

Draft Notes from the Wildlife Habitat and Biodiversity Breakout Session

4-29-2008

Post it notes:

- Woody debris volumes for the natural equilibrium in different forest types.
- Biodiversity review needs data on FWD and CWD and organisms
- Effect of biomass removal rotations.
- Landscape cumulative effects
- Why is it a goal to mimic natural disturbances? Is this truly a justified, attainable objective?
- Who are being classified as “appropriate specialists”? Will there be a list? Open to interpretation? (in reference to species of special concern, endangered and threatened resources)
- Retain and limit disturbance to downed coarse woody debris – may be difficult in harvest areas
- Retaining patches in salvage operations. Is this realistic? At least 5% of area in unsalvaged patches 0.1-2 acres in size.
- What about snags in case of insect, disease, fire, kill?
- 5B Insect and disease issues? Containment of problem.
- What would be required or possible where a stand has disease or bug damage? Should same retention be done or base by base situation?
- 3A Tops used to prevent browsing isn't mentioned
- 7B Exception. Biomass utilization of jack pine could affect regeneration
- 4A Are you promoting higher stumps?
- Total trees/acre for retention in uneven aged systems $\geq 3 + \geq 3 + 3-6$?
- Certain species when biomass used and removed with the moving of the product and running over has improved regeneration. Will this be addressed?
- In blow down (tornado) can not always find [reserve trees] before removal – do you document for audit?
- 6B-9B Why is 4” used for bole wood utilization, why not 1”, 2” or 3”?

Comments and Discussion Items from the Small Group Breakouts:

- Need clarification of retention trees guidelines is it 3+3+3 or a minimum of 3?
- Would like more quantitative evaluation of the CWD and FWD similar to what is provided for soil nutrients
 - What are the ranges of woody debris we should maintain? By forest type and site type?
 - We don't have a reference point. What biomass was there to begin with may not be sufficient or too much. The standard to retain 30% doesn't acknowledge this and is too general.
- Need to keep guidelines simple to be practical to implement.
- Guidelines don't talk about the social and economic impacts and relationships. Should this be included in the rationale?
- Need to further define retention of snag trees in insect/disease situation. May need to take all trees depending on they type of insect or disease, but snags are defined as dead trees. So, do we have to leave the snags?
- White paper addition in FWD discussion: FWD retention may impede deer browsing where it is a problem.
- Consideration of 35' buffer guidelines. Example used was vernal pools. Processors can reach in to the 35' buffer to harvest bole wood and process it outside of the 35' buffer. Do they then have to put the tops back into the 35' buffer?
- Do we ever accumulate CWD in even age management? Should we expand discussion to encourage maintaining some trees within 5-15%? In other words encourage some trees to be retained indefinitely rather than just until the next thinning.