Chapter 10: Growing Stock Components

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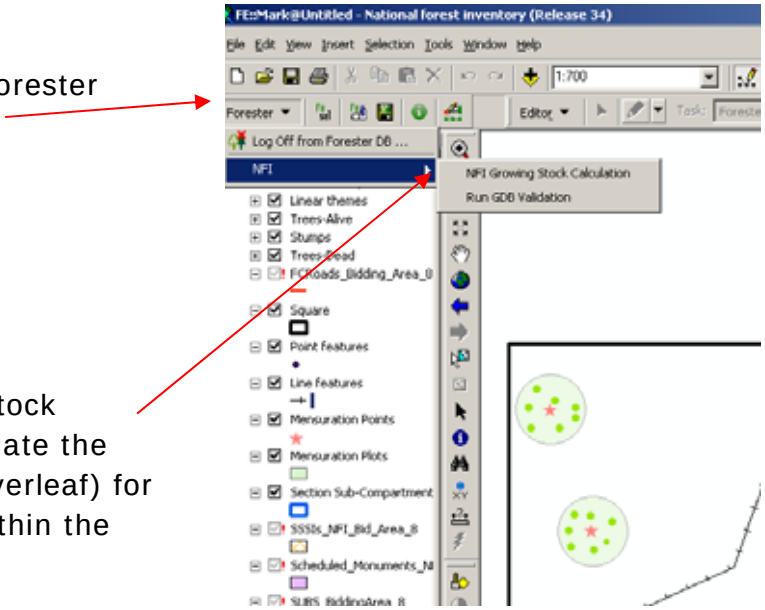
The software analyses the tree data collected within the mensuration plots (circular and whole section) for production forecast purposes. These results can be used as a useful check of the data collected as part of the surveyors QA of the data collected prior to uploading the square to the FC ftp site.

To start the analyses click on the Forester button.



The following options are available:

- Log off from Forester DB
- NFI

Select NFI and then NFI Growing Stock Calculation. The software will calculate the Growing Stock elements (in bold overleaf) for Components that were captured within the mensuration plots.

NB: The Growing Stock calculator will not work on LandUse coppice.

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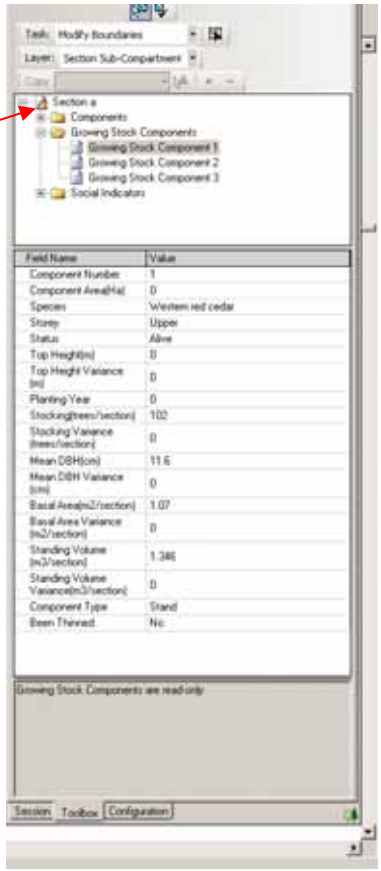

To view these go back into the Editor and select a Section.

Click on Growing Stock Components and highlight a Growing Stock Component, the number of these varies depending upon the number of species and storeys found within the plots and whether they are dead or alive.

The most important information lines for the surveyor are:

- **Species**
- **Storey**
- **Status**

} Ensure that the species, storey and Status combinations match the Components recorded within the Section.

- **Top height** – does this make sense for the Growing Stock Component
- **Stocking** – a useful check, how does this compare with the estimated Stems per ha in the Component, is there a good reason for the difference (e.g. were the plots in denser/sparser areas than for the rest of the Component within the Component Group?). *Note that this is stocking per Section rather than stocking per ha* within the Component Group so some maths will be required to do a comparison. To convert the Growing Stock stems per *Section* figure for a particular Component, divide this figure by the Section Area (in ha.) to give a comparable stems per hectare figure for that Component.
- **Mean DBH** – does this make sense for the Component? E.g. if the mean DBH is below 4cm then there is a problem. Likewise if the mean DBH is very large has a large tree been cloned in the plots and the DBH's not edited?
- **Basal Area (m^2/Section)** – divide this figure by the Section area (in ha.) to get BA/ha. If the figure is above 50m^2/ha then the section should be densely stocked. Note that basal area is the area of the stem at breast height and so depends both upon the number of trees AND the DBH's of the trees. A few large diameter trees is the same as many small trees in terms of BA.