

APPENDIX D

Process Used to Determine Old Forest Management Complexes

DEPARTMENT: Natural Resources – Forestry STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office Memorandum

DATE:

TO: CP-PMOP Area Forestry Supervisors
CPPMOP Wildlife Supervisors.
Kurt Rusterholz

FROM: Mark Carlstrom, CP-PMOP Team Leader

PHONE: 218-732-3309

SUBJECT: CP-PMOP Old Forest Management Complexes (OFMC) Plans

The Chippewa Plains/Pine Moraines and Outwash Plains SFRMP Team is asking for your help and participation in the mapping and completion of all Old Forest Management Complex Plans (OFMC) for the CP-PMOP SFRMP. This needs to be done in order to finish the Old Growth designation process and is also the first step in the selection of ERF for the CP-PMOP SFRMP.

You were given a heads up to this assignment a while back. Before these plans could be written, however, errors in the old growth designations in FIM needed to be corrected. We are now at that point in the planning process where we need your involvement in completing these Plans.

Interdisciplinary (Forestry, Wildlife, Eco) teams will develop the OFMC Plans. These individual plans will identify each Old Growth stand; decide which stands will be in the Special Management Zone (SMZ) and if there are additional stands around the SMZ that should be added to the OFMC.

For consistency and to expedite this process, Mike Locke, Thom Soule and Paul Lundgren will be assisting you with these plans. They will spend one day each in the Deer River, Bemidji (w/Blackduck), Backus and Park Rapids (w/Detroit Lakes) Areas to complete these Plans.

A packet of Planning materials consisting of this memo and the following materials is being provided to you ahead of time.

1. SMZ Designation Instructions.
2. Record keeping form.
3. Old Forest Guideline Addendum No. 5.
4. Prescription Definitions & codes.
5. Maps of each Areas designated OG Stands (hand delivered)

Before coming to your Area we request that you read these materials and review each of the map sets. The more preliminary planning that is done, the less time we will need to complete this project. It is also important that you make sure we have accounted for all Old Growth stands in your area.

At this time it is **NOT** necessary to make any changes in FIM, including any type lines changes. We will do this with you, including filling out the form the day we come to your Area. Any type line changes you feel you want to make should be done by hand on these map sets. Also, any required information that you obtain as you review these complexes may be recorded on the attached form. Make copies as needed.

If you have any questions, please contact Paul Lundgren (218-947-3232), or Thom Soule (218-755-4030). We will be in contact with you within the next two weeks to set up these meetings. The Team members assisting you intend to finish each Area in one day and to have the CP-PMOP Old Forest Complex planning process completed before Christmas, so please plan accordingly.

cc: NW, NE and Central Regional Supervisors
CP-PMOP Team.
J. Nelson, S. Merchant , J. Boe, H. Cozzetto

CP-PMOP Old Forest Complex SMZ Designation Instructions

The purpose of these instructions is to assure that clear consistent decisions are made regarding the inclusion entire of stands or parts of stands in the **Special Management Zones** that surround designated old growth stands in the CP-PMOP Subsections.

As old-growth stands were designated, there was a need to define management for the SMZ. Field managers felt that the conservation value of designated old growth stands or groups of stands could be increased by managing additional stands around the SMZ on extended rotations (ERF).

SMZ- The **Special Management Zone (SMZ)** is a group of stands or portions of stands immediately around designated old-growth stands. The SMZ is intended to provide ecological protection, minimize edge effects and wind throw damage to old-growth stands.

The 1994 Old-Growth Forest Guidelines specified that SMZs be managed as all-aged Extended Rotation or as limited clear cuts where, at any given time, no more than 25% of the SMZ has regeneration less than 1/3 potential height.

The minimum SMZ width is 330 feet, but may be expanded to existing stand boundaries, to connect with the SMZ of nearby old-growth stands, to achieve another management objective, or in response to new information (i.e. County Biological Survey data).

1. Evaluate each stand for inclusion in the SMZ as shown by green line (330 feet width)

- A. Select the 330' portion¹ of the stand as shown on map to be part of the SMZ if the stand is not an old growth type and partitioning will not result in an unmanageable stand remaining outside the SMZ. **Due to FIM, other planning issues and Department direction, partitioning stands should be the exception.*
 1. **A preferable option is to use a natural or man made feature that is at least 330 ft. from the designated OG stand(s) as the SMZ boundary.**
 - The remainder of a forest cover type outside the SMZ should be managed under the same prescription as that part of the type within the SMZ when it would provide significant additional protection.
 - Assign ERF prescription and preliminary treatment prescription.
 - Document reasons for not assigning ERF Prescription.
 - Record stand and SMZ acres.
- B. Select entire stand to be part of the SMZ if the stand is an old growth type and partitioning would result in less protection of the old growth stand(s) and/or result in unmanageable stands inside or outside the SMZ.
 - Assign ERF prescription and preliminary treatment prescription.
 - Document reasons for not assigning ERF Prescription.
 - Record stand and SMZ acres.
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2. Evaluate additional stands for inclusion in OFMC as per Addendum.

- A. If selected for inclusion in OFMC.

Assign ERF prescription and appropriate preliminary treatment prescription.

Old-Forest Management Complex Plan B Worksheet

Date (mm/day/yr): _____ Plan Preparer'(s): _____

Subsection: _____ Forestry Area: _____ RAN: _____

Old Growth IDs: _____

Legal Description: Section_____Twp._____Range_____UTM for center of OFMC._____

[illegible]

Notes on back.

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