

North Shore Subsections SFRMP Meeting Notes
Two Harbors Area Office
Feb 1-2, 2005

Notes approved by team on 2/22/05.

Present: Doug Rowlett, Craig Sterle, Martha Minchak, Lawson Gerdes, Doug Tillma, Tim Quincer, Bob Kirsch, Chel Anderson, and Gaylord Paulson.

Monday, Feb 1, 10 am – 6 pm

Tuesday, Feb 2, 8:15 am – 3 pm

1. Meeting Notes: Team approved the November 30th meeting notes as revised.

2. Public Review: The attendance (other than team members) at Two Harbors Area open house on 1-25 was 10 (including 2 DNR staff) and at the St. Paul open house there was 4 people (including 2 DNR staff). So far, there have been 26 requests from the public/stakeholders for copies of the plan. Five comment letters/e-mails have been received so far. The public comment period has been extended two weeks through February 18th. Doug T. briefed the team on the SFRMP plan presentation he made to MFI in Grand Rapids on 1-19.

3. Information Requests: There have been some requests from stakeholders for the stand treatment model, shapefiles of patches, ERF, and EILC, and new candidate old growth stands. Hard copies of the modeling may be provided, but Jon was going to check if the model itself is protected intellectual property that should not be distributed outside the DNR. Patch, ERF, and EILC shapefiles may be shared with others, but they should not include all the other added fields (e.g., those relating to stand selection) in the shapefile. The assembling of the new candidate old growth stands information (shapefile and inventory) has not been completed yet. None of these candidates are in the stand selection pool. There have been questions on what information will be available to the public from the SFRMP shapefiles from the stand selection step, e.g., will all the comments tagged to a stand be available to the public. The information to include will be discussed at a future meeting.

Tim had a request for the goshawk guidelines and the red-shouldered hawk guidelines (interim) from the Sierra Club. Tim sent the goshawk guidelines since they have been reviewed and approved by the department and distributed to the field. The red-shouldered hawk guidelines were not sent because they have not gone through the same department review and distribution. **Gaylord** will check with Jon on whether or not these should be sent. **Gaylord** will also check on the status of the draft Guideline/Policy/Consideration Matrix.

4. Direction Request: Gaylord provided team members with a copy of the draft of the *Director's Response to North Shore SFRMP Team Request for Direction on Stand Selection Issues* (1-18-05). On Page 2 regarding the joint Area or SFRMP team meetings, clarification is needed between the Area and SFRMP team responsibilities in annual meetings. **Gaylord** will let Jon know.

5. Stand Treatment Lists Discussion: Stand selection acre targets are treatment acres. Treatment acres are based on the forest inventory cover type data at the time of plan

development. Preliminary prescriptions are assigned based on this data and local field staff knowledge of stand conditions. Treatments after stand examinations are completed include harvest, defer, and alter. If there are significant acres being selected outside the stand selection pool, the SFRMP team should be informed. If it is a common problem, a threshold may need to be established for it to be referred to the team for adjustments to stand selections. Area stand selection teams should provide the team with information regarding where problems occurred during stand selection that made it difficult or not possible to meet their stand selection targets for cover types. The low site index BSL target in the Cloquet Area portion of the subsections may have to be adjusted. **Craig** will let the team know after further review is completed. After Doug T completes the summary of stand selection acres by Area in the subsections, some adjustments may be needed by the Areas or between the Areas.

6. Disputed Stands Review: The team reviewed stands where there were disagreements by the Area stand selection teams regarding whether the stand should be selected for treatment or a disagreement on the preliminary prescription to assign. **Doug T** will provide the edited stands shapefile to Paul for updating the *nltfim1b* shapefile.

Tower Area FOR_COM Field: For the Tower Area, **Doug T** will check with Bob Heisel regarding whether or not the comments in the FOR_COM should be retained now that the core team review of these stands is completed.

Two Harbors Area Review: There are 70+ stands in the Two Harbors Area that still need to be reviewed by the Area stand selection team. Bob, Chel, and John Bachar will meet to complete this task after the revised shapefile is posted on the ftp site. **Chel** will remove the 6666 and 7777 coding from all stands in the ECO_REVIEW Field.

7. Other Stand Selection Review Items:

Two Harbors Area Objective Coding – need to edit some of the coding. In Two Harbors, the 8-10-04 version was used. Other Areas used the 6-24-04 version. For Two Harbors stands: convert B6 codes to B5 and D7 to D10. **Gaylord or Chel** will do after the *nltfim1b* updates are completed by Paul.

Decorative Tops – **Chel** will use the MCBS Sites shapefile to check the CRITERIA and PRESCRIP Fields in *nltfim1b* to see if there are any stands tagged in Outstanding, High, and High Survey Priority MCBS Sites.

Manitou Collaborative – **Doug R** will check with John Bachar regarding the agreement for stand treatment year in a patch to see if it is for 2008 or later.

Comment Field – In the Two Harbors Area, comments from the Area team stand selection review were put in the COMMENT Field versus the TEAMCOM Field. These fields will need to be reviewed so the use is consistent between all Areas in the subsections.

8. nltfim1b Editing: Edits are needed in *nltfim1b* shapefile after Two Harbors Area completes their remaining stand selection review. **Gaylord** will request that Paul update:

a. For the Two Harbors Area only, append the TEAMCOM and COMMENT Fields into one field, the TEAMCOM Field.

- b. For the Two Harbors Area only, convert ECO_REVIEW Field to ECO_COM Field.
- c. All fisheries lands (Code FML in SMA Field) should be tagged with fsh in JT_VISIT Field.
- d. White Spruce ERF: stands where ERF = 1 and CRITERIA = THIN should have a PRESCRIP = 1300. Uneven-age management is the recommended treatment for WS ERF.
- e. White Spruce ERF: stands where ERF = 1 and CRITERIA = HIGH RISK LOW VOLUME, add “prescription = 1300” in the TEAMCOM Field. Uneven-age management is the recommended treatment for WS ERF.

9. USFS cRNAs: Department memo regarding the candidate RNAs and associated shapefile should be distributed to all team members.

10. Joint Visits: Joint Visit documentation should be retained in the timber sale file. **Gaylord** will check on: Can joint visits and documentation be tracked in SRM or TSM? Can or should there be a Joint Visit Action in SRM?

If an appraiser does an initial stand visit and decides not to treat a stand that is tagged for joint visit, the appraiser should contact the division(s) staff that tagged the stand.

11. Meeting Dates: scheduled meetings at the Two Harbors Area Office for the following dates: February 22-23, March 7-8, March 23-24, April 5-6, and April 13

12. Next Meeting Agenda – 2/22-23

- Review stand treatment selection targets (Doug T)
- Road access plan direction
- Begin public comments review (Gaylord)
- Subsection-wide review of stand selection step – examples:
 - age-class distribution and stand selection targets
 - stand treatments in patches during this 10-year plan
 - stand treatments in MCBS Sites during this 10-year plan
 - stand treatments and OFMC plans
 - identify other summaries needed for review
- White Cedar - Yellow Birch Forest in the subsections (Lynden’s request)

Notes by gp/2-7-05