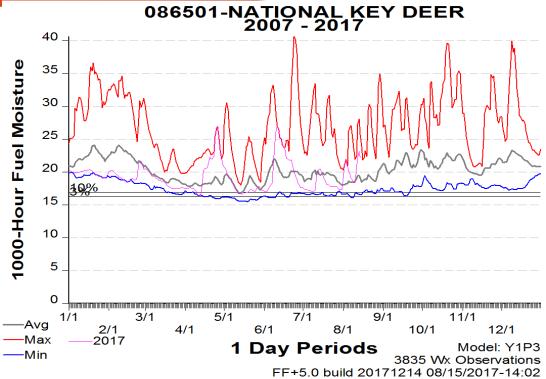




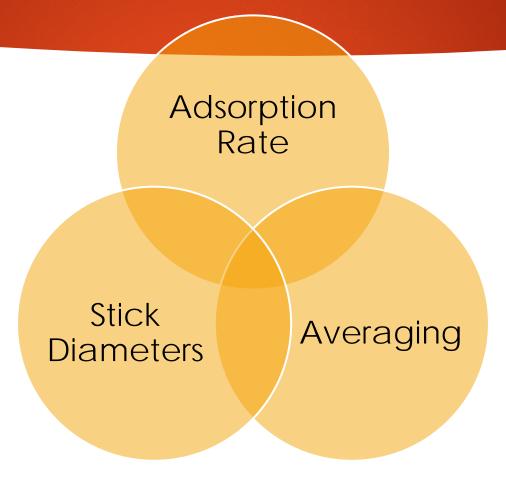






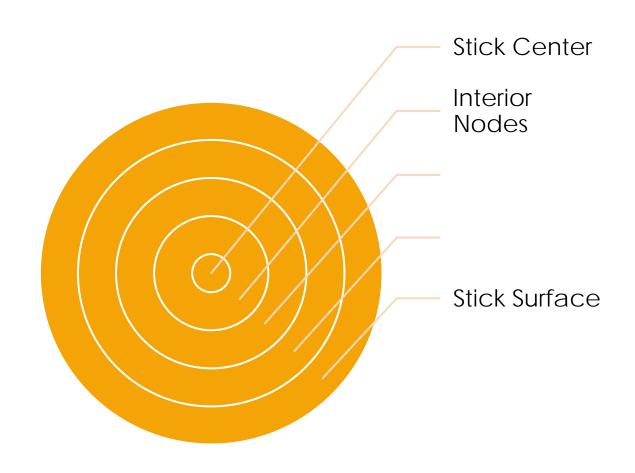


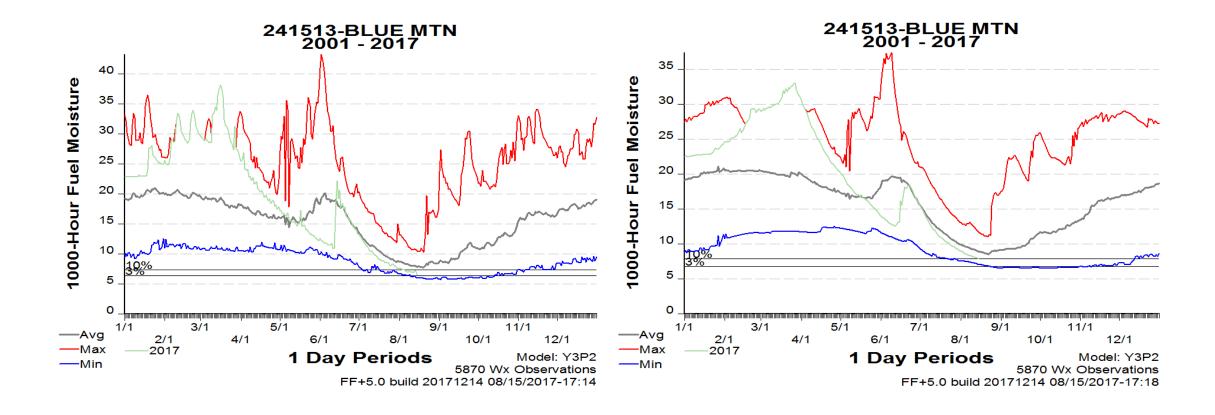






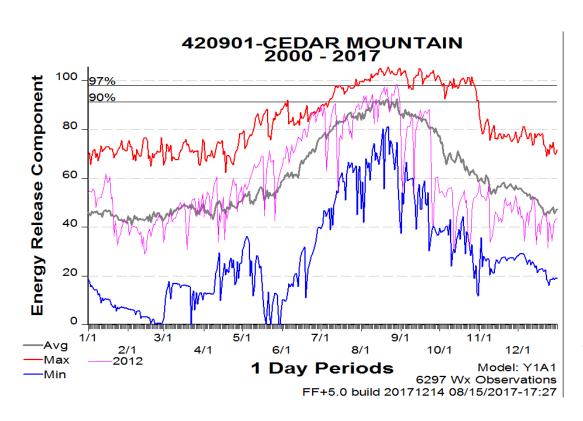
### Nelson Model

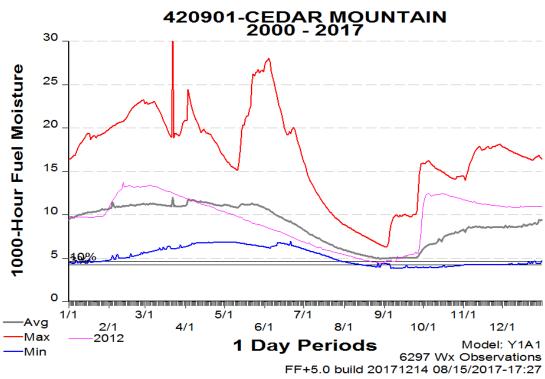






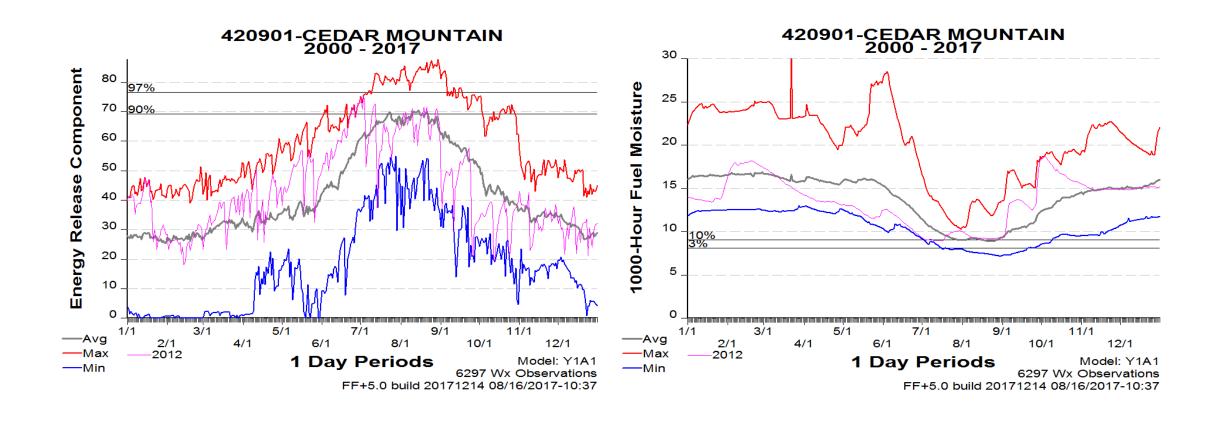
### New model with Radial Median





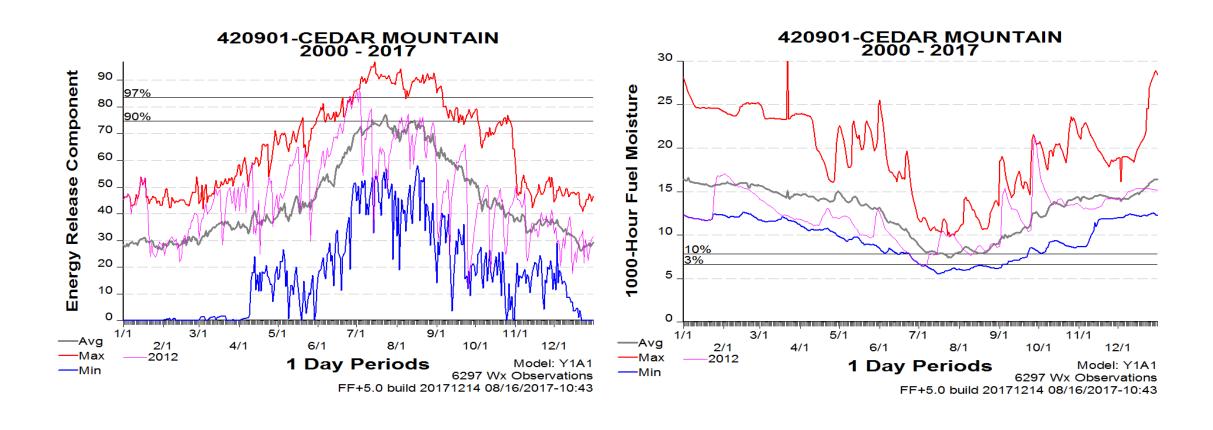


## New model with Radial Median and Adsorption Correction





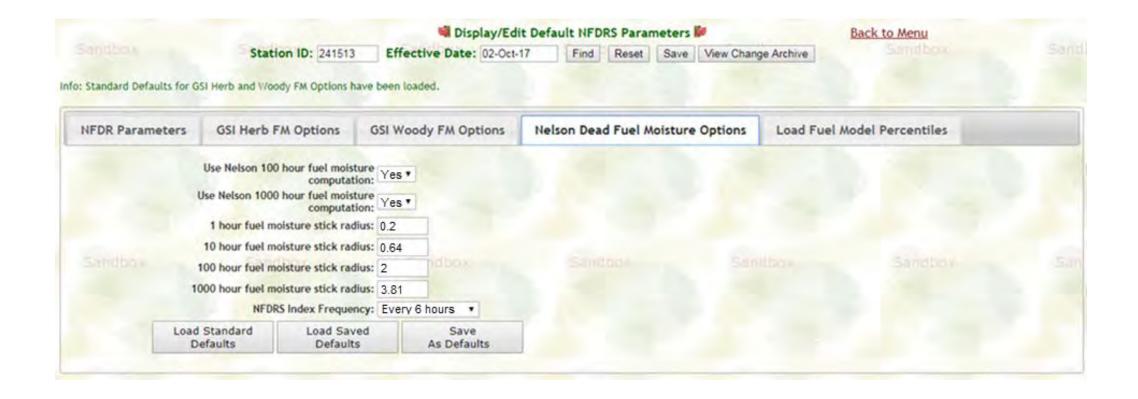
### New model with Radial Median, Adsorption Correction and modified stick radii





- Change the Minimum Adsorption Rate
- Change the stick diameters
- Change the radial averaging method







### New Fine Dead Fuel Moisture Model **Nelson**

- NFDRS78 requires daily State-of-the-Weather (SOW) input and R to O in WIMS to calculate fine dead fuel moisture before indices are produced.
- ► The old 1hr 1000hr fuel moistures models will be replaced by the scalable Nelson Dead Fuel Moisture Model
- Nelson Model:
  - Diurnal and seasonal dead fuel moisture using hourly fire weather observations
  - Requires no daily human intervention (I.E. No state-of-the-weather)
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### Nelson Dead Fuel Moisture Model

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- Nelson has 4 weather inputs:
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  - ► Relative Humidity
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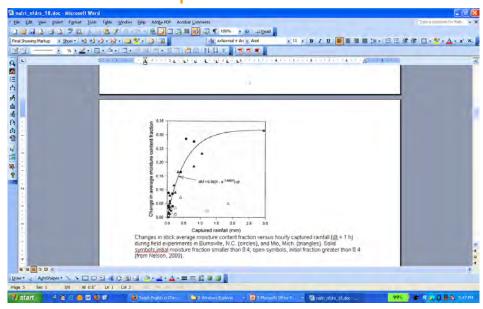
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We define an instance of the Nelson model of the four timelag dead fuel classes used in NFDRS:



### Good qualities of Nelson's model

#### **Direct Precipitation Control**



#### Full Energy Balance

**Heat Loss = Heat Gain** 

- Conduction + Longwave Radiation + Evaporation
- = Solar Heating + Convective Heating

- Accounts for dew formation on fuel surface
- Removes need for SOW

Nelson Jr, R.M., 2000. Prediction of diurnal change in 10-h fuel stick moisture content. Canadian Journal of Forest Research 30, 1071-1087.



### Questions?



