

Regulation
No. 1130-2-45

11 September 2000

Project Operations
FOREST MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES ON FEE LANDS

1. Purpose. This regulation provides the policy, procedures, and standards for forest management activities on Little Rock District project fee lands.
2. Applicability. This policy applies to all Civil Works Projects in the Little Rock District.
3. References:
 - a. ER 1130-2-540, dated 15 November 1996.
 - b. EP 1130-2-540, dated 15 November 1996.
4. Policy. All project fee lands in the Little Rock District, excluding designated recreation areas, will develop and implement forest management plans in the manner herein described to provide clear, consistent management for forest and wildlife habitats.
5. Procedures
 - a. Forest Management Plans. Comprehensive forest management plans will be developed for each project. Plans will describe current conditions, area history, desired goals, and techniques for implementation to attain forest and habitat goals. All plans will be developed on multiple use, sustain yield basis with an emphasis on ecosystem management and wildlife management principles. Forest management plans will be included as an appendix to the project Operational Management Plan (OMP).
 - b. Compartment Delineation and Entry. Project fee lands will be divided into manageable compartments and assigned entry dates. Compartments should not exceed 3500 acres. Entry schedules for inventory and other management purposes may vary. However, they should not exceed 20 years. A minimum of one compartment per project, per year will be examined on a rotational basis.

SWLR 1130-2-45
11 Sep 00

c. Inventory. Level II inventories will be performed on all project lands except designated recreation areas. Data may be collected using the point sample or 1/5 acre plot cruise method. Minimum acceptable inventory intensity will be two percent of the forested acreage of a compartment. Project personnel or contractors must collect, at a minimum, the following data:

- (1) Forest product volume by species
- (2) Stems per acre by diameter and species
- (3) Major wildlife plant species
- (4) Delineate forest types for mapping purposes
- (5) Streams, roads, and other natural features
- (6) Endangered species or unique habitats
- (7) Soils
- (8) Basal area by species
- (9) Slope
- (10) Aspect
- (11) Cultural resources

Additional information may be collected at the discretion of the Operations Manager.

d. Prescriptions. A forest/habitat management prescription will be developed for each compartment after inventory. Prescriptions should detail and prioritize habitat management activities, provide estimated costs and receipts, and estimated work dates. Protection measures for endangered species, soil movement, unique habitats, and cultural resources should be defined. Maps delineating stands, features, and entry date should also be included in the prescription. Compartment prescriptions should be completed and submitted to Chief, Operations Division, prior to 1 August of each fiscal year. A minimum of one prescription per project, per year will be submitted using Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Management activities required due to emergencies such as wildfire, storm, or flood damage are exempt from the prescription process.

e. Forest Products Sales. Stands designated for habitat manipulation by timber sale (except emergency sales) should have the appropriate data submitted to Chief, Operations Division, prior to 1 August of each fiscal year. Contracts will not exceed 2 years in length. Contract dates will be developed with consideration to the fiscal year, currently from 1 October through 30 September, and financial obligations associated with executing budgets. Minimum data to be submitted for forest product sales includes the following items:

- (1) Volume to be removed by product and species
- (2) Volume table and form class used for volume determination
- (3) Number of stems to be removed by species
- (4) Maps indicating sale area location
- (5) List of special provisions (beginning and ending dates, equipment restrictions, etc.)
- (6) Point of contact for sale
- (7) Type of sale (Lump sum or unit)
- (8) Bonding requirements
- (9) Access limitations

f. Proceeds. Proceeds derived from forest product sales are returned to project accounts. These monies should be used to fund natural resources activities such as contract inventory, timber marking, reforestation, and boundary line maintenance.

6. The District Forester in the Natural Resources Management Section is the point of contact for this action.


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