

North Shore Subsections SFRMP Meeting Notes
Two Harbors Area Office
August 26, 2004
10:00 am – 6:15 pm

Approved by Team 9-8-04

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

Meeting Notes from 8/19 were reviewed, revised, and approved by the team.
(Attachment)

Commissioner's Review: Gaylord briefed the team on the Commissioner's review of the summary document of the Strategic Direction Document. The Commissioner gave approval to proceed with the next public review step of the plan.

What's Next in this Step: Complete the edits to the Strategic Direction Document, editing review by Meg Hanisch, prepare document for printing, posting on the SFRMP website, and distribution, prepare statewide news release regarding public review, hold 30-day public comment period, and hold open houses.

- Public review period: estimating the month of October. Depends on when document is completed, posted, printed, and available for public review.
- Open houses: team proposed holding two, Two Harbors and St. Paul. Dates and logistics will be determined later.
- **Gaylord** will e-mail the Word document of Chapters 3 and 4 to Area Forester Supervisors, Area Timber Program Foresters, Area Wildlife staff, Don Schreiner, and team members during the week of August 30th so that staff involved in the stand selection process can become familiar with the strategic direction of the SFRMP plan. Hard copies will be sent out soon after copies are printed in St. Paul so the Areas don't have to print copies.

Items to Do: Updated the Items to do for Step 3 Table (attachment).

- **Gaylord** will send Doug T, and copy the team, the list of additional nominated old growth stands.
- Use OFMC plan files during stand selection for obtaining information on SMZ's and recommended treatments in the SMZ and OFMC during this planning period. May create a theme from SMZ Field data, but some concerns on consistency in coding of stands by the Areas. Include in Area stand selection directions.

Thinning Criteria: **Doug T** will request that Paul change the thinning stand selection criteria for white pine, Norway pine, and white spruce because the growth modeling underestimated the stands potentially suitable for thinning. The revised criteria is to select WP and NP ≥ 15 years old and WS ≥ 20 years old for potential thinning. This will capture those stands that grow into the recommended DBH and density for thinning

during the planning period. Stands need to meet the thinning criteria presented in the plan to be harvested. Appraisers should be made aware that thinning criteria varies for normal rotation vs. ERF stands and plantations vs. natural origin stands. More details are included in the stand selection directions and Chapter 4 of the document. (*Paul updated the stand selection pool script for these cover types on 8-27.*)

9-Year Stand Selection Direction: The team reviewed and edited the draft document. (*attachment*)

9-Year Stand Selection Timelines: Tentative stand selection dates were revised. *See attachment.* Alterations in FIM will be set back approximately one week due to problems encountered with FIM, this may affect the timeline. **Doug T** will contact Hibbing and Tower Areas regarding stand selection dates.

Next Meeting: September 8 in Two Harbors, 10 am – 6 pm.

- Continue review of stand selection direction documents and new access needs direction.

Notes by gp, 8-30-04