

**Table S1.** Relationships among forest age structure (encroachment class), tree density and basal area, and the abundance of meadow species and *Carex* prior to experimental tree removal. An agglomerative hierarchical approach was used to classify 356, 10 × 10 m subplots by age structure based on the density of trees (>1.4 m tall) in each of 11, 20-yr age bins. Cover values for meadow species and *Carex* are medians. Encroachment class 0 represents residual meadow openings (no trees). Classes 1-5 represent younger forests (20<sup>th</sup>-century invasion; ~1920-1980) with progressively greater modal age and dominance (basal area) by *Abies grandis*. Class 6 represents 19<sup>th</sup>-century invasion (starting ~1820) with a bimodal age structure that reflects stratification of the overstory and understory layers (both dominated by *Abies grandis*). For details on methods of tree aging, classification of subplots, and the relationship between forest age structure and abundance of meadow species, see Halpern *et al.* (2010) and Haugo & Halpern (2007).

Encroachment class	<i>n</i>	Trees (>1.4 m tall)			Meadow cover (%)	<i>Carex</i> frequency (%)	<i>Carex</i> cover (%)
		Primary age bins (yr)	Density (trees/ha)	Basal area (m <sup>2</sup> /ha)			
0	28	—	0	0.0	93.0	92.9	22.8
1	17	20, 40	188	12.5	104.5	88.2	20.0
2	42	40	1,959	20.3	45.7	97.6	15.0
3	70	40, 60	1,693	27.4	21.0	94.3	9.4
4	84	60, 40	1,532	42.3	8.3	83.3	5.5
5	77	60	1,251	41.2	4.6	77.9	1.7
6	38	140, 60	1,055	117.2	3.2	55.3	0.3

## REFERENCES

- Halpern, C.B., Antos, J.A., Rice, J.M., Haugo, R.D. & Lang, N.L. (2010) Tree invasion of a montane meadow complex: temporal trends, spatial patterns, and biotic interactions. *Journal of Vegetation Science*, **21**, 717–732.
- Haugo, R.D. & Halpern, C.B. (2007) Vegetation responses to conifer encroachment in a dry, montane meadow: a chronosequence approach. *Canadian Journal of Botany*, **85**, 285–298.