

## **Escanaba Forest Management Unit -Compartment Review Minutes**

December 19, 2005

Heirman Center, Bay College

Attendees: Dan Racine, Eric Thompson, Howard Lorenz, Clifton Knudson, Marjorie Bjork, Dan Moore, Natalie Randall, Bill Rollo, Mike Koss, Craig Albright, Bob Doepker, Warren Suchovsky, Carol Porter, Kim Herman, Don Kuhr, Kelly Standerfer, Dan McNamee, Dustin Salter, Mike Paluda, Russ MacDonald, Bob Heyd, Darren Kramer, Jason Stephens, Randy McKenzie, Randy Swaty

John Hamel, Inventory & Planning Specialist, introduced himself as the review facilitator. All attendees then introduced themselves. John gave a brief overview of what a compartment review is and consists of.

Craig Albright, Wildlife Habitat Biologist at the Escanaba Field Office, presented "Wildlife Considerations 2007". He also showed the locations of the three landscape ecosystems that comprise our Escanaba Management Unit and explained that the compartments for review would be presented in order by landscape ecosystem type.

### COMPARTMENT 5

Forester Dan Racine gave an overview of the recommended stand treatments in compartment 5.

Three Chappée Rapids Audubon members (Kip Knudson, Howard Lorenz and Marjorie Bjork) expressed their opposition to any harvesting taking place in or near the Carney Fen area. They have found twenty-five different species of orchids in that area and are in the process of getting it dedicated as a natural area. Therefore, they requested a postponement of further treatment in the area until a further survey can be done to determine exact orchid locations. The Audubon members also requested a larger buffer for an active goshawk nest in stand 36, which would eliminate treatments in stands 35 and 36.

After much discussion, consensus was reached on recommended treatments with the following changes noted:

Stands 4 & 9 - defer, but keep stands in treatment due to the need for a further survey.

Stand 24 - Keep in treatment, but as a lower priority with a limiting factor due to size being so small.

Stands 35 & 36 - No harvesting is to be done, due to limiting factors of a goshawk nest and orchid site.

Also stand condition 8 changes from 1997 coding: added 16, 28, 30; removed 42, 43.

### COMPARTMENT 36

Forester Dan Racine gave an overview of the recommended stand treatments in compartment 36. Consensus was to accept recommendations as presented with no change needed.

### COMPARTMENT 42

Forester Dan Racine gave the overview of recommended stand treatments in compartment 42. Wildlife Division personnel expressed concern that unnecessary cedar may be cut in stand 31. They desire that we red line around dominant cedar areas, and that we deter loggers from cutting more incidental cedar than is necessary by charging triple stumpage rates on incidental cedar in this stand and also in other stands where incidental cedar is involved..

### COMPARTMENT 42 (Continued)

The recreation specialist brought out the need to observe safety precautions when harvesting near the ski trail area in stand 140.

After much discussion in regards to cutting of cedar, consensus was reached on recommended treatments, with the following addition noted:

Stand 31 – Sale specifications for incidental cedar should specify higher cedar prices to deter unnecessary cutting of cedar.

Also, stand condition 8 changes from 1997 coding: added 160, 402; removed 140, 177, 401, 405, 406, 407.

### COMPARTMENT 63

Forester Dustin Salter gave an overview of recommended stand treatments in compartment 63. Stand 31 may not be accessible as adjacent landowner has denied access. Also, this compartment is in a special conservation area which has been nominated as a natural area and needs to be reviewed by the Biodiversity Conservation Committee.

Consensus was reached on the recommended treatment, with the following addition noted:

Stand 11 – Keep prescription. Cedar areas are to be 30 sq. ft. basal area, with Wildlife Div. to mark leave Cedar.

Also, stand condition 8 changes from 1997 coding: added 2, 4, 47, 48, 49; removed 30, 31, 34.

### COMPARTMENT 71

Forester Dan McNamee gave an overview of recommended stand treatments in compartment 71. We may only end up treating stands 18 and 19, as stands 14 and 49 are currently under contract and stands 36 and 39 may be inaccessible due to the adjacent landowner denying access. There was discussion regarding cutting of incidental hemlock necessary to remove designated species in stand 18. It was decided that there are enough open areas to avoid cutting cedar or hemlock areas.

Consensus was reached on recommended treatments, with the following change noted:

Stand 18 - no cutting of cedar or hemlock is to take place.

Also, stand condition 8 changes from 1997 coding: added 2, 4 6.

### COMPARTMENT 85

Forester Dan McNamee gave an overview of recommended stand treatments in compartment 85. Stands 19, 42 and 44 are adjacent to stands in compartment 84 and are to be treated with those adjacent stands.

Consensus was reached on recommended treatments, with the following addition noted:

Stand 17 – Wildlife Division personnel will accompany the forester when cedar is red lined.

Also, stand condition 8 changes from 1997 coding: added 7, 8, 27, 90; removed 26, 28, 31, 33, 34, 35, 78, 82, 84, 93, 105, 106, 107, 108, 117, 126, 128.

## COMPARTMENT 97

Forester Dan McNamee gave an overview of recommended stand treatments in compartment 97. There was some discussion regarding the conversion of the European Larch area to northern hardwoods in stand 47.

Consensus was reached on the recommended treatments, with the following addition noted:  
Stands 53, 69, 71 – code for underplanting

Also, stand condition 8 changes from 1997 coding: added 37, 50; removed 1, 58, 63, 93.

## COMPARTMENT 102

Unit Manager Eric Thompson gave an overview of recommended stand treatments in compartment 102. Consensus was reached on the recommended treatments, with no changes or additions noted.

Stand condition 8 changes from 1997 coding: added 45

## COMPARTMENT 104

Forester Dan McNamee gave an overview of recommended stand treatments in compartment 104. Seed tree method for natural regeneration in stands 50 and 54 was clarified. Seed trees will be marked to leave 20 to 30 square foot basal area aspen. In stands with red pine MO, Wildlife Division personnel are willing to help with hand planting, with the forester deciding on areas to be planted.

It was pointed out that the USFS ski trail is partially on state land in this compartment. It was decided a memorandum of understanding is needed to cover responsibility for the trail.

Consensus was reached on the recommended treatments, with the following change and additions noted:  
Stand 32, 59 - MO is to be red pine, with red pine/aspen mix is also acceptable.  
Stand 39 - Wildlife Division personnel are to accompany the forester when cedar areas are marked.  
Ski trail - Memorandum of Understanding with the USFS is needed.

Also, stand condition 8 changes from 1997 coding: removed 10, 12, 13, 14, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 28, 29, 31, 35, 42, 43, 54, 56, 65.

## COMPARTMENT 108

Forester Dustin Salter gave an overview of recommended stand treatments in compartment 108. Stands 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 35 and 36 are already under contract. Stand 1 has access as a limiting factor, but we should be able to gain access to it. Prescribed burns are recommended in stands 403, 405, 407 and 408. In stand 405 we will attempt to block the road and plant trees on property border for aesthetic value.

Consensus was reached on the recommended treatments, with the following clarification noted:  
Stand condition 8 changes from 1997 coding: removed 2, 6, 28, 34, 37, 40, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52

## COMPARTMENT 7

Forester Dustin Salter gave an overview of recommended stand treatments in compartment 7. Due to spruce budworm problem in stands 17, and 18, FMFM would like to salvage the infested trees as soon as possible. We would also like to salvage the budworm infested trees in stand 26. However, since stand 26 is part of the SCA riparian corridor along Pemenee Creek, Wildlife would like to leave the trees and let the natural process of spruce budworm take place for the wildlife value. Wildlife requests that we wait to treat until the Bio-diversity team evaluates the situation in stand 26.

Consensus was reached on the recommended treatments, with the following change noted:  
Stand 26 – remove treatment

Also, stand condition 8 changes from 1997 coding: removed 31

## COMPARTMENT 27

Forester Dustin Salter gave an overview of recommended stand treatments in compartment 27. Stands 18 and 61 contain patches of oak wilt that should be treated as soon as funding is available. We have received a verbal inquiry from an adjoining landowner as to the feasibility of trying to purchase two acres on the north end of stand 45, which would enable him to gain access to his property. After brief discussion, it was decided that since that stand is designated as SCA, we would not be in favor of such a sale.

Consensus was reached on the recommended treatments, with the following change noted:  
Stand 403 – add burn