

APPENDIX G

Process used to develop Cover Type DFFCs for CP-PMOP SFRMP

Background

The cover type DFFCs identified in the CP-PMOP Plan reflects the SFRMP Planning Team's effort to develop 10 and 50-year Cover Type DFFC's acreage goals that establish appropriate forest composition goals at the landscape level and also ensure restoration of important component tree species that have declined. The Plan's goals are viewed as aggressive but achievable and appropriate to the landscape.

Process

The SFRMP Planning Team tasked a workgroup with preparing a draft report that established cover type DFFCs for the CP-PMOP. First the work group summarized information on certain cover type/tree species at the subsection, combined subsection, and section scale for the CP-PMOP planning area. This information included: current status, recent trends, historical information, MFRC analysis, NPC Classes, CWCS Plan Key Habitats, and Desired Future Forest Conditions from the MFRC Regional Landscape Plan.

Other information was summarized and reported spatially, primarily at the LTA scale. This information included land descriptions, current vegetation, Pre-settlement Vegetation, original bearing trees with comparisons to FIA data, PLS survey notes, and NPC occurrence. Much of this information can be found in the LTA Assessment and Analysis documents (see Appendix N LTA Analysis and Assessment Documents).

All of this information and DNR staff knowledge and experience was used to develop and test various cover type change scenarios with 2004 data at the subsection scale. From these scenarios, the workgroup developed recommendations on appropriate cover type acreage goals with increases and decreases by cover type. Ten-year conversion pool criteria were developed to identify potential conversion sites. The workgroup also identified priority LTAs for cover type increases and summarized cover type DFFC related information by forested cover type. Initially the 10 and 50-year goals were developed for each subsection and the two subsections were then combined based on 2004 data (See Appendix U Stand Exam List and New Access Needs List Instructions, Attachment C-3).

The SFRMP Planning team and the Cover Type Recommendations workgroups then reviewed, updated, and approved the cover type DFFCs based on 2007 data. A scoring system was then developed to help identify potential conversion sites that could contribute to multiple plan goals (See Appendix K Stand Scoring System). These potential conversion sites were scored based on whether they were in priority LTAs for cover type increases and their proximity to a designated patch of the same general type (See Appendix K Stand Scoring System). The conversion scoring system and acreage information was then used to allocate cover type DFFC acreage goals to each Forestry Areas targets to be applied during implementation of the plan.