

Appendix A Southeast Landscape Planning Committee



The following provides an overview of the Southeast Landscape Planning Team and Committee members.

Planning Team

John Beckwith – Hiawatha Valley Resource Conservation and Development Council
Richard Biske – The Nature Conservancy
Larry Gates – Private landowner
Angela Gupta – University of Minnesota Extension
John Harford – Olmsted County Environmental Resources Department
Terri Peters – Wabasha County Soil and Water Conservation District

Southeast Landscape Committee *[in development]*

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Appendix B Glossary



Acronyms used in this Plan:

1W1P	(BWSR) One Watershed One Plan
2c	2c Managed Forest Land tax program
BMPs	Best management practices
BWSR	(Minnesota) Board of Soil and Water Resources
DFC	Desired future condition
DNR	(Minnesota) Department of Natural Resources
ECS	Ecological Classification System
EQIP	Environmental Quality Incentive Program
FAP	(State) Forest Action Plan
FIA	(USDA Forest Service) Forest Inventory and Analysis
GEIS	Generic Environmental Impact Statement
GIS	Geographic information system
IFRA	Important Forest Resource Area
LSOHC	Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council
MFRC	Minnesota Forest Resources Council
MPCA	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
NIACS	Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science
NLCD	National Land Cover Database
NRCS	Natural Resource Conservation Service
NPC	Native plant community
PFM	Private Forest Management (Program)
PFMM	Private Forest Management Module
SGCN	Species of Greatest Conservation Need
SFIA	Sustainable Forest Incentive Act
SFRA	Sustainable Forest Resources Act
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
WRAPS	(MPCA) Watershed Resource and Protection Strategies

Definitions of terms used in this Plan:

10-Year Work Plan. Refers to the Objectives and Action Items developed by the Southeast Regional Landscape Committee’s Planning Team, which will be implemented over the course of the next ten years via Annual Work Programs.

Age Class. An interval into which the age range of trees or forest stands is divided for classification or use (e.g., 0-10 years, 10-20 years, etc.). (DNR-SFRMP Definitions)

Annual Work Program. Refers to the portion of the 10-Year Work Plan that the Southeast Regional Landscape Committee will implement per fiscal year.

Average Annual Mortality of Growing Stock (“mortality”). Volume of growing stock trees that were alive at the time of the previous inventory and are dead in the current inventory. Tree death associated with insects, disease, fire, animals, weather, and other factors are included. (FIA Definitions)

Average Annual Net Growth (“net growth”). The average annual change in the volume of trees during the period between inventories. Components include the change in volume of trees that have met the minimum size requirements over the inventory period, plus the volume of trees reaching the minimum size (≥ 5.0 inches dbh) during the period (ingrowth), minus the volume of trees that died during the period, minus the volume of cull during the period. Mortality removals (trees killed in the harvesting process and left on site) and diversion removals (trees removed from the forest-land base due to a change from forest to non-forest land) are not included. (FIA Definitions)

Average Annual Removals of Growing Stock (“removals”). Trees that were growing-stock trees on timberland at the time of the previous inventory and were removed from timberland by the time of the current inventory. Removals are cut and utilized trees, trees killed as a result of harvest operations but not utilized and live trees associated with land-use reclassifications. (FIA Definitions)

Biological Diversity. The variety and abundance of species, their genetic composition, and the communities and landscapes in which they occur, including the ecological structures, functions, and processes occurring at all of these levels. (Minnesota Statute Chapters 89 and 89A. Sustainable Forest Resources Act).

Cover Type. Expressed as the tree species having the greatest presence (i.e., in terms of volume for older stands or number of trees for younger stands) in a forest stand. (DNR-SFRMP Definitions)

Ecological Classification System (ECS). A method to identify, describe, and map units of land with different capabilities to support natural resources. This is done by integrating climatic, geologic, hydrologic, topographic, soil, and vegetation data. (DNR-SFRMP Definitions)

Forest Easement. Voluntary land protection agreements that restrict development while ensuring biological diversity, sustainable timber management, and public access. (MN DNR website definition, “conservation easement”)

Forest Health. The perceived condition of a forest derived from concerns about such factors as its age, structure, composition, function, vigor, presence of unusual levels of insects and disease, and resilience to disturbance—*note* perception and interpretation of forest health are influenced by individual and cultural viewpoints, land management objectives, spatial and temporal scales, the relative health of the stands that comprise the forest, and the appearance of the forest at a point in time. (“The Dictionary of Forestry”, John A. Helms, editor, Society of American Foresters.).

Forestland/Forest Land. Land at least 10-percent stocked by trees of any size, including land that formerly had such tree cover and that will be naturally or artificially regenerated. Forest land includes transition zones, such as areas between heavily forested and non-forested lands that are at least 10-percent stocked with trees and forest areas adjacent to urban and built-up lands. The minimum area for classification of forest land is 1 acre and 120 feet wide measured stem-to-stem from the outer-most edge. Unimproved roads and trails, streams, and clearings in forest areas are classified as forest if less than 120 feet wide. Forest land includes three sub-categories: timberland, reserved forestland, and other forestland. (FIA Definitions)

Forest Management. The regeneration, management, utilization, and/or conservation of forests to meet specific goals and objectives (“The Dictionary of Forestry”, John A. Helms, editor, Society of American Foresters.).

Forest Resources. Those natural assets of forest lands, including timber and other forest crops; biological diversity; recreation; fish and wildlife habitat; wilderness; rare and distinctive flora and fauna; air; water; soil; climate; and educational, aesthetic, and historic values (Minnesota Statute Chapters 89 and 89A. Sustainable Forest Resources Act).

Forest Stand. A group of trees occupying a given area and sufficiently uniform in species composition, age, structure, site quality, and condition so as to be distinguishable from the forest on adjoining areas. (DNR-SFRMP Definitions)

Fragmentation. Changes across a landscape that break large continuous areas of a particular land cover (e.g. forest) into smaller isolated patches. (Michael Kilgore, U of MN)

Goals – measurable benchmarks to strive towards in addressing visions and resolving issues in the next 10 years.

Growing Stock. All live trees of commercial species that meet minimum merchantability standards (at least 5 inches in diameter at breast height.). In general, these trees have at least one solid 8-foot section, are reasonably free from defect on the merchantable bole, and at least 34% or more of the volume is merchantable. Excludes rough or rotten cull trees. (FIA Definitions)

Healthy Forest Healthy Waters. A project of the Committee that will utilize Clean Water Fund resources to provide outreach to 100 landowners and provide technical assistance for protection and water-friendly management on 7,500 acres of land in an effort to maintain good water quality in key minor watersheds within Southeast Minnesota. The project will take place between July 2014 and June 2015.

Issue. A problem, challenge, or unresolved conflict that requires resolution to improve progress towards Desired Future Conditions.

Natural Area. A physical and biological area in nearly natural condition that exemplifies an ecological community and its associated vegetation and other biotic, soil, geologic and aquatic features. (“The Dictionary of Forestry”, John A. Helms, editor, Society of American Foresters.)

Native Species. An indigenous species that is normally found as part of a particular ecosystem. (“The Dictionary of Forestry”, John A. Helms, editor, Society of American Foresters.)

Prescribed Burning. To deliberately burn wildlands (e.g., forests, prairie or savanna); in either their natural or their modified state) and under specified conditions within a predetermined area to meet management objectives for the site. (DNR-SFRMP Definitions)

Reforestation. The process of natural or artificial forest regeneration, including securing seed, growing seedlings, preparing sites, planting seed, planting trees, removing deleterious growth and underbrush and other activities related to forest regeneration. (Minnesota Statute Chapters 89 and 89A. Sustainable Forest Resources Act).

Regeneration. The act of renewing tree cover by establishing young trees naturally (e.g., stump sprouts, root suckers, natural seeding) or artificially (e.g., tree planting, seeding). (DNR-SFRMP Definitions)

Riparian Areas. The area of land and water forming a transition from aquatic to terrestrial ecosystems along streams, lakes, and open water wetlands. (DNR-SFRMP Definitions)

Silviculture. The theory and practice of controlling the establishment, composition, growth, and quality of forest stands to achieve certain desired conditions or management objectives. (DNR-SFRMP Definitions)

Southeast Landscape - Area where visions, goals and strategies apply. The Southeast Landscape includes the counties of Dodge, Fillmore, Freeborn, Goodhue, Houston, Le Sueur, Mower, Olmstead, Rice, Steele, Wabasha, Waseca, and Winona.

Southeast Regional Landscape Committee (“the Committee”) - Group of interested stakeholders established to develop a strategic landscape plan and work to increase coordination, implementation, and monitoring of the plan. The committee is open to anyone from the public who is interested in sustainable forest resources management in Minnesota.

Spatial Analysis. The mapping and measuring of spatial patterns in a landscape or given area. (MN DNR – Jim Manolis)

Strategy. Strategies are general approaches or methods to accomplish the vegetative management goals which ultimately move the landscape toward achieving the overall vision or desired future conditions. Strategies provide land managers with written descriptions of the general tools and techniques suggested to accomplish the goals and provide a basis for the further development of the appropriate tactical methods.

Subsection. A subsection is one level within the Ecological Classification System (ECS). From largest to smallest in terms of geographic area, the ECS is comprised of the following levels: Province > Section > Subsection > Land Type Association > Land Type > Land Type Phase. Subsections are generally 1-4 million acres in size in Minnesota, with the average being 2.25 million acres. Seventeen subsections are scheduled for the SFRMP process (see subsection map and SFRMP schedule). (DNR-SFRMP Definitions)

Subsection Forest Resource Management Plans (SFRMP). A DNR plan for vegetation management on forest lands administered by DNR Forestry and Wildlife that uses ECS subsections as the basic unit of delineation. Initial focus will be to identify forest stands and road access needs for the duration of the seven-year plan. There is potential to be more comprehensive in the future. (DNR-SFRMP Definitions)

Sustainable. Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs (Minnesota Statute Chapters 89 and 89A. Sustainable Forest Resources Act).

Timber. Trees that will produce forest products of value, whether standing or down, and including but not limited to logs, bolts, pulpwood, posts, poles, cordwood, lumber and decorative material. (Minnesota Statute Chapters 89 and 89A. Sustainable Forest Resources Act).

Timberland. Forest land that is producing or is capable of producing crops of industrial wood and not withdrawn from timber utilization by statute or administrative regulation. (Note: Areas qualifying as timberland are capable of producing in excess of 20 cubic feet per acre per year of industrial wood in natural stands. Currently inaccessible and inoperable areas are included, but these likely are a very small number of acres.) (FIA Definitions)

Vision (e.g. Common Theme, Desired Future Condition, Desired Outcome) - refers to a desired condition for an area 100 years or more in the future.

Appendix C Bibliography



Note: References for sources used throughout the Plan are below. Specific references for sources used in Section 2, Parts C and D are listed separately beginning on p. C-2.

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Appendix D Technical Support Documents



The following is a list of the technical support documents that were created prior to development of the Plan. These documents are summarized in Section 2 of this Plan and may be found online at http://mn.gov/frc/resources_documents.html.

- Resource Atlas
- Conditions and Trends Report
- Demographic Data Report
- Forest Policy Inventory
- Key Stakeholder Survey Report
- Key Stakeholder Focus Groups Report

Appendix E

Native Plant Communities of the Southeast Landscape



The following table provides an inventory of all native plant communities (NPCs) at the System and Class level that can be found within all five Ecological Classification System (ECS) Subsections that intersect with the Southeast Landscape. (Note: Only those NPCs that fall within the intersection of the Subsections and the Southeast Landscape are shown.) This data is available on the Minnesota DNR's Data Deli, and can also be found in: MN DNR. 2003. Field Guide to the Native Plant Communities of Minnesota, The Eastern Broadleaf Forest Province.

ECS Subsection	NPC Systems	NPC Class Codes	NPC Classes
Blufflands	Cliff/Talus	CTs12	Southern Dry Cliff
		CTs23	Southern Open Talus
		CTs33	Southern Mesic Cliff
		CTs43	Southern Maderate Cliff
		CTs46	Southern Algific Talus
		CTs53	Southern Wet Cliff
	Fire-Dependent Forest	FDs27	Southern Dry-Mesic Pine-Oak Woodland
		FDs36	Southern Dry-Mesic Oak-Aspen Forest
		FDs38	Southern Dry-Mesic Oak-Hickory Woodland
	Floodplain Forest	FFs59	Southern Terrace Forest
		FFs68	Southern Floodplain Forest
	Mesic Hardwood Forest	MHc38	Central Mesic Cold-Slope Hardwood-Conifer Forest
		MHs37	Southern Dry-Mesic Oak Forest
		MHs38	Southern Mesic Oak-Basswood Forest
		MHs39	Southern Mesic Maple-Basswood Forest
		MHs49	Southern Wet-Mesic Hardwood Forest
		MHw36	Northwestern Wet-Mesic Hardwood Forest
	Marsh	MRn83	Northern Mixed Cattail Marsh
		MRn93	Northern Bulrush-Spikerush Marsh
	Open Rich Peatland	OPp93	Prairie Extremely Rich Fen
	River Shore	RVx32	Sand/Gravel/Cobble River Shore
	Upland Prairie	UPs13	Southern Dry Prairie
		UPs14	Southern Dry Savanna
UPs23		Southern Mesic Prairie	
Wet Forest	WFs57	Southern Wet Ash Swamp	
Wet Meadow/Carr	WMn82	Northern Wet Meadow/Carr	

ECS Subsection	NPC Systems	NPC Class Codes	NPC Classes	
Rochester Plateau		WMs83	Southern Seepage Meadow/Carr	
	Wetland Prairie	WPs54	Southern Wet Prairie	
	Cliff/Talus	CTs12	Southern Dry Cliff	
		CTs23	Southern Open Talus	
		CTs33	Southern Mesic Cliff	
		CTs43	Southern Maderate Cliff	
		CTs46	Southern Algific Talus	
		Fire-Dependent Forest	FDs27	Southern Dry-Mesic Pine-Oak Woodland
	FDs36		Southern Dry-Mesic Oak-Aspen Forest	
	FDs37		Southern Dry-Mesic Oak (Maple) Woodland	
	FDs38		Southern Dry-Mesic Oak-Hickory Woodland	
	Floodplain Forest	FFs59	Southern Terrace Forest	
	Mesic Hardwood Forest	MHc38	Central Mesic Cold-Slope Hardwood-Conifer Forest	
		MHs37	Southern Dry-Mesic Oak Forest	
		MHs38	Southern Mesic Oak-Basswood Forest	
		MHs39	Southern Mesic Maple-Basswood Forest	
		MHs49	Southern Wet-Mesic Hardwood Forest	
	Marsh	MRn93	Northern Bulrush-Spikerush Marsh	
	Open Rich Peatland	OPp93	Prairie Extremely Rich Fen	
	River Shore	RVx32	Sand/Gravel/Cobble River Shore	
	Upland Prairie	UPs13	Southern Dry Prairie	
		UPs14	Southern Dry Savanna	
		UPs23	Southern Mesic Prairie	
		UPs24	Southern Mesic Savanna	
		Wet Forest	WFs57	Southern Wet Ash Swamp
	Wet Meadow/Carr	WMn82	Northern Wet Meadow/Carr	
		WMs83	Southern Seepage Meadow/Carr	
	Wetland Prairie	WPs54	Southern Wet Prairie	
	Oak Savanna	Fire-Dependent Forest	FDs36	Southern Dry-Mesic Oak-Aspen Forest
			FDs37	Southern Dry-Mesic Oak (Maple) Woodland
Floodplain Forest		FFs59	Southern Terrace Forest	
		FFs68	Southern Floodplain Forest	
Mesic Hardwood Forest		MHs37	Southern Dry-Mesic Oak Forest	
		MHs38	Southern Mesic Oak-Basswood Forest	
		MHs39	Southern Mesic Maple-Basswood Forest	
	MHs49	Southern Wet-Mesic Hardwood Forest		

ECS Subsection	NPC Systems	NPC Class Codes	NPC Classes
	Marsh	MRn93	Northern Bulrush-Spikerush Marsh
		MRp93	Prairie Bulrush-Arrowhead Marsh
	Open Rich Peatland	OPp93	Prairie Extremely Rich Fen
	Upland Prairie	UPs13	Southern Dry Prairie
		UPs14	Southern Dry Savanna
		UPs23	Southern Mesic Prairie
	Wet Forest	WFs57	Southern Wet Ash Swamp
	Wet Meadow/Carr	WMn82	Northern Wet Meadow/Carr
WMs83		Southern Seepage Meadow/Carr	
Wetland Prairie	WPs54	Southern Wet Prairie	
Big Woods	Cliff/Talus	CTs53	Southern Wet Cliff
	Fire-Dependent Forest	FDs37	Southern Dry-Mesic Oak (Maple) Woodland
	Floodplain Forest	FFs59	Southern Terrace Forest
	Forested Rich Peatland	FFs68	Southern Floodplain Forest
		FPs63	Southern Rich Conifer Swamp
	Lakeshore	LKi32	Inland Lake Sand/Gravel/Cobble Shore
		LKi54	Inland Lake Clay/Mud Shore
	Mesic Hardwood Forest	MHs37	Southern Dry-Mesic Oak Forest
		MHs38	Southern Mesic Oak-Basswood Forest
		MHs39	Southern Mesic Maple-Basswood Forest
		MHs49	Southern Wet-Mesic Hardwood Forest
	Marsh	MRn83	Northern Mixed Cattail Marsh
		MRn93	Northern Bulrush-Spikerush Marsh
	Open Rich Peatland	OPn92	Northern Rich Fen (Basin)
		OPp93	Prairie Extremely Rich Fen
	Upland Prairie	UPs13	Southern Dry Prairie
		UPs14	Southern Dry Savanna
		UPs23	Southern Mesic Prairie
	Wet Meadow/Carr	WMn82	Northern Wet Meadow/Carr
		WMs83	Southern Seepage Meadow/Carr
Minnesota River Prairie	Floodplain Forest	FFs59	Southern Terrace Forest
		FFs68	Southern Dry-Mesic Oak Forest
	Mesic Hardwood Forest	MHs37	Southern Mesic Oak-Basswood Forest
		MHs38	Southern Mesic Maple-Basswood Forest
		MHs39	Prairie Bulrush-Arrowhead Marsh

ECS Subsection	NPC Systems	NPC Class Codes	NPC Classes
	Marsh	MRp93	Southern Dry Prairie
	Upland Prairie	UPs13	Southern Mesic Prairie
		UPs23	Southern Terrace Forest

Appendix F

FY2015-2016 Annual Work Plan



The following table provides an example of the template that the Southeast Landscape Committee will utilize to create Annual Work Plans from the 10-Year Committee Work Plan. Annual Work Plans will prioritize objectives and action items from the 10-Year Committee Work Plan for a given fiscal year and will be used to identify leadership, partners, resource and staffing needs, and potential barriers to implementing action items and achieving objectives.

[In development]

Ecological Goal:

Total forest land will be increased and fragmentation of forest land will be decreased. Forest health and quality will be protected and increased in addition to forest quantity

Objectives	Lead / Partners	Resources Available / Resources Needed	Potential Barriers	Estimated Cost	Staffing Needs
Objective 1: Protect and manage 10,000 acres of critical habitat containing native plant communities. [G1-S1; G1-S3; G1-S7]					
Objective 2: Establish a working forest easement program tailored to Southeast Minnesota. [G1-S7]					
Objective 3: Establish a Forest Bank program. [G1-S7]					

Appendix G

2003 – 2013 Accomplishments



2003 Goal 1: Increase Forest Land. Increase forest land that is high quality, biologically diverse (e.g. appropriate species on appropriate sites) and is in contiguous areas (e.g., large patches).

Table 1: 2003 Southeast Landscape Plan targets and strategies for Goal 1; accomplishments to date (Jan. 1 2014)

Targets	Strategies/Actions	Accomplishments by Jan 1, 2014
<p>Target 1: Increase Forestland Increase forest land by 3% of entire land area over the next 5-10 years (approximately 77,000 acres)</p>	<p>Strategy 1: On-the-Ground Forest Management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish appropriate species on appropriate sites (see goal) • Use prescribed fire to support regeneration of oak. • Prepare and implement Stewardship Plans. • Encourage reforestation next to existing forested areas. • Remove exotic/invasive species (e.g. buckthorn, garlic mustard, gypsy moth). • Reduce cattle in forests. • Increase seedling production and have landowners promote regeneration on their forests. <p>Strategy 2: Research / Information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify areas of exotic/invasive species. • Research methods for exotic/invasive species removal/control/prevention. • Research how private lands are being managed. • Monitor and report on indicators every year. (e.g. number of stewardship plans prepared, acres enrolled in plans, implementation activities conducted, timber harvests, buckthorn removal, etc). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worth of the Woods: The Value of Ecosystem Services. Katie Hawkins, University of Minnesota. • Blufflands on the Edge Conference. Minnesota Land Trust and other partners. April 22, 2005. • Conservation Priority Area Planning. TNC. Ephraimson process • Threats to the Forest Resources in the Midwest Driftless Area, Oak Forest Management studies. Trish Knoot, University of Iowa. • Landscape Planning & Land Use Policy Study. Mary Williams. U of MN • A Guide for Managing Forest Interior Bird Habitat. Driftless Area Initiative.

<p>Target 2: Right Trees/Forests Establish appropriate species on appropriate sites:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. in mesic sites promote a mix of maple, cottonwood, basswood, oak, and other native species. 2. in dry (oak savanna) and dry-mesic (hardwood) sites promote regeneration and management of oak, walnut, shagbark hickory, and other native species. 3. In prairie and wetland areas promote appropriate native vegetation. 	<p>Strategy 3: Economic/Policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide tax law information to landowners • Examine pros/cons of various tax laws (e.g. mill tax, gas tax, etc.) • Research long-term economic benefits of contiguous forest land. • Develop/support laws and mechanisms to increase forest land. • Research developing a program where landowners enroll their forest land into and receive yearly payments based on the revenue from the management of all the forest land in the program. • Promote forest businesses that support sustainable management of forests. • Establish non-traditional forest product markets. <p>Strategy 4: Outreach and Technical Assistance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have loggers recommend that landowners have a stewardship plan prepared and implemented for their land. • Provide unique outreach activities (field days, workshops) to various groups including: private woodlot owners, farmland owners near forested areas, marginal cropland owners, seasonal residents, elected officials and stakeholder groups. • Create a forest resources contact list for each county. <p>Strategy 5: Education:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote long-term benefits of forest management. • Provide silvicultural examples for management of mesic, oak savanna and hardwood sites. • Provide workshops and field days (for example woodland advisor classes) for loggers and private landowners on stewardship planning and landscape goals. • Show successful forest management (use passive demonstration areas and active field days). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest Bank Project: An Economic Collaboration for Improving the Management of the Private Woodlands in Southeastern Minnesota. Wabasha SWCD, University of Minnesota, and consulting foresters from the area. • Improved Marketing and Utilization Workshop. MLEP. June 2, 2005. • My Healthy Woods: Property Tax Workshops for Woodland Owners. University of Minnesota Extension. Spring, 2010. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest Habitat Workshop – March 2003. • Safety Harvest Workshop – March 2003. • Site Level Guidelines Training – Spring 2005. • Adult Education Directory: A Directory of Providers of Adult Natural Resources Education Programs Active in Southeast Minnesota. University of Minnesota Extension. • My Healthy Woods: A Handbook for Family Woodland Owners Managing Woods in Southeast Minnesota. Aldo Leopold Foundation. 2010. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Southeast Forestry Field Day – June 2003. • Woodland Owner Workshops – 2007 and 2008. • Annual Wabasha Forestry Day: A Workshop for Private Woodland Owners. MN DNR Forestry and Wabasha County Forestry Committee. Held annually in February. • My Healthy Woods: A Field Day at the Greenheck Family Forest. September 2010.
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2003 Goal 2: Decrease Fragmentation from Development. Support development patterns that sustain forest resources (decrease fragmentation).

Table 1: 2003 Southeast Landscape Plan targets and strategies for Goal 2; accomplishments to date (Jan. 1 2014)

Targets	Strategies/Actions	Accomplishments to Date (Jan 1, 2014)
<p>Target 1: Coordination Interagency and public coordination and cooperation is critical to better forest resources planning in the region.</p>	<p>Strategy 1: On-the-Ground Forest Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement development patterns that sustain forest resources. • Activate Forest Legacy areas in the region. <p>Strategy 2: Research / Information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define and promote development patterns that maintain and enhance forest resources (use success stories). • Research current and future infrastructure costs in compact/clustered development versus costs from scattered housing. • Monitor and report on indicators every year. Indicators could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ zoning ✓ land use patterns ✓ variances issued ✓ population • Examine county and city plans looking for places they can be enhanced with regard to forest resource conservation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Southeast Minnesota Forest Legacy Program: Purchase of 16 Conservation Easements in Wabasha County. MN Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry

<p>Target 2: Management Sustainable management needs long-term commitments from:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Political structures. 2. Funding sources. 3. Planning groups 	<p>Strategy 3: Economic/Policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop consistent policies for the region. • Establish continuity between plans. • Develop/support laws and mechanisms to increase forest land. • Develop methods to support long-term commitments from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ political structures ✓ funding sources ✓ planning groups <p>Strategy 4: Outreach and Technical Assistance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide developers, elected officials, administrators and planners access to forest resources information (e.g. GIS) possibly via an Internet data warehouse. • Utilize private/public partnerships to assist in implementation of these strategies. One on one relationship building is important. • Develop issue papers that groups can use during discussions relating to sustaining forest resources. • Meet with groups (e.g., non-profits, civic leaders, and agencies) in the region to see how they can promote sustainable development. • Create a forest resources contact list for each county. • Establish a regional calendar of public meetings that landowners can attend. <p>Strategy 5: Education:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct regional topic meetings, forums or workshops. Example topics include how to: manage your forest, use forest tax laws, sell development rights and run in an election. <p>Convene a group of civic leaders, planners, citizens, etc., to begin discussions on sustaining forest resources while managing sprawl.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whitewater Landscape Stewardship Project: Development and Coordination of a Landscape Stewardship Plan to Guide Increased Private Forest Management in the Whitewater Watershed. US Forest Service grant. • Root River Landscape Stewardship Project: Development and Coordination of a Landscape Stewardship Plan to Guide Increased Private Forest Management in the Root Watershed. US Forest Service / US EPA grant. • Hiawatha Sustainable Woods Cooperative • Oak Savanna Landscape Project. MN DNR. • Lower Mississippi River Habitat Restoration Partnership. • Whitewater Watershed Partnership. • Lower Zumbro Partnership. • Vermillion River. • Upper Mississippi Watershed Partnership.
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Appendix H

Monitoring Questions Table



The following table provides monitoring questions and potential data sources for the Southeast Committee to utilize during development, implementation, coordination, and monitoring of the 10-Year Committee Work Plan via Annual Work Plans.

Ecological Goal:

Total forest land will be increased and fragmentation of forest land will be decreased. Forest health and quality will be protected and increased in addition to forest quantity

Objectives	Monitoring Questions	Potential Data Source
Objective 1: Protect and manage 5,000 acres of critical habitat containing native plant communities. [G1-S1; G1-S3; G1-S6]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How many acres have been protected? • How many acres contain NPCs? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR Wildlife • DNR Eco Resources • TNC
Objective 2: Establish a working forest easement program tailored to Southeast Minnesota. [G1-S6]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the program established? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SE Committee
Objective 3: Establish a Forest Bank program. [G1-S6]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the bank established? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SE Committee
Objective 4: Direct Natural Resource Conservation Service Environmental Quality Incentive Program financial assistance and State conservation funds, including Clean Water Fund money, toward regional priority areas. [G1-S1; G1-S6]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How much EQIP money is spent in priority areas as identified by the Committee? • How much LSOHC money is spent in priority areas as identified by the Committee? • How much CWF money is spent in priority areas as identified by the Committee? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NRCS • LSOHC staff • MPCA, BWSR staff
Objective 5: Perform prescriptive burning on eight sites of 200 acres or more. [G1-S2; G1-S3]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How many prescribed burns have occurred on sites with 200 acres or more? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR Wildlife • DNR Eco Resources • TNC

Social Goal:

Southeast Minnesota’s private forest landowners will receive consistent technical and financial resources to implement management strategies. Natural resources planning entities will coordinate to ensure consistent delivery of education and services to these landowners. Healthy forests (public and private) will positively impact public health and recreation in the region.

Objectives	Monitoring Questions	Potential Data Source
<p>Objective 1: Work with the Minnesota Forest Resources Council to establish monitoring protocols and supporting funding for the Regional Landscape Committees; include outcome-based planning and program administration in protocols and budget requests. [G2-S1; G2-S3]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What monitoring protocols have been developed for the Landscape Committees? • How much funding has been established for the Landscape Committees? • How have planning and administration been incorporated into protocols and budgets? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MFRC
<p>Objective 2: Support efforts to improve the 2c Managed Forest tax law, the Sustainable Forest Incentives Act, and other tax and incentives programs by broadening enrollment and requiring performance standards (e.g., management activities). [G2-S8]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What changes have been implemented to forest tax and incentive programs? • How are performance standards addressed in the SFIA and 2c programs? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MFRC • DNR • Local officials
<p>Objective 3: Work with MN DNR Cooperative Forest Management program foresters in the region to encourage the integration of the goals and strategies in this Plan (e.g. habitat quality improvement) into forest stewardship plans for private landowners.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What communication structures have been established with regional foresters? • How many new forest stewardship plans incorporate the goals and strategies of the Landscape Plan? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR CFM Program
<p>Objective 4: Work closely with regional partners to engage landowners. [G2-S4, G2-5, G2-S7, G2-S8, G2-S11]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What communication structures have been established for engaging landowners? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR CFM Program • TNC • UMN Extension
<p>Objective 5: Complete the Root River, Whitewater, Cannon and Zumbro landscape stewardship plans and share with participants and relevant stakeholders. [G2-S1; G2-S3; G2-S4]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are the landscape stewardship plans complete? • Have the plans been distributed to stakeholders? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SE Committee • TNC

Objectives	Monitoring Questions	Potential Data Source
<p>Objective 6: Complete Healthy Watershed Plans/Landscape Stewardship Plans and incorporate into complimentary watershed-based plans, including but not limited to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency’s Watershed Resource and Protection Strategies (WRAPS) and the Minnesota Board of Soil and Water Resources One Watershed, One Plan (1W1P). [G2-S1; G2-S9; G2-S14].</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have the landscape stewardship plans been incorporated into local water plans? Which plans and in what way? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MPCA • BWSR
<p>Objective 7: Develop land-appropriate forest-based recreation on publicly administered lands, i.e. hunting, hiking. [G2-S4; G2-S12; G2-S13]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What new or enhanced recreation opportunities are present on public land? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR Div. of Forestry • USDA Forest Service
<p>Objective 8: Support coordination of partnering agencies for implementation of the goals described in this Plan. Identify specific actions that each agency could bring to the table. [G2-S1, G2-S2, G2-S3, G2-S4, G2-S7]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which partnering agencies have been engaged in goal implementation? • What action plans have been developed by partners for goal implementation? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR • TNC • UMN Extension • SE Committee • Other local partners
<p>Objective 9: Survey landowners on demographics, interests, and management activities at relevant events. [G2-S7]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has a survey been developed? • Where has the survey been implemented/ • What do the survey finding tell us? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SE Committee • University of Minnesota

Economic Goal:

Forested landscapes in Southeast Minnesota will continue to support a viable forest products industry, support the recreation and tourism industry, and provide numerous ecosystem services. Research and project implementation will further our understanding of the full array and value of services provided by these forests.

Objectives	Monitoring Questions	Potential Data Source
<p>Objective 1: Support emerging forest products markets for Southeast Minnesota. [G3-S1; G3-S2; G3-S3; G3-S4; G3-S5]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What forest product markets currently exist? • Where are opportunities for new markets? • What actions have been taken to support development of new markets? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MN DEED • SE Committee • Local forest product industry partners

Objectives	Monitoring Questions	Potential Data Source
<p>Objective 2: Perform an economic analysis for the Forest Bank program. [G3-S2]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has an economic analysis been performed for the Forest Bank? • What do the results of the analysis tell us? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SE Committee
<p>Objective 3: Encourage a state-wide "check-off" funding from industry to support forest protection and management. [G3-S5]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What efforts have been made to work with industry to develop this funding source? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SE Committee • MFRC • Local industry partners
<p>Objective 4: Engage in other Southeast Minnesota local planning activities. [G3-S5]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What other local planning efforts has the SE Committee engaged in? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SE Committee