

North Shore SFRMP Meeting Notes
Two Harbors Area Office
August 19, 2004

Attending: Bob Kirsch, Lawson Gerdes, Martha Minchak, Tim Quincer, Craig Sterle, Doug Rowlett, Paul Olson, Brad Berg, Chel Anderson

Notes approved by Team 8-26-04

1. Discussed general process to do stand selection:
 - a. Agreed to do a query select from even aged managed cover type stands in the treatment pool to create a draft list of selected stands for review.
 - Paul will do the query selection for the even aged cover types and stands will be given a preliminary prescription too.
 - Stands selections or their general prescriptions may be adjusted to meet assigned management objectives or other goals identified in the SFRMP Strategic Planning Document.
 - b. The rest of the stand selection would be stand by stand looking at age as well as trying to select stands and assign preliminary prescriptions to meet assigned management objectives and other goals identified in the SFRMP Strategic Planning Document such as patches or MCBS Site management or age class goals.
 - c. Divisions will be given some time to review the completed stand selection project and then be allowed to suggest modifications that might help better meet the overall goals of the SFRMP plan. Core Team would review any recommended modifications and determine if acceptable.
 - d. Doug Tillma will provide the areas with the acres by age class targets that show acres in each age class by species by area that are to be selected.
 - Would be good to provide the number of acres in the treatment pool to so areas have an idea how many acres need to be selected and how many acres they have to select from
 - e. Draft Stand Selection Timelines and Process
 1. August 27: Last date for Area alterations in FIM for this project
 2. August 30: Paul will pull FIM data from server and begin working on database shapefile
 3. September 6 – Paul will post FIM, MCBS Sites, Rare Features (2 shapefiles), NS SFRMP project shapefile (nltcsa2h), and Forestry Planning Extensions on NS SFRMP ftp Site (This depends on how the CSA/FIM merge goes and dates may need to be extended if problems arise)
 4. September 6-8 Areas to do ERF/EILC Validation
 5. September 9 – FIM data back to Paul – criteria script and query selection
 6. Paul to post project data on FTP Site by September 13
 7. September 14: Areas may access project at FTP Site and begin stand selection.

- a. September 14-17 Two Harbors Stand Selection dates with back-up week of September 20-24. Ecological Services (Lawson and Chel) will coordinate for Ecological Services attendance.
 - b. Cloquet: Will coordinate with Tillma and Lawson/Chel regarding scheduling.
 - c. Doug Tillma will review timelines with Hibbing and Tower and coordinate with Ecological Services staff to attend Hibbing and Tower Selections.
 8. October 14 – hopefully Areas will complete both stand selection and road access plan. Team will be working on road access plan direction at the next SFRMP meeting
2. Reviewed the draft 9 year stand selection direction document:
 - a. Need to ensure we can tell if stands are within an MCBS Site: have outstanding high and high prime show up. Lawson will send legend (.avl) to Paul.
 - b. Paul will post information on the FTP Site and will let Gaylord know when it is ready to use. Gaylord will then notify the areas
 - MCBS Sites (with .avl displaying just OHH' Sites)
 - NLTCSA2h
 - Rare Features – two shapefiles (with “single symbol” .avl for NS SFRMP stand selection)
 - Forestry Planning Extensions
 - FIM
 - c. Change patch_nam to show patch nom.
 - d. Leave fisheries lands as an optional theme
 - e. Doug Rowlett will update draft directions based on team input and will get out to team members for review before the next meeting.
 - Be sure to copy Paul with this.
3. Paul: Merging from CSA into FIM data can cause problems with ERF and EILC since sometimes it is not clear which stand will be tagged when switched to FIM .
 - a. Team decided that Areas would need to do an ERF/EILC verification review before stand selection begins and correct any errors.
 - Paul will do an initial review after changing to FIM to estimate what the problems might be and will provide direction on whether areas will need to clean up ERF/EILC
 - If needed, Forestry will do review at each Area and will notify Ecological Services and Wildlife and Fisheries when they plan to do the review. Everyone understood notice might be short because this could be a good rain day project.
 1. Verify ERF /EILC selections and make corrections as needed.

2. Legend for ERF and EILC using NTLCSA2h and compare this with FIM. Then manual make changes in FIM ERF field. Separate step in the process
 3. Areas should ensure final ERF and EILC acres are close to the initial targets.
 4. Some adjustments may be made during stand selection due to short turnaround time for interdisciplinary review.
 5. EILC - check to ensure all stands tagged are lowland conifers cover types.
4. Paul talked about some database fields that will be in FIM
 - a. Team may need to develop codes for divisions joint field review since the three separate fields for each division to tag stands they want to field visit in CSA will be combined into one field in FIM
 - b. Lawson requested the team be sent of copy of what Paul had and Paul will send out but noted it was still a draft
5. PRNa decision – Will region have time to review the current decision to determine if these are still reserved.
 - a. Lawson will check on getting a shape file of the candidate RNA from the USFS to help with this.
 - b. Gaylord or Doug R will need to check with Region or St. Paul on whether this can be done before stand selection begins
6. Lawson reviewed with team the new Rare Species format.
 - a. Old system frozen a year ago. By October new format (Biotics) will be placed on the DRS site.
 - b. Two shapefiles: Point is the rare feature. Points will have a locational uncertainty associated with that point that is represented by the polygon (circular).
 - c. All staff that received training in use of Heritage (rare features) data will get a notice of this change.
7. Craig - Site Prep Technique: Logger treats stump while cutting. The new machine applies the herbicide to the stump while the tree is being cut. DNR would need to supply to chemical and determine rate of application to be applied. There is now one set up in the state.
8. Briefly discussed the draft DNR Forest Policies, Guidelines and Recommendations document.
9. Reviewed DRAFT information on New Roads definition. Seemed like access roads would need to be designated as either a system road or minimum maintenance or would be required to be closed or reclaimed after harvesting completed. Still need to wait until official direction received.

10. Discussion on Access Plan. Most of team felt there were benefits of a creating a shapefile that shows location of the proposed road accesses. How will anyone know what the route was that was used to determine miles of new road when looking at a stand 8-10 years in the future? Need to discuss more at the next meetings

- a. Need updated Road Extension info for SFRMP when it is developed

11. Next meeting August 26

- a. Update from Gaylord on Commissioners Review
- b. Finalize Stand Selection Direction
- c. Update Draft Stand Selection Timelines
- d. Road Access Plan Directions/ Timelines

12. Adjourn at 5:30 PM

Notes written by Rowlett