

**North Shore Subsections SFRMP Meeting Notes  
Two Harbors Area Office  
June 24-25, 2004**

**Approved by Team 7-14-04**

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

**Thursday: 10:00 am – 6:00 pm**

**Friday: 8:15 am – 3:00 pm**

**Meeting Notes** from 5/19 reviewed and approved by the team. Notation on reviewed and approved by the team will now appear at the top of the document.

**Silviculture & Roads Module (SRM):** There were some questions regarding access to SRM by staff from other divisions. Information from Karl Olmstead and discussion Tim had with Karl and Pat Emerson was discussed. SRM information will be available on the Data Resource Sites (DRS) in a read-only format for non-forestry staff similar to how Forest Inventory Module (FIM) is now available. “Write” access to FIM and SRM by non-forestry staff will be on a case-by-case basis with approval by the regional forest manager and after required training and appropriate software licenses. FORIST staff will be asking for input on what type of information from SRM should be posted on the DRS.

**Fisheries lands and staff review:** FML will replace the other codes used to tag fisheries-administered lands in the SFRMP shapefile. Lands already returned to Lake County will be removed from the shapefile, Brad Berg already updated FIM at the Area. (*Gaylord sent request to Paul on 6/17 to make the changes.*) Revised text explaining the FML code inserted into the NLT SFRMP code table.

**Fisheries Manager contacts:**

Joe Geis – Tower

Steve Persons – Grand Marais/Finland

Deserae Hendrikson – Duluth

Don Schreiner – Lake Superior (**Doug R** will check if Don’s area extends inland.)

Don will continue to be the contact for routing SFRMP planning process information. As the plan is implemented, contact regarding annual plan review and other input should be through the respective Fisheries area managers.

**Forest management definition:** Gaylord will replace the *management* definition in the glossary with the *forest management* definition found in the Society of American Forester’s (SAF) – The Dictionary of Forestry.

**Objectives:** Reviewed a summary of the preliminary objective codes assigned to the stands located primarily in the MCBS Sites of Outstanding, High, and High' biodiversity significance ranking.

The list (table) of objectives for monitoring accomplishments in SFRMP is being revised by Jon and Gaylord based on input from the statewide SFRMP process work group to provide a standardized list for using in SFRMP and SRM by all subsection plans.

Recommended that Objective Type G. be changed to Conservation of Biodiversity. Objective Descriptions G1 – G6 would fit better under this title. **Gaylord** will recommend this to Jon.

**Maps:** Team reviewed the draft SFRMP map set showing ERF/EILC/Old Growth produced by Tom Engel. Excellent maps! Using the state highway map as a base layer and using 3 maps broken down primarily by county lines should work well for showing the public where state lands are located. Recommended edits for this map set and an edited map request (*Map examples for GDS-Strategies step Rev 3.doc*) were e-mailed to Tom. If Tom has questions, Doug T and Tim will provide more detailed information.

**MCBS Sites:** The team reviewed the June 21st draft memo regarding the June 17th field visit (Brad, Mike, Lee, Ron, Carmen, Steve, Lawson, Doug T, and Lynden) of MCBS Sites and discussions relating to management within MCBS Sites of Outstanding and High biodiversity significance. The memo provided strategies relating to the issues where the team requested additional direction. Edits were made to strategies in GDS-1E in the Strategic Direction Document. Some questions remained, so **Gaylord** will request further clarification in an e-mail and copy the team. (*Sent e-mail to Mike and Lee on 6-29*)

**Doug T** will send Maya information relating to NS SFRMP stands on the FY05 annual plan for Ecological Services review since some of the stands are in Outstanding and High Sites. Based on the direction in the memo, some joint field visits may be necessary. Doug T brought up the fact that this list represents only stands selected for treatment in the three subsections covered under this plan - and that there are 10 Areas submitting Annual Plan Lists in the NE Region. He wondered how will review of these other lists be handled. The team felt this was outside our scope.

**Lawson** will inform Lee of these issues due to the potential affect on Maya (*email sent 6/18/04*).

Team recommends that the Forestry/Wildlife/Ecological Services Coordination Work Group address annual plan list review and its scheduling on a statewide basis so the review period can be planned for by the divisions from year to year. **Doug T and Tim** are members of the coordination group so they will add it to their group's discussions. **Gaylord** will check on the ECS site evaluation form that is proposed as one of the ECS tools. (*Sent e-mail to John A. on 6-29*)

**Document Review:** Chapter 1 – Introduction and Chapter 2 – Issues were reviewed, edited, and Gaylord will make additional recommended edits to these chapters. Gaylord will e-mail other sections of the document (public comment response and appendices)

and portions of the document where significant edits are made (e.g., GDS-9A) to the team for review. This team review will occur before assembling the draft document for copying and circulating for review by other department staff .

Reviewed Ecologically Important Lowland Conifers (EILC) strategy in the old forest GDS-1A.

Reviewed the edits to the strategy for access roads across EILC sites in GDS-10.

The team was not sure who from Eco would review and assumed Maya would be the contact for this review as well. **Lawson** will ask Lee whether Maya is also the contact for review of access roads through EILC stands (email sent 6/28/04).

**Gaylord** will ask whether or not the FRIT direction for access roads across EILC will be going out to Areas statewide.

**Yet to Do Table:** Team reviewed and updated the Yet to Do Table relating to tasks for completing this step of the plan (attached).

**Schedule Update:**

July 12: Draft document ready for Region and Area staff review.

July 26: Division director review.

August 11: Commission/Asst. Comm. review.

September: 30-day public review beginning sometime in September.

Open house locations and times are to be determined at a future meeting.

**Stand Selection:** Tentatively set for period from mid-August to mid-September.

Discussed whether or not FY06 should just be done, but the recommendation was to do the remaining 9 years of stand selection. If done at this time, adjustments may be required after public review steps are completed.

**Old Birch Evaluation:** Team briefly reviewed the evaluation procedure and form drafted by Doug R for birch stands over 85 years old. Recommended to use yes/no, numerical, or codes for responses on the evaluation form so they can more easily be interpreted, quantified, and queried. Also, the evaluation form should be created in Access or Excel. **Doug R** will make revisions. **Gaylord** will include information regarding the old birch evaluation in the plan.

**Meeting Schedule:**

July 14-15

August 3-4 and 19

Notes draft by GP, 6-28-04.