

North Shore Subsections SFRMP Meeting Notes
Two Harbors Area Office
April 7-8, 2004

April 7, 2004 10:00 am – 5:30 pm

April 8, 2004 8:15 am – 3:00 pm

Present: Doug Rowlett, Martha Minchak, Craig Sterle, Bob Kirsch, Lawson Gerdes (am on 7th), Chel Anderson (8th), Tim Quincer, Doug Tillma, and Gaylord Paulson.

Meeting Notes from 3/25-26 reviewed and approved.

GDS-1F (forest management within MCBS Sites of statewide biodiversity significance) review completed.

- EILC summary table should also be included with other old forest information in GDS-1A.
- MCBS Site state land acreage in Outstanding and High Sites in NSH, and high survey priority Sites in LU and TU should be used for the acreage in the summary tables in GDS-1F.
- Natural areas: MCBS staff will soon complete ecological evaluations for areas recommended for nomination as natural areas in the NSH Subsection. The evaluations serve as a guide for conservation action by the various landowners. Conservation actions may include activities such as special vegetation management (ecologically-based silviculture and forest development activities), designation as a (city, county, state, private) park, non-motorized recreation area, scientific and natural area, reserve, etc. Stands (E40E85 coded stands) in the proposed natural areas that meet the 10-year stand selection criteria will need to be deferred from management for this planning period or until the review is completed. **Gaylord** will check if the team does the review of the proposed natural areas, recommends for further review, and makes the decision of whether or not to defer management on these stands?
- Consider timber productivity when managing stands in the MCBS Sites of greatest importance was added as a strategy.

GDS-1C (rare NPCs are protected or enhanced) revision dated 4-6-04 was reviewed and then added as Strategy c. in GDS-1G. GDS now reads: *Rare plants and animals, their habitats, rare native plant communities, and other rare features are protected, maintained, or enhanced in these subsections.* The combined 1C and 1G will now become GDS-1C. The reason for combining the two GDS's was that they both relate to rare features and it is best if field staff get rare feature information from one source. Rare features database will include element occurrences (EO) including statewide ranks of S-1 (critically imperiled) and S-2 (imperiled).

- **Chel** will check on the following: S-Ranks: if S-2's are going to be in the rare features database and S-3's are not, what about the NPC Types with S-Ranks = 2-3? Do foresters need to know about S-3 (rare or uncommon) and S-4 (widespread, abundant, and apparently secure, but with cause for long-term concern) statewide heritage conservation ranks for NPC types? How will field foresters know about S-3 and S-4? Will/can they be included in the rare features database? Should there be special management considerations? Are they covered under emphasized management considerations in the

high and outstanding MCBS Sites? Other options: E-coding or objective coding in SFRMP database covers it. Eco staff identifies S-3's and 4's during annual plan review and notifies forester if special management considerations are needed.

Reserved stands: Gaylord will add a statement in the introduction to the GDS chapter regarding what can be done to those stands that have been identified to be reserved for further evaluation during the 10-year period (e.g., EILC stands, some natural area stands, additional old growth stands, and those stands associated with PRNAs) after they have gone through evaluations and become available for active management. Examples are: high risk low volume stands (HRLV) will become available for treatment; other stands meeting the stand selection criteria needing treatment, or those stands needing salvage harvest, could be added through the annual plan addition process; or if a large natural disturbance event occurs, the management strategy would be determined. Allowable treatment level would not change because the stand acreage in these 10-year plan reserves was included in the calculations.

Chapter 4 – Cover Type Management Recommendations document review was completed. **Gaylord** will make the recommended edits.

Yet To Do Table for this step of the plan was reviewed and updated.

Goshawk Guidelines: Doug T will check with Maya about known goshawk nests coverage in the subsections to determine if any nests are in the SFRMP patches or other locations. **Gaylord** will check with Jon if there is anything additional we need to do in this SFRMP plan, or is it covered by the large patch designations and the Ecological Services region nongame staff review of the plan? Some concerns were raised on the direction provided in the guidelines.

MRFC Northeast Landscape Region Plan: Include in the plan on how we are considering the recommendations from the NE landscape plan. **Doug T** will check on the information that John Stegmeir (NE Landscape Committee Member) will be providing to him and work with Gaylord on a summary for including in the plan.

Preliminary Objective Coding: Doug R and Bob will complete the remaining MCBS Site preliminary objective coding review that was sent by Chel in an email on 4-1. When the objective coding is agreed upon and completed, send to Paul.

Next meeting tentatively scheduled for April 20-21. Gaylord and Doug R will let the team know no later than Wednesday if the meeting will be held. Possible topics include: Objective descriptions review, maps needed for SFRMP review, Yet to do assignments update, and GDS chapter review.

Notes by gp, 4-12-04
Team Approved 5-4-04