How does the LTBMU monitor if management objectives are met with current burn pile practices in Aspen?

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Monitoring Questions

- What effect does pile burning have on Aspen stands?
- Does pile burning act as a surrogate for natural fire or is it just a method to remove thinned material?
- How are slope, density, size of burn piles, fuel characteristics correlated with:
  - Understory vegetation community response, including seedling regeneration and invasive species;
  - What effect does pile burning have on erosion and soil reddening;
  - How does pile burning affect overstory mortality?
Plot Layout

• 3-5 plots per project
• 8 m (26.2 ft) radius plots (=200 square meter/ 1/20 acre)
• Four 8 m (26.2 ft) transects N, E, S, and W.
## Monitoring Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aspen Unit</th>
<th>Pre-burn/post pile</th>
<th>Year Burned</th>
<th>1 year post</th>
<th>3 years post</th>
<th>5 years post</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CV05</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
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<td>2015</td>
<td>2017</td>
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<td>TC06</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>11_2012</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Overstory
Seedlings/Sprouts

![Graph showing seedling/sprout counts for different tree species and years.]

- White fir
- Red fir
- Incense Cedar
- Lodgepole Pine
- Jeffrey Pine
- Cottonwood
- Aspen Live
- Aspen Dead

![Photos of seedlings/sprouts in natural forest settings.]
Fuels loading
Understory vegetation structure
Questions?