

**North Shore Subsections SFRMP Meeting Notes
Two Harbors Area Office
May 4-5, 2004**

May 4, 2004 10:00 am – 6:00 pm

May 5, 2004 8:15 am – 3:00 pm

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

Meeting Notes from 4/7-8 reviewed and approved.

Roads in EILC: Is there limitations or restrictions on road and trail development in stands designated as EILC that will be evaluated during the 10-year plan? Treat similar to candidate old growth stand policy? **Gaylord** will check the OG guidelines.

According to the 03/01/94 OG guidelines: To limit disturbance in candidate old growth and future old growth stands: 4. New road and trail development should not occur in these stands. Access through these stands may be permitted on a case-by-case basis to address existing uses or to meet legal obligations (e.g., prior timber permit sold in vicinity). Wherever possible, such access or use will be restricted to corridors or sites offering the least disturbance to the ecological integrity of the stand. In some cases, it may be necessary to partition a stand for management purposes. (See IV.)

In IV.: Requests for use of, or access through a candidate or future old growth stand should be initiated by the local manager of the administering discipline. In all cases, the initiator shall consult with and inform appropriate field personnel from other disciplines before submitting their recommendation to their Regional Manager.

And from Old Growth Amendment #6 relating to management of designated old growth stands: *New trail construction – is discouraged, but permitted if educational value is gained from increased access to the stand. New trails should be narrow and carefully designed so as not to disturb the canopy and minimally disturb the ground. Maintenance of trails should be minimal with no mowing and limited blow down clearing.*

Also, in Table 1: Activity – New road development. Allowed? – No.

Jon has added this topic to the next week's FRIT agenda.

Northern Goshawk Management Considerations and SFRMP: Gaylord will check with Jon.

GDS-1C relating to large patch management and GDS-4A relating to nongame wildlife habitat address it. GDS-4A, Strategy j: Apply the DNR management recommendations for habitats of nongame species as described in DNR guidelines and policies.

4th bullet (revised): Consider the Northern Goshawk Management Considerations (dated 12-03-2004) relating to landscape and site management for the northern goshawk.

GDS-1G relating to rare features: The team agreed with the Ecological Services request to have separate GDS's for rare features and rare native plant communities. Rare features are protected under state statute while rare NPCs are not. GDS-1G was reviewed and approved.

Management Objectives Table: The team reviewed the edits and definitions added to the table.

Revised version attached. **Lawson** will check if there are any concerns from Ecological Services if objectives coding identifies stand locations of rare features. (5-11: okay to do)

Doug R will check with Pat Emerson if objective coding identifies stand locations of cultural resources. Concern if this information became more readily available in FORIST-SRM to the public when it becomes part of the plan objective monitoring and accomplishments.

GDS-1F relating to rare native plant communities (NPC): Reviewed. **Lawson** will provide shapefile and acreage of state timberlands for the mapped S-ranked rare communities listed in the tables. Further team review needed after acres and locations provided. 5-11: *mapping of the NSH is not complete, the mapping by MCBS staff is currently in progress, so acres and shapefile are not available at this time.*

Patch Management Direction: Added to GDS-1C, Strategy a: Where even-aged management is used for a large patch, compress all the final harvests within a 5 - 15 year period to achieve a relatively even-aged forest canopy.

GDS and Strategies Chapter 3 Review: Recommended edits to do are:

1. Monitoring: add description to the introduction or add a section on monitoring.
2. Table 3.1a: add explanation on why NP, WP, WS, and C were not modeled. Edit WS age-class distribution chart in Chapter 4 too. **Doug T** will provide modeled data and table information for NP, WP, WS, and C.
3. Edited definition for mixed forests in GDS-1B to: *Mixed forest conditions* in this plan refer to vegetative composition and structure that is moving toward the mix and relative proportion (e.g., dominated by, common, occasional, or scattered) of species found in the native plant community for that site.
4. **Gaylord** will include examples in GDS-1B, Strategy c. and GDS-2C, Strategy d. of how the North Shore SFRMP has considered the NE Landscape Region Plan recommendations.
5. Check current percents for birch, jack pine, and balsam fir between Tables 3.1a and c.
6. Table 3.1n: include breakdown for even-aged and uneven-aged large patches.
7. Table 3.1p: switch 1st two columns.
8. **Lawson** will provide table and paragraph on GDS-1E, Strategy p. for natural areas. *Done on 5-6.*
9. **Gaylord** will check if there has been a department decision on the amount of MCBS Site information and maps that should be included in the plan. It has an affect on what we include in various strategies, e.g., GDS-1E, Strategies p. and s.

Review completed through GDS-3B.

Maps: Gaylord will send Doug R a list of maps and what to include on them based on other plans. **Doug R** will send a request to the Region for assistance in map making.

Department Review: Since the draft document and the team review will not be completed by May 21st, **Gaylord** will request that Jon schedule the St. Paul review for a later date. *Rescheduled to July 26th.*

Next meeting: May 19-20 at the Two Harbors Area Office

Agenda items:

- Review 5-4/5 meeting notes and assignments
- Continue review of Chapter 3
- Review draft Ecological Evaluations for selected MCBS Sites
- To do list update

Notes draft by gp, 5-11-04.

Approved by team on 5-19-04.