

COMPARTMENT REVIEW RECORD OF CHANGES AND DECISIONS

Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Gaylord Forest Management Unit

2017 Year-of-Entry (YOE) Gaylord

Field Office

July 22, 2015



The following documents the changes and decisions made at the compartment review to the Inventory database, reports, and compartment maps presented at open house for the Gaylord Forest Management Unit compartment review. This document is the official record of changes and decisions. Proposals originally presented were approved unless noted below.

Attendees

Dan Heckman, FRD; Don Stacks, FRD; Shannon Harig, FRD; Charlotte Farner, FRD; John Scheele, FRD; Kerry Fitzpatrick, WLD; Brian Mastenbrook, WLD; Jennifer Kleitch, WLD; Dana Pelton, FRD; Don Klingler, FRD; Mark Monroe, WLD; Joyce Angel, FRD; Tricia St. Pierre, FRD; Patrick Potter, FRD; Patrick Cotant, FRD; Austin Huff, FRD; Michelle Gross, FRD; Lucas Merrick, FRD; Zachary Crew, FRD; Tim Greco, FRD; Paige Perry, PRD; Steve Milford, FRD; Jeff Major, Louisiana Pacific.

Comments from Stakeholders

Linda Gallagher:

I will be unable to attend the compartment review scheduled for June 24 for Jordan and Mancelona Townships in Antrim County, but would like to put my two cents in.

As an avid upland gamebird hunter who hunts either Jordan, Star, or Mancelona Township almost daily during the upland gamebird season, I believe the DNR is doing a good job in Mancelona Township, albeit I wasn't real thrilled with the oak wilt cut near Sand Lake, although I do understand the necessity of trying to stop oak wilt-it's bad in many areas of Antrim County. The extension of the already large clear cut there was awesome.

I would like to see more clear-cutting in Mancelona Township, as the habitat

created by the gas and oil development is maturing and we need to keep creating more habitat in Mancelona Township, which is, imho, the best existing habitat for ruffed grouse and woodcock in the county.

I would like to see a LOT MORE clear-cutting in Jordan Township, which is now negligible, at best, for bird hunting. Jordan Township and the entire Jordan River Valley State Forest was once Antrim County's jewel for bird hunters. Sadly, it isn't anymore. It's just too grown up and mature...and what little cutting I do see, with the exception of the small cut at Landslide, is all select cutting, which imho does NOTHING for ruffed grouse and woodcock habitat.

Woodcock numbers continue to decline in Antrim County, much of that due, I believe, to less and less suitable habitat.

Linda Gallagher

Charles Mccord

I am writing to encourage your continuing efforts to improve Michigan's state forests.

I am an avid grouse and woodcock hunter residing in northern lower Michigan. Some of the areas I hunt most frequently are up for your review. In particular, I hunt state forest land in Jordan and Mancelona townships in Antrim County, Chandler township in Charlevoix County, and Koehler, Mentor, and Waverly townships in Cheboygan County. As these townships are under review this year I felt it important to write.

While I have several favorite locations to hunt in these counties I find the amount of non prime overly mature Aspen cover in these areas to be very disappointing to a dedicated upland bird hunter. The Mackinaw Forest area in the Jordan and surrounding townships is particularly disappointing in this regard. While I am at an age that reaping the benefits of future clear cutting may not be possible for me I still support whatever you can accomplish. I understand that clear cutting has it's adversaries but having hunted my whole life I know that the benefits of substantial amounts of early successional habitat for not only upland birds but many other forms of wildlife is immeasurable.

Please add my voice to the others who support increasing the amount of early successional habitat in Michigan's state forests.

Tom Callison

Mr. Heckman, first of all thank you for the information regarding the forest planning process in NE Lower Michigan. I am unlikely to make a visit to the various compartments on or before the public comment period. I represent the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, as their Fish and Wildlife biologist and I am responsible for evaluating land management practices and effects on Tribal Treaty resources. I can give some brief comments regarding forestry practices which we also outline for the forest certification audit.

1. *Keep clear -cuts sizes at 10 acres or less with 2 chain shelterbelts between stands if they are contiguous. Leave 10 to 14 drumming logs per acre scattered though the stand. If a stand is 40 acres for example; divide it into three stands with shelter belts between treatments.*
2. *Leave all tops where they fall and don't pile them or "mash " them down. This allows more shelter for subnivan prey, grouse escape during the early stages of regeneration, and decreased soil erosion.*
3. *Do not cut or remove trees within 200 yards of a second order or larger stream.*
4. *Do not chip tops on any stand.*

Tom

Compartment Specific changes made during the Compartment Review:

Compartment 4 (Stand examiner – Lucas Merrick)

Changes made at compartment review:

- Stand 423 – Add recreation trail specifications to the prescription specifications.
- Stand 67 – Drop the next steps to replant, change management objective to natural jack pine.
- Stand 29 – Change prescription to leave all oak, rather than marking oak to leave.

Compartment 20 (Stand examiner – Lucas Merrick)

Changes made at compartment review:

- Stands 12, 14, 314, 116 and 1 – Add specification to cut stumps flush along the trail.

Compartment 25 (Stand examiner – Lucas Merrick)

Changes made at compartment review:

- Stands 45, 54 and 70 – Add recreation trail protection specifications to prescription. **Narrative:** North Branch ORV Route needs to be added to the recreation section.

- Stand 8 – The split between the thinning and the clear cut will be redrawn to be oriented east/west rather than north/south and any existing oak will be left in both treatments.

Compartment 30 (Stand examiner – Zachary Crew)

Changes made at compartment review:

- Stand 13 – Change stand age to 36, which represents the age of aspen (highest % of canopy), and drop site condition.

Compartment 41 (Stand examiners – Lucas Merrick and Zachary Crew)

Changes made at compartment review:

- Stands 8, 11, 47, and 402 – Add recreation trail protection specifications to the prescription comments.

Compartment 50 (Stand examiner – Zachary Crew)

No changes made at compartment review.

Compartment 64 (Stand examiner – Zachary Crew)

Changes made at compartment review:

- Stand 6 treatment – Change comment to refer to deciduous species, not “red pine”.

Areas in which consensus for management prescriptions was not reached and procedures for resolution:

- This compartment is part of a multi-compartment “Sand Lake” area plan to group pine and open/upland brush/aspen without changing the proportion of either. Significant changes will be made to multiple treatments. This compartment will need to have the packet reposted. A meeting will be scheduled by Inventory Planning Specialist for all parties interested to discuss and finalize prescriptions.
 - *Updated- A new map and treatment list will be posted for this compartment showing the many changes that occurred as a result of the post compartment review meeting between WLD and FRD.*

Compartment 103 (Stand examiner – Don Stacks)

Changes made at compartment review:

- Stands 12 and 13 – Add specification to have stumps cut flush next to snowmobile trail.

Compartment 123 (Stand examiner – Don Stacks)

Changes made at compartment review:

- Stand 33 – Prescription for opening maintenance (copy prescription from Stand 32).
- Stands 31 and 30 – Change to clear cut with retention, capture hemlock and under-represented species.

Compartment 134 (Stand examiner – Don Stacks)

Changes made at compartment review:

- Stand 44 – Focus retention in southeast corner near bog.
- Narrative: Add Northwestern State Trail comment.
- Post logging signs when sale is active.

Compartment 135 (Stand examiner – Tricia St. Pierre)

Changes made at compartment review:

- Remove duplicate road symbols
- Remove site condition over Stand 60 treatments
- Rename trail to NWST and add to narrative.
- Add North Country Trail to narrative and map
- Remove Camp icon over private campground
- Add comments to Stands 29, 41 and 42 to use alternative routes if possible to avoid using trail. If trail is used, contact Recreation Specialist.
- Stand 42 – Cut stumps flush along the trail. Post trail for logging activities.

Compartment 143 (Stand examiner – Tricia St. Pierre)

Changes made at compartment review:

- Drop treatment “52143024-cutx”. Repost packet and map * - need parking lot symbol on map.

- Stand 32 – Treatment “52143038-cut-OI” will be terminated. A new selection harvest covering the same basic area will be proposed.
- Stand 33 – Terminate old OI cut (52143034-cut-OI) and prescribe same general area for a selection harvest.
- Stand 42 – Terminate “52143050-cut-OI” and “52143053-cut-OI” or close with successful completion on portions implemented. Prescribe the area south of the snowmobile trail that was included in harvest from last entry for a clear cut with reserves, management objective of northern hardwood (even aged).
*Include trail specifications.

Compartment 163 (Stand examiner – Shannon Harig)

Changes made at compartment review:

- Stand 89 – Reshape treatment to only include a few chains around the harvest in Stand 88.

Compartment 169 (Stand examiner – Shannon Harig)

Changes made at compartment review:

- Stand 55 – Add a specification to chip tops
- Add a next step to burn cut portion of the stand.
- Leave a small area (10% of treated area) un-burned to act as a control. Orient this area east to west if possible.
- Stands 34, 33 and 38 – Add a Special Conservation Area for Type 1 old growth.
- Compartment Header – Change RTE to MCCCT in narrative.
- Map – Drop campground symbol from map.

Compartment 180 (Stand examiners – Dan Heckman and Shannon Harig)

Changes made at compartment review:

- Stand 45 – Prescribe stand for a clear cut with reserves, access from the east, leave site conditions on the stand for the portable bridge, may be able to access stand through private land.
- Stands 6, 13, 19 and 27 – Add a comment to leave oak.

Compartment 186 (Stand examiner – John Scheele)

Changes made at compartment review:

- On the map, remove the “Michigan State Road” label
- Stand 87 – Change the retention comment to focus around the campground.
- Need to reach out to the various user groups associated with the campground.
- Stand 56 – Do an actual regeneration survey. Add campground symbol to map. **Narrative:** Add Shore to Shore.
- All stands with treatments - Add recreation trail specifications to the prescription.

Compartment 210 (Stand examiner – John Scheele)

- Stand 21 – Change access from west to east through private land.
- Stand 48 – Drop the site condition.
- Stands 78, 79, 80, 119, 143 and 160 – Drop treatments.
- Stand 111 – Change proposed start date to 10/01/2015.
- Stands 29, 30, 33, 105, 103, 102, 55, 57, 137, 129, 116 and 115 – Add trail protection specifications.
- **Narrative:** Add recreation trails that exist.

Compartment 219 (Stand examiner – Tricia St. Pierre)

Changes made at compartment review: No

changes made at compartment review.