

SYNOPSIS OF 2006 CHANGES IN THE USE VALUE PROGRAM

Minimum Standards For Forest Management Plans

SAMPLING

- Sampling data will be stand specific.
A stand is "a group or groups of trees sufficiently uniform in age class distribution, composition, and structure and growing on a site of sufficiently uniform quality, to be a distinguishable unit."
- For **sampling intensity and procedure guidelines**, please refer to a mensuration guide
- Include sampling procedures used and "date(s) of sampling"
- For **fixed radius** – "include size and number of plots per stand"
- For **variable radius** – "include prism BAF (Basal Area Factor) and number of points taken per stand"

DIAMETER

- Use **Quadratic Mean Stand Diameter**, not the average diameter (no change, just a clarification)

TOTAL BASAL AREA

- For **Uneven-age management** "the tally should include all trees in the 6-inch class and larger"
- For **Even-age management** "the tally should include all trees in or touching the main crown canopy (Exclude suppressed trees)"

ACCEPTABLE GROWING STOCK (AGS) BASAL AREA – "consists of that portion of trees tallied as total basal area that are of commercial species (see list of exclusions in Standards) that have the potential to produce sawlog or better quality material now or in the future and that are in vigorous condition."

SILVICULTURAL SYSTEMS

- **Even-age prescribed stands** must now include "present stand age" as well as rotation age.
- **Uneven-age prescribed stands** must list "diameter objectives for principal species" as well as cutting cycle.

STAND OPENINGS - if openings are to be greater than ¼ acre in size provide:

- "Statement of intent"
- "Size range of the openings"
- "Estimate of the residual basal area between the openings"

CROP TREE RELEASE - include

- "Description of the type of crop trees to be released"
- "Approximate number of crop trees to be released per acre"

MANAGEMENT SCHEDULE – "all prescribed treatments shall be **narrowly focused and stand specific**"

MAP - must show:

- "Location of all buildings and all ag/open land to be enrolled"

- should show:

- "significant physical features such as roads, primary internal trails, streams, ponds, wetlands, and power lines"
- "For landlocked parcels, established rights-of-way and/or preferred access route"

SUMMARY FORM

- For **Diameter**, use **Quadratic Mean Stand Diameter**, not the average diameter
- **Management Activity Codes**
 - 1 – slight changes made in description of non-commercial treatments
 - 2 – AGS to be maintained - at least **60** ft.² /acre
 - 3 – Individual Tree Selection – "harvest or improvement cutting that maintains a fairly uniform and continuous crown cover appropriate for regenerating tolerant species"
 - 8 – Group Selection – "harvest of groups of trees roughly 1/20 to 2 acres in size. Appropriate for regeneration of species of all tolerance groups."
 - 14 – Crop Tree Release – "release of timber crop trees on at least 2 sides. For additional information, refer to "Crop Tree Management in Eastern Hardwoods." (NA-TP-19-93)."