OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT GUIDANCE FOR STATE-OWNED FOREST LANDS

In Section 3, the Guidance document establishes levels of management authority and forest administration at statewide, ecoregional, and Forest Management Unit levels, and then provides a description of the State Forest land management system.

The heart of the Guidance is in Section 4, where management guidance is provided that is intended to facilitate achievement of the long-term strategic principles, and to guide operational decisions regarding the management of the State Forest. It contains specific guidance related to each of the strategic principles. For each principle, a listing of existing resources (such as laws, work instructions, policies and procedures and other guidelines) is also included. Some detailed discussion of background information for each of the strategic principles is provided is Appendix H. The document concludes with Section 5, which describes the monitoring and management review processes that are required for assessing the effectiveness of management plans, and for incorporation of the results of monitoring into the revision and implementation of future management plans and procedures.

Included as Appendices is the text of Part 525, excerpts of the SFC and SFI standards, and a list of existing DNR planning processes and initiatives. Also in the Appendices are a template for ecoregional State Forest management plans, a list of forest certification work instruction, and a list of criteria and indicators for use in sustainable forest management. The planning template, work instructions and criteria and indicators are intended for use by Eco-Teams in the development of ecoregional management plans.

APPROVED BY THE STATE-WIDE COUNCIL:

Chairperson

Date