

Appendix B - Excerpts of planning principles from the FSC Standards.

PRINCIPLE 7 MANAGEMENT PLAN

A management plan -- appropriate to the scale and intensity of the operations -- shall be written, implemented, and kept up to date. The long-term objectives of management, and the means of achieving them, shall be clearly stated.

7.1. The management plan and supporting documents shall provide:

- a) Management objectives.**
- b) Description of the forest resources to be managed, environmental limitations, land use and ownership status, socio-economic conditions, and a profile of adjacent lands.**
- c) Description of silvicultural and/or other management system, based on the ecology of the forest in question and information gathered through resource inventories.**
- d) Rationale for rate of annual harvest and species selection.**
- e) Provisions for monitoring of forest growth and dynamics.**
- f) Environmental safeguards based on environmental assessments.**
- g) Plans for the identification and protection of rare, threatened and endangered species.**
- h) Maps describing the forest resource base including protected areas, planned management activities and land ownership.**
- i) Description and justification of harvesting techniques and equipment to be used.**

Applicability Note: The management plan may consist of a variety of documents not necessarily unified into a single planning document but which represents an integrated strategy for managing the forest within the ecological, economic, and social limitations of the land. The plan includes a description and rationale for management elements appropriate to the scale, intensity, and goals of management, and may include:

- Silvicultural systems
- Regeneration strategies
- Maintenance of structural and species diversity
- Pest control (disease, insects, invasive species, and vegetation)
- Soil and water conservation
- Methods and annual rates of harvest, by species and products
- Equipment and personnel needs
- Transportation system
- Fire management
- Prescribed fires
- Wildfires
- Fish and wildlife and their habitats (including non-game species)
- Non-timber forest products
- Methods and annual rates of harvest, by species and products
- Regeneration strategies
- Socioeconomic issues
- Public access and use
- Conservation of historical and cultural resources
- Protection of aesthetic values
- Employee and contractor policies and procedures
- Community relations

Stakeholder notification
Public comment process
For public forests, legal and historic mandates
American Indian issues
Protection of legal and customary rights
Procedures for integrating tribal concerns in forest management
Management of sites of special significance
Special management areas
High Conservation Value Forests
Riparian management zone
Set asides of samples of representative existing ecosystems
Sensitive, rare, threatened, and endangered species protection
Other protected areas
Landscape level analyses and strategies

7.1.a. Management objectives

7.1.a.1. A written management plan is prepared that includes the landowner's short-term and long-term goals and objectives (ecological, social, and economic). The objectives are specific, achievable, and measurable.

7.1.a.2. The management plan describes desired future conditions that will meet the long-term goals and objectives and that determine the silvicultural system(s) and management activities to be used.

7.1.b. Description of forest resources to be managed, environmental limitations, land use and ownership status, socioeconomic conditions, and profile of adjacent lands

7.1.b.1. The management plan describes the timber, fish and wildlife, harvested nontimber forest products, soils, and non-economic forest resources.

7.1.b.2. The management plan includes descriptions of special management areas; sensitive, rare, threatened, and endangered species and their habitats; and other ecologically sensitive features in the forest.

7.1.b.3. The management plan includes a description of past land uses and incorporates this information into the vision, goals, and objectives.

7.1.b.4. The management plan identifies the legal status of the forest and its resources (e.g., ownership, usufruct rights (see Glossary), treaty rights, easements, deed restrictions, and leasing arrangements).

7.1.b.5. The management plan identifies relevant cultural and socioeconomic issues (e.g., traditional and customary rights of use, access, recreational uses, and employment), conditions (e.g., composition of the workforce, stability of employment, and changes in forest ownership and tenure), and areas of special significance (e.g., ceremonial and archeological sites).

7.1.b.6. The management plan incorporates landscape-level considerations within the ownership and among adjacent and nearby lands, including major bodies of water, critical habitats, and riparian corridors shared with adjacent ownerships.

7.1.c. Description of silvicultural and/or other management system

7.1.c.1. Silvicultural system(s) and prescriptions are based on the integration of ecological and economic characteristics (e.g., successional processes, soil characteristics, existing species composition and structures, desired future conditions, and market conditions). (see also sub-Criterion 6.3.a)

7.1.c.2. Prescriptions are prepared prior to harvesting, site preparation, pest control, burning, and planting and are available to people who implement the prescriptions.

7.1.d. Rationale for the rate of annual harvest and species selection

7.1.d.1. Calculations for the harvests of both timber and non-timber products are detailed or referenced in the management plan and are based on net growth, yield, stocking, and regeneration data. (see also 5.6.b)

7.1.d.2. Species selection meets the social and economic goals and objectives of the forest owner or manager and leads to the desired future conditions while maintaining or improving the ecological composition, structures, and functions of the forest.

7.1.d.3. The management plan addresses potentially disruptive effects of pests, storms, droughts, and fires as they relate to allowable cut.

7.1.e. Provisions for monitoring forest growth and dynamics (see also Principle 8)

7.1.e.1. The management plan includes a description of procedures to monitor the forest.

7.1.f. Environmental safeguards based on environmental assessments (see also Criterion 6.1.)

7.1.g. Plans for the identification and protection of rare, threatened, and endangered species. (see also Criterion 6.3.)

7.1.h. Maps describing the forest resource base including protected areas, planned management activities, and land ownership.

7.1.h.1. The management plan includes maps of such forest characteristics as: relevant landscape-level factors; property boundaries; roads; areas of timber production; forest types by age class; topography; soils; riparian zones; springs and wetlands; archaeological sites; areas of cultural and customary use; locations of sensitive, rare, threatened, and/or endangered species and their habitats; and designated High Conservation Value Forests.

7.1.i. Description and justification of harvesting techniques and equipment to be used. (see also Criterion 6.5)

7.1.i.1. Harvesting machinery and techniques are discussed in the management or harvest plan and are specifically matched to forest conditions in order to minimize damage.

7.1.i.2. Conditions for each timber sale are established by a timber sale contract or written harvest prescription and accompanying timber sale map.

7.2. The management plan shall be periodically revised to incorporate the results of monitoring or new scientific and technical information, as well as to respond to changing environmental, social and economic circumstances.

7.2.a. Operational components of the management plan are reviewed and revised as necessary or at least every 5 years. Components of the long-term (strategic) management plan are revised and updated at the end of the planning period or when other changes in the management require it. (see also Criterion 8.4)

7.3. Forest workers shall receive adequate training and supervision to ensure proper implementation of the management plans.

7.3.a. The forest owner or manager assures that workers are qualified to implement the management plan (see also Criterion 4.2).

7.3.b. The management plan is understandable, comprehensive, and readily available to field personnel.

7.4. While respecting the confidentiality of information, forest managers shall make publicly available a summary of the primary elements of the management plan, including those listed in Criterion 7.1.

Applicability Note: Forest owners or managers of private forests may withhold proprietary information (e.g., the nature and extent of their forest resource base, marketing strategies, and other financial information). (see also Criterion 8.5)

7.4.a. A management plan summary that outlines management objectives (from sub- Criterion 7.1.a.), whether on private lands or the land pool under a resource manager, is available to the public at a reasonable fee. Additional elements of the plan may be excluded, to protect the security of environmentally sensitive and/or proprietary information.

7.4.b. Managers of public forests make forestry-related information easily accessible (e.g., available on websites) for public review, including that required by Criterion 7.1.