

**Spatial Analysis of Forest Landscape Conditions**  
**Project Strategy Team**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**March 30, 2000**

**In attendance:** Jenny Brown, Jan Green, Logan Lee, Dave Miller, Tim O'Hara, Garrett Ous, Lee Pfannmuller, Chris Edgar, and Jim Manolis.

**Unable to attend:** Alan Ek, Jim Erkel, Jim Marshall, and Jerry Niemi.

**Guests:** George Host, Mike Kilgore, Ron Nargang, and Eli Sagor.

The first meeting of the Project Strategy Team was held March 30, 2000 at the Cloquet Forestry Center. The meeting convened shortly after 11 am.

Logan provided opening remarks and commented that as team leader she would facilitate meetings and ensure they follow a logical flow. Ron spoke and commented that the project aims to examine past, current, and possible future forest landscape conditions. Outcomes of this process must be credible, understandable, realistic, and doable. Ron commented that the Landscape Committee will not be "hands on" and encouraged the strategy team to critically review the prospectus and provide input.

Introductions followed Ron's presentation.

Chris Edgar passed out a revised prospectus dated March 27, 2000. The revised prospectus includes changes recommended by the MFRC Landscape Committee at their March 27 meeting. Chris then gave a presentation of the prospectus.

Lunch was taken following Chris' presentation.

The afternoon session began with several questions from Strategy Team members as to the purpose of the project. Garrett commented that several points that Chris made in his presentation were not clearly written in the prospectus. Chief among these is that this project does not aim to set desired future conditions. Chris commented that the project aims to support existing planning efforts by providing spatial analysis, tools, and products that can be used in existing planning efforts.

Much of the remainder of the meeting was spent reviewing the purpose statement from the prospectus. The group came up with the following draft vision of the project purpose:

- Improve the understanding of conditions and changes in landscapes through the depiction of past, current, and possible future landscape patterns
- Develop effect tools that assess those conditions and changes
- Provide a foundation for integration of landscape analyses into forest resource planning efforts
- Implement and test the tools to the degree possible

- Identify limitations in data, in the use of spatial data, and the interpretation of analyses
- This effort adds to and does not replace existing planning efforts nor does it address all concerns and issues related to the management of forest landscapes

Chris was asked to what degree can the team change the prospectus. Chris commented that the prospectus is a Landscape Committee document. Chris noted that Ron encouraged the team to review the prospectus and inform the Landscape Committee of any recommended changes.

Jan passed out a 1-page paper titled Suggestions for Important Questions. She then stepped through the paper and fielded questions from team members.

Logan presented several key messages/talking points and asked that Chris e-mail these to the team in the next day or two. Logan asked that each team member go back and begin to identify important questions, available tools, and technical issues related to the management of forest landscapes.

April 18 and May 16 were identified as future meeting dates.

The meeting ended at 3 pm.