

COMPARTMENT REVIEW RECORD OF CHANGES AND DECISIONS

Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment



Pigeon River Country Forest Management Unit

2013 Year-of-Entry

Pigeon River Country Headquarters

October 4, 2011

The following documents the changes and decisions made at the compartment review to the Inventory database, reports, and compartment maps presented at open house for the PRC Forest Management Unit compartment review. This document is the official record of changes and decisions. Proposals originally presented were approved unless noted below.

Attendees

Scott Whitcomb, FMD; Jeff Stampfly, FMD; Sara Wall, FMD; Richard McDonald, FMD; Tim Greco, FMD; Brian Mastenbrook, WLD; Lee Osterland, FMD; Jason Stephens, FMD, Dan Heckman, FMD, Paige Perry, FMD, Erin Victory, WLD

Members of the public in attendance: Joseph Jarecki,

Comments from Stakeholders

The Open House was held at the Pigeon River Country Headquarters on September 14, 2011 and was attended by 8 visitors, who viewed maps and data and discussed prescriptions with staff.

Comments were provided by:

- Joseph Jarecki, Vanderbilt, Michigan – Many comments were made on multiple compartments. Overall comments were favorable to the treatments being proposed. Several suggestions were offered to improve our products, such as changing map symbols from a skier to hiker when portions of a trail are dangerous to skiers.
- Jim Supina, Chairman, PRCAC Wildlife Committee – Several comments were made in writing that were considered during the review. Particular interest was conveyed regarding assuring grassy openings and upland brush not be allowed to convert to forested conditions and that opportunities be sought to expand or add to these to achieve the 6 to 7 percent goal as stated in the Concept of Management. Consideration should also be given to silvicultural practices that assure oak regeneration.

Comments from stakeholders that were provided at the open house or otherwise during the comment period were announced and discussed. Comments specific to compartments were read and considered as each compartment was discussed. Stakeholder input that resulted in changes to prescriptions for a specific compartment or stand is recorded in the compartment notes below. Copies of all comments are on file at the unit office.

Compartment 7 (Stand examiner – Rick McDonald)

Discussion of comments from individual outside parties:

- Asked Joe if he had any comments that he wanted carried forward from open house. He just wanted them considered. Rick acknowledged consideration and there was some discussion.

Changes made at compartment review:

- Stands 73, 90 Add stand condition 8 and SCA for landscape level retention.
- The new acquisition, Section 13, will be proposed for addition to the PRC boundary. This is supported by the PRCAC.
- There is a nominated pine natural area. This is adequately captured in the SCA layer now.

Compartment 19 (Stand examiner – Rick McDonald)

Discussion of comments from individual outside parties:

- PRCAC asked for a winter only harvest on Stand 49 to help scarification/regeneration. After discussion this was dropped because summer logging would actually increase scarification.
- A couple of areas may exceed 40 acres and discussion of notifying the PRCAC ensued.

Changes made at compartment review:

- Stand 18 – Method of cut needs to be changed to a final harvest.

Compartment 49 (Stand examiner – Sara Wall)

Discussion of comments from individual outside parties:

- No comments.

Changes made at compartment review:

- Stand 74 (south ½) and 81 - Need to code for harvest with a delayed start of 6 years. Treat with compartment to the west (being inventoried in 2012).
- Stands 33, 66, 74 and 81 – Note that Shore to Shore trail will need to be considered during timber sale preparation and administration.
- Stand 88 - Add comments for hawk nest in SE part of stand. Change residual target basal area to a range of 100-120 rather than reducing by one-third.
- Stands 17, 103, 113 and 119 – Add coding to maintain the openings.
- Stand 89 – Change treatment method from single tree selection to crown thinning.

Compartment 32 (Stand examiner – Rick McDonald)

Discussion of comments from individual outside parties:

- PRCAC asked that cut in stand 6 be put in the southeast part of the stand to try and limit blow down.
- PRCAC asked that oak be planted in stand 79

Changes made at compartment review:

- Tributary out of Grass Lake into the Pigeon River doesn't show up in the Natural Rivers Designation (Grass Lake outlet in database).
- Stand 4 – add comments that match stand 13.
- Stand 6 – Delineate an approximate 40 acre treatment area in the eastern side, but west of the wet area. Retention area will be the wet area east of the treatment polygon.
- Stand 9 – Change method of cut to shelterwood, reducing basal area to 50-70 square feet. Prescribe fire to prepare seedbed and control red maple hardwood competition. Multiple burns at multiple times may be required to meet objective.
- Stand 12 – overall size class should be log and not sapling.

- Stands 32, 68, 74, 78 and 79 - Note that the pathway will need to be considered during timber sale preparation and administration.
- Stand 79 – After harvest evaluate hardwood competition and if it is inhibiting pine regeneration, consider prescribed burning. Oak should be planted at a rate of 200 units/acre after competition evaluation. Change cover type objective to pine/oak. Code next steps for FTP generation to site prep and plant oak.

Compartment 59 (Stand examiner – Sara Wall)

Discussion of comments from individual outside parties:

- PRCAC has been advised that some of the cutting in this compartment will be larger than 40 acres.
- Joe Jarecki brought up comments regarding stands 72 and 95 that were considered.

Changes made at compartment review:

- Stand 10, 28, 31, 64 and 81 - Change method of cut to row thinning with a target residual basal area around 120.
- Stand 20 – Change cover type objective oak/pine
- Stand 26 – Prescription specs need to be updated to “Opening maintenance by burning to maintain blue stem.”
- Stand 35 – Increase the buffer along the east side of the treatment (west side of the lake) to improve visuals from the lake.
- Stand 47 – In comments, change from “biodiversity” to “tree species diversity”.
- Stand 51 – Leave residual trees in clumps rather than individual trees to inhibit wind throw.
- Stand 72 – The northeast portion of stand 72 will be dropped off, area involved should be less than 1 acre.
- **Delayed Decision:** Stand 71 & Stand 72 – Fisheries needs to be asked if they are ok with no treatment in stand 71 and the treatment proposed in stand 72 – comments will be updated in IFMAP
 - **Final Decision:** On October 10th, Brian Mastenbrook met with Tim Cwalinski and explained the issues with stands 71 and 72. Tim did not have any concerns with stand 71 as the treatment had been dropped. Regarding stand 72, Tim is fine with cutting in the floodplain of the stand so long as some simple buffer is left or BMP's are followed while cutting in the riparian zone.
- Stands 64, 81 and 83 – Consider bald eagle guidelines when preparing and writing sale specifications.
- **Delayed Decision:** Stand 94 and 95 – Paige to look at visual considerations for campground stands. – comments will be updated in IFMAP
 - **Final Decision:** On October 5th, Scott Whitcomb and Sara Wall and Paige Perry went to the site. It was decided a 100 foot buffer would be used around the lake and pathway. We discussed that the campground itself would benefit from some single tree removal. It was agreed to do single tree selection in the campground to remove hazard or soon-to-be hazard trees. Recreation specialist will consider stump removal and camper safety when the work is performed and will be notified when the sale is prepared. Aesthetic value of the pathway and campground will need to be protected.
- Stand 95 – Redraw the treatment layer to reflect the buffer area. The treatments map doesn't show the campground.

Compartment 45 (Stand examiner – Rick McDonald)

Discussion of comments from individual outside parties:

- No comments.


Changes made at compartment review:

- Stands 4 and 10 – Prescribed burn is an option to prepare seedbed and encourage regeneration of pine if the burn is necessary or desirable.
- Stand 16 – non-commercial treatment to regenerate aspen and alder.
- Stands 13 and 25 – remove old stand comments

As the Compartment Review facilitator, I certify that the above changes have been agreed upon.

Jeff Stampfly, FMD District Supervisor

Signature:



October 10, 2011