

Silviculture Actions
Progress Report

1. Strategy: Increase the use of long-term stand-level management plans (prescriptions) that consider the full spectrum of silvicultural practices and technologies and apply the most appropriate for increased productivity.

Responsible Party	Action	Specific Task	Timeline	Status	Comments
Counties	1.1 Write prescriptions considering the life of the stand - from stand initiation to final harvest.	1.1.1 Develop/implement policies encouraging the preparation of prescriptions using all available information (ECS, insect /disease info, soils etc.).	<i>October 2008 MFRP policy review</i>		
		1.1.2 Promote the use of biomass.	<i>October 2008 MFRP review</i>		
	1.2 Use the full range of silvicultural systems to meet productivity goals, capture mortality, increase stand quality.	1.2.1 Develop demo acres showing range of options for silviculture systems appropriate to MN forest types, NPCs, and environmental conditions.	<i>October 2008, MFRP review demo area plans; October 2009, first demo area ready to view</i>		
		1.2.2 Implement user-friendly modeling system considering all facets of forest management and appropriate entry times for management.	<i>December 2008</i>		
		1.2.3 Develop method to determine stands of high risk and low volumes; implement harvest strategy to capture mortality and regenerate unproductive stands.	<i>July 2008</i>		
		1.2.4 Develop harvest strategy for timber products at more appropriate age to reduce mortality.	<i>July 2008</i>		
	1.3 Control infestation, damage, and spread of forest pests that affect productivity.	1.3.1 Apply research findings to the field.	<i>October 2008</i>		
		1.3.2 Educate public/legislators about issue of deer numbers. Focus on urban audience. Develop a coordinated action plan.	<i>June 2008</i>		

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DNR – Minnesota Department of Natural Resources	1.4 Write prescriptions considering the life of the stand - from stand initiation to final harvest.	1.4.1 Develop/implement policies encouraging the preparation of prescriptions using all available information (ECS, insect /disease info, soils etc.).	<i>October 2008 MFRP policy review</i>		
		1.4.2 Promote the use of biomass.	<i>October 2008 MFRP review</i>		
	1.5 Use the full range of silvicultural systems to meet productivity goals, capture mortality, increase stand quality.	1.5.1 Develop demo acres showing range of options for silviculture systems appropriate to MN forest types, NPCs, and environmental conditions.	<i>October 2008, MFRP review demo area plans; October 2009, first demo area ready to view</i>		
		1.5.2 Implement user-friendly modeling system considering all facets of forest management and appropriate entry times for management.	<i>December 2008</i>		
		1.5.3 Develop method to determine stands of high risk and low volumes; implement harvest strategy to capture mortality and regenerate unproductive stands.	<i>July 2008</i>		
		1.5.4 Develop harvest strategy for timber products at more appropriate age to reduce mortality.	<i>July 2008</i>		
	1.6 Control infestation, damage, and spread of forest pests that affect productivity.	1.6.1 Apply research findings to the field.	<i>October 2008</i>		
1.6.2 Educate public/legislators about issue of deer numbers. Focus on urban audience. Develop a coordinated action plan.		<i>June 2008</i>			
Forest Protection Task Force	1.7 Control infestation, damage, and spread of forest pests that affect productivity.	1.7.1 Coordinate efforts between ownerships and interest groups.	<i>October 2008</i>		
MDHA – Minnesota Deer Hunters Association	1.8 Control infestation, damage, and spread of forest pests that affect productivity.	1.8.1 Introduce legislation to ban recreational deer feeding.	<i>January 2009</i>		
MFPRC - Minnesota Forest Productivity Research Cooperative	1.9 Write prescriptions considering the life of the stand - from stand initiation to final harvest.	1.9.1 Support research to develop optimal thinning strategies by MFPRC and University of Minnesota.	<i>October 2009 Progress report to MFRP</i>		

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MFRC - Minnesota Forest Resources Council	1.10 Control infestation, damage, and spread of forest pests that affect productivity.	1.10.1 Coordinate efforts between ownerships and interest groups.	<i>October 2008</i>		
		1.10.2 Educate public/legislators about issue of deer numbers. Focus on urban audience. Develop a coordinated action plan.	<i>June 2008</i>		
		1.10.3 Introduce legislation to ban recreational deer feeding.	<i>January 2009</i>		
MFRP - Minnesota Forest Resources Partnership	1.11 Write prescriptions considering the life of the stand - from stand initiation to final harvest.	1.11.1 Develop prescription writing workshop for all forestry agencies to ensure commonality and adequacy.	<i>Summer 2008</i>		
	1.12 Use the full range of silvicultural systems to meet productivity goals, capture mortality, increase stand quality.	1.12.1 Coordinate workshops demonstrating range of silvicultural systems/options.	<i>October 2008 draft curriculum; July 2009 workshop.</i>		
	1.13 Control infestation, damage, and spread of forest pests that affect productivity.	1.13.1 Coordinate efforts between ownerships and interest groups.	<i>October 2008</i>		
		1.13.2 Introduce legislation to ban recreational deer feeding.	<i>January 2009</i>		
MLEP – Minnesota Logger Education Program	1.14 Write prescriptions considering the life of the stand - from stand initiation to final harvest.	1.14.1 Develop harvesting technologies for efficient harvest of small-diameter material.	<i>October 2009 MFRP review</i>		

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Timber Industry	1.15 Write prescriptions considering the life of the stand - from stand initiation to final harvest.	1.15.1 Develop/implement policies encouraging the preparation of prescriptions using all available information (ECS, insect /disease info, soils etc.).	<i>October 2008 MFRP policy review</i>		
		1.15.2 Develop harvesting technologies for efficient harvest of small-diameter material.	<i>October 2009 MFRP review</i>		
		1.15.3 Promote the use of biomass.	<i>October 2008 MFRP review</i>		
	1.16 Use the full range of silvicultural systems to meet productivity goals, capture mortality, increase stand quality.	1.16.1 Develop demo acres showing range of options for silviculture systems appropriate to MN forest types, NPCs, and environmental conditions.	<i>October 2008, MFRP review demo area plans; October 2009, first demo area ready to view</i>		
		1.16.2 Implement user-friendly modeling system considering all facets of forest management and appropriate entry times for management.	<i>December 2008</i>		
	1.17 Control infestation, damage, and spread of forest pests that affect productivity.	1.17.1 Educate public/legislators about issue of deer numbers. Focus on urban audience. Develop a coordinated action plan.	<i>June 2008</i>		
1.17.2 Introduce legislation to ban recreational deer feeding.		<i>January 2009</i>			
USFS – United States Forest Service	1.18 Write prescriptions considering the life of the stand - from stand initiation to final harvest.	1.18.1 Develop/implement policies encouraging the preparation of prescriptions using all available information (ECS, insect /disease info, soils etc.).	<i>October 2008 MFRP policy review</i>		
		1.18.2 Promote the use of biomass.	<i>October 2008 MFRP review</i>		
	1.19 Use the full range of silvicultural systems to meet productivity goals, capture mortality, increase stand quality.	1.19.1 Develop method to determine stands of high risk and low volumes; implement harvest strategy to capture mortality and regenerate unproductive stands.	<i>July 2008</i>		
		1.19.2 Develop harvest strategy for timber products at more appropriate age to reduce mortality.	<i>July 2008</i>		
	1.20 Control infestation, damage, and spread of forest pests that affect productivity.	1.20.1 Apply research findings to the field.	<i>October 2008</i>		

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University of Minnesota	1.21 Write prescriptions considering the life of the stand - from stand initiation to final harvest.	1.21.1 Develop harvesting technologies for efficient harvest of small-diameter material.	<i>October 2009</i> <i>MFRP review</i>		
	1.22 Control infestation, damage, and spread of forest pests that affect productivity.	1.22.1 Apply research findings to the field.	<i>October 2008</i>		
		1.22.2 Educate public/legislators about issue of deer numbers. Focus on urban audience. Develop a coordinated action plan.	<i>June 2008</i>		

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2. Strategy: Enable loggers to be more self-directed when conducting first-entry thinnings

Responsible Party	Action	Specific Task	Timeline	Status	Comments
Community Business / Chambers of Commerce	2.1 Provide incentives such as low interest loans for loggers for purchase of equipment appropriate for thinning sales.	2.1.1 Lobby Legislature to subsidize interest rates for equipment loans.	<i>May 2008</i>		
Counties	2.2 Public agencies should ensure timber sale policies allow/promote logger-select thinning, with appropriate performance standards.	2.2.1 Prepare report to MFRP inclusive of: analysis of timber sale policies identifying barriers/opportunities for logger-select thinnings; baseline of number of sales and acres of logger select sales over past five years; projection of number of acres and sales agency can promote/support from 2009-2014.	<i>October 2008</i>		
	2.3 Build on existing logger training programs	2.3.1 Develop policies to allow only trained loggers to bid on logger-select sales.	<i>January 2010</i>		
	2.4 Provide incentives such as low interest loans for loggers for purchase of equipment appropriate for thinning sales.	2.4.1 Offer logger-select thinning sales.	<i>January 2008</i>		

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DNR - Minnesota Department of Natural Resources	2.5 Public agencies should ensure timber sale policies allow/promote logger-select thinning, with appropriate performance standards.	2.5.1 Prepare report to MFRP inclusive of: analysis of timber sale policies identifying barriers/opportunities for logger-select thinnings; baseline of number of sales and acres of logger select sales over past five years; projection of number of acres and sales agency can promote/support from 2009-2014.	<i>October 2008</i>		
	2.6 Build on existing logger training programs	2.6.1 Develop policies to allow only trained loggers to bid on logger-select sales.	<i>January 2010</i>		
	2.7 Provide incentives such as low interest loans for loggers for purchase of equipment appropriate for thinning sales.	2.7.1 Offer logger-select thinning sales.	<i>January 2008</i>		
MFA - Minnesota Forestry Association	2.8 Public agencies should ensure timber sale policies allow/promote logger-select thinning, with appropriate performance standards.	2.8.1 Prepare report to MFRP inclusive of: analysis of timber sale policies identifying barriers/opportunities for logger-select thinnings; baseline of number of sales and acres of logger select sales over past five years; projection of number of acres and sales agency can promote/support from 2009-2014.	<i>October 2008</i>		
	2.9 Build on existing logger training programs	2.9.1 Develop policies to allow only trained loggers to bid on logger-select sales.	<i>January 2010</i>		
	2.10 Provide incentives such as low interest loans for loggers for purchase of equipment appropriate for thinning sales.	2.10.1 Offer logger-select thinning sales.	<i>January 2008</i>		

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MFI – Minnesota Forest Industries	2.11 Build on existing logger training programs	2.11.1 Sponsor Career Days recruiting next generation of loggers.	<i>June 2008</i>		
		2.11.2 Lobby Legislature to increase funding for logger education.	<i>June 2008</i>		
	2.12 Provide incentives such as low interest loans for loggers for purchase of equipment appropriate for thinning sales.	2.12.1 Lobby Legislature to subsidize interest rates for equipment loans.	<i>May 2008</i>		
MFPRC - Minnesota Forest Productivity Research Cooperative	2.13 Build on existing logger training programs	2.13.1 Develop thinning criteria that are easily implemented.	<i>June 2008</i>		
MFRP - Minnesota Forest Resources Council	2.14 Build on existing logger training programs	2.14.1 Sponsor Career Days recruiting next generation of loggers.	<i>June 2008</i>		
		2.14.2 Lobby Legislature to increase funding for logger education.	<i>June 2008</i>		
MFRP - Minnesota Forest Resources Partnership	2.15 Build on existing logger training programs	2.15.1 Sponsor Career Days recruiting next generation of loggers.	<i>June 2008</i>		
		2.15.2 Lobby Legislature to increase funding for logger education.	<i>June 2008</i>		
	2.16 Provide incentives such as low interest loans for loggers for purchase of equipment appropriate for thinning sales.	2.16.1 Lobby Legislature to subsidize interest rates for equipment loans.	<i>May 2008</i>		
Timber Industry	2.17 Build on existing logger training programs	2.17.1 Recognize loggers for training.	<i>2008</i>		
		2.17.2 Sponsor Career Days recruiting next generation of loggers.	<i>June 2008</i>		
		2.17.3 Lobby Legislature to increase funding for logger education.	<i>June 2008</i>		
	2.18 Provide incentives such as low interest loans for loggers for purchase of equipment appropriate for thinning sales.	2.18.1 Guarantee contracted wood is deliverable regardless of temporary market conditions.	<i>January 2008</i>		
		2.18.2 Offer logger-select thinning sales.	<i>January 2008</i>		
		2.18.3 Lobby Legislature to subsidize interest rates for equipment loans.	<i>May 2008</i>		

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USFS – United States Forest Service	2.19 Public agencies should ensure timber sale policies allow/promote logger-select thinning, with appropriate performance standards.	2.19.1 Prepare report to MFRP inclusive of: analysis of timber sale policies identifying barriers/opportunities for logger-select thinnings; baseline of number of sales and acres of logger select sales over past five years; projection of number of acres and sales agency can promote/support from 2009-2014.	<i>October 2008</i>		
	2.20 Build on existing logger training programs	2.20.1 Develop policies to allow only trained loggers to bid on logger-select sales.	<i>January 2010</i>		
	2.21 Provide incentives such as low interest loans for loggers for purchase of equipment appropriate for thinning sales.	2.21.1 Offer logger-select thinning sales.	<i>January 2008</i>		

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3. Strategy: Use ecological classification systems to better match site, species, and silvicultural prescriptions

Responsible Party	Action	Specific Task	Timeline	Status	Comments
Counties	3.1 Provide classes through differing venues, depending on audience.	3.1.1 Provide opportunity for ECS training while doing performance reviews.	<i>Fiscal year 2008</i>		
		3.1.2 Determine number of employees needing training.	<i>October 2008 Summary of numbers/needs to MFRP</i>		
	3.2 Provide tools to implement ECS.	3.2.1 Provide field demo sites with documentation on forestry activities performed. Information compiled on one location for everyone's use.	<i>Ongoing</i>		
		3.2.2 Use established inventories as base to assess needed change. Modify so data is compatible across ownerships.	<i>October 2009: Progress report to MFRP</i>		
	3.3 Capitalize on existing monitoring systems and change and/or modify as needed.	3.3.1 Evaluate effectiveness of implementing ECS; establish case studies to begin documentation.	<i>October 2009: Preliminary assessment and progress report to MFRP</i>		
		3.3.2 Monitor planting survival rates, stocking levels, number of intermediate entries, fiber quality, available products, health, and volume facilitated by field foresters and analyzed by agency managers.	<i>December 2008: Annual report to MFRP</i>		
		3.3.3 Provide resources for a monitoring system and encourage funding by Legislators.			

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DNR - Minnesota Department of Natural Resources	3.4 Provide classes through differing venues, depending on audience.	3.4.1 Provide opportunity for ECS training while doing performance reviews.	<i>Fiscal year 2008</i>		
		3.4.2 Determine number of employees needing training.	<i>October 2008 Summary of numbers/needs to MFRP</i>		
	3.5 Provide tools to implement ECS.	3.5.1 Provide field demo sites with documentation on forestry activities performed. Information compiled on one location for everyone's use.	<i>Ongoing</i>		
		3.5.2 Use established inventories as base to assess needed change. Modify so data is compatible across ownerships.	<i>October 2009: Progress report to MFRP</i>		
		3.5.3 Compile information needed for Minnesota Plant ID book.	<i>May 2008, web version</i>		
		3.5.4 Work to provide silviculture interpretations/suggestions by plant communities. Create demo sites. DNR will coordinate across land ownerships.	<i>October 2008: Progress report to MFRP</i>		
	3.6 Capitalize on existing monitoring systems and change and/or modify as needed.	3.6.1 Evaluate effectiveness of implementing ECS; establish case studies to begin documentation.	<i>October 2009: Preliminary assessment and progress report to MFRP</i>		
		3.6.2 Monitor planting survival rates, stocking levels, number of intermediate entries, fiber quality, available products, health, and volume facilitated by field foresters and analyzed by agency managers.	<i>December 2008: Annual report to MFRP</i>		
		3.6.3 Provide resources for a monitoring system and encourage funding by Legislators.			
	MFA - Minnesota Forestry Association	3.7 Provide tools to implement ECS.	3.7.1 Use established inventories as base to assess needed change. Modify so data is compatible across ownerships.	<i>October 2009: Progress report to MFRP</i>	
MFI – Minnesota Forest Industries	3.8 Provide tools to implement ECS.	3.8.1 Provide field demo sites with documentation on forestry activities performed. Information compiled on one location for everyone's use.	<i>Ongoing</i>		
MFRC - Minnesota Forest	3.9 Provide tools to implement ECS.	3.9.1 Use established inventories as base to assess needed change. Modify so data is compatible across ownerships.	<i>October 2009: Progress report to MFRP</i>		

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Resources Council					
NRRI – Natural Resources Research Institute	3.10 Provide tools to implement ECS.	3.10.1 Evaluate/provide new growth/yield models correlated to ECS.	<i>October 2008: Progress report to MFRP</i>		
		3.10.2 Provide field demo sites with documentation on forestry activities performed. Information compiled on one location for everyone’s use.	<i>Ongoing</i>		
USFS – United States Forest Service	3.11 Provide classes through differing venues, depending on audience.	3.11.1 Provide opportunity for ECS training while doing performance reviews.	<i>Fiscal year 2008</i>		
		3.11.2 Determine number of employees needing training.	<i>October 2008 Summary of numbers/needs to MFRP</i>		
	3.12 Provide tools to implement ECS.	3.12.1 Evaluate/provide new growth/yield models correlated to ECS.	<i>October 2008: Progress report to MFRP</i>		
		3.12.2 Provide field demo sites with documentation on forestry activities performed. Information compiled on one location for everyone’s use.	<i>Ongoing</i>		
		3.12.3 Use established inventories as base to assess needed change. Modify so data is compatible across ownerships.	<i>October 2009: Progress report to MFRP</i>		
	3.13 Capitalize on existing monitoring systems and change and/or modify as needed.	3.13.1 Evaluate effectiveness of implementing ECS; establish case studies to begin documentation.	<i>October 2009: Preliminary assessment and progress report to MFRP</i>		
		3.13.2 Monitor planting survival rates, stocking levels, number of intermediate entries, fiber quality, available products, health, and volume facilitated by field foresters and analyzed by agency managers.	<i>December 2008: Annual report to MFRP</i>		
		3.13.3 Provide resources for a monitoring system and encourage funding by Legislators.			

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University of Minnesota	3.14 Provide classes through differing venues, depending on audience.	3.14.1 Evaluate/change classes to reflect use of ECS and its integration with silviculture/ecology.	<i>October 2008: Report how to integrate</i>		
	3.15 Provide tools to implement ECS.	3.15.1 Evaluate/provide new growth/yield models correlated to ECS.	<i>October 2008: Progress report to MFRP</i>		
		3.15.2 Provide field demo sites with documentation on forestry activities performed. Information compiled on one location for everyone's use.	<i>Ongoing</i>		

Acronyms:

ECS – Ecological Classification System

NPC – Native Plant Community