

## Commenting on Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Section Forest Resource Management Plans

The [Northern Minnesota and Ontario Peatlands \(NMOP\) Section Forest Resource Management Plan \(SFRMP\)](#) is available for review through December 18, 2020. Feedback on the plan from tribal agencies, stakeholders, and the public is essential to the development process. Feedback that is clear, concise, and relevant will be understood more easily and will have a better chance of affecting the final version of the plan.

### How can I most effectively communicate my message?

The most helpful comments are specific and substantive. In particular, substantive questions or solution-oriented positions with examples should be provided. Here is a chart that helps explain what substantive and non-substantive comments are like:

Substantive comments (more useful)	Non-substantive comments (less useful)
Question, with reasonable basis, the accuracy of the information provided in the plan.	Are simply in favor or against the proposed guidance in the plan.
Question, with reasonable basis, the methodology or assumptions used to develop guidance in the plan.	Present comments that don't pertain specifically to the NMOP SFRMP.
Present new information relevant to informing the plan's management guidance that have not been evaluated.	Present comments that only agree or disagree with DNR policy or decisions without reasonable justification or supporting data.
Recommend changes or revisions in one or more of the general direction statements or strategies.	Present vague, open-ended questions about general direction or strategy statements in the plan.
Are polite and respectful in tone	Use an aggressive or confrontational tone.

### How can I participate and provide input?

We invite you to provide input on the NMOP SFRMP. You can find more information, including the draft plan, at our [NMOP SFRMP](#) webpage. We appreciate and value your input, which you can submit via email to [FOR.planners.DNR@state.mn.us](mailto:FOR.planners.DNR@state.mn.us).

### How will my input be used?

The DNR forest resources planning team will read and evaluate all comments. The plan may be revised in response to comments, so long as any revisions are consistent with all laws, policies, and Department direction governing forest management on DNR-administered lands, and the DNR determines that the revision adds value to the plan.