

**American Tree Farm System Basic Management Plan Template**

**Revised June 2022**

*Note: This management plan template was created to satisfy the basic requirements for family forest owners desiring enrollment in the American Tree Farm System. This template was developed in response to feedback that other templates were simultaneously excessive in their requirements while also falling short of criteria necessary to qualify for certain programs. Landowners or their agents can use this plan knowing that it meets basic requirements for sound forest management planning on family forest lands and may choose to supplement it with additional details or data required by other programs.*

**Property Owner(s):**

**Mailing address:**

**Phone number:**

**Email address:**

**Plan Start Date:**

**Plan Prepared by:**

**Property Location / Directions:** (Include Lat/Long)

**Property Legal Description:**

**Goals:** (3-5 goals describing high level outcomes the landowner has for the use or future condition of the land.)

**Objectives:** (Measurable actions to be taken to achieve the goals, and the timing to complete them.)

**Property History:** (Up to 3 paragraphs describing the historic use of the property to help guide management.)

**Property Description and Current Condition.** (Total acres and forested acres. Describe the major land features, forest types, and general stand conditions. Include descriptions of understory characteristics, water bodies, and any management concerns.)

**Resource considerations:**

* What Forest Practices Laws and/or state Best Management Practices (BMPs) apply to this land? Note that BMPs which are voluntary under state law are mandatory for ATFS enrollment.
* Reforestation: Has the property been harvested since 2015?

Yes\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ If yes, describe the timing and results of harvests and any subsequent reforestation efforts.

* Soils: General soil description drawn from NRCS web mapper or similar. Are there special soil considerations on your property (highly erodible soils, steep slopes, etc)?

Yes\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ If yes, please describe (include applicable BMP’s):

* Water: Are there water bodies / wetlands on the land?

Yes\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ If so, what kind? How are they protected (include applicable BMP’s)?

* Invasive species: Have invasive species been observed on the property?

Yes\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ If yes, which ones, and how are they being addressed?

* Insects and Disease: Are forest insects and diseases a concern on this property?

Yes\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ If yes, which ones, and how are they addressed?

* Are pesticides being used in accordance with EPA guidelines on the property?

Yes No \_\_\_\_\_\_ N/A Have alternatives been considered? Are records being kept?

* T&E Species: Is there potential for threatened or endangered species to be present on the land?

Yes\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* + What resources were used to determine this?
  + If yes, what measures are being taken to protect T&E habitat?
* Special sites: Are there special sites on the land, either personally important to the landowner or documented in archaeological, cultural, or historical archives?

Yes\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ If yes, how are these sites protected? Are they marked on the landowner’s map? (Note: If this plan may become a public document, landowners are permitted to omit the precise location of special sites of historical or archeological importance as a hedge against vandalism.)

**Other Resource considerations (if applicable)**

* Prescribed Fire: Is prescribed fire used on the property?

Yes\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ If yes, describe the objective, acres, and timing of the burn(s), as well as any legal requirements pertaining to prescribed fire and how the landowner addresses them.

* Forest Health: Describe activities to promote forest health.
* Desired Species: Has the landowner identified objectives related to desired species and/or forest communities?

Yes\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ If yes, please describe.

* Aesthetics: Does the landowner have any special aesthetic considerations?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, please describe.

* Forests of Recognized Importance (ATFS only): Is this property of sufficiently large size to constitute a landscape with cultural, historical, or ecological significance, or is it part of a landscape that does?

Yes\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ If yes, how is landowner working to maintain or enhance (or not disrupt) these characteristics?

* Afforestation: Afforestation is the establishment of trees or forests in places which were historically non-forest. In the United States, “historically” is defined as environmental conditions prior to European settlement.

Is the landowner currently engaged in or planning afforestation activities? Yes\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ If yes, landowner must consult with natural resource professionals to ensure that afforestation does not degrade ecologically important non-forest areas. See ATFS Standards of Sustainability for more information.

* Other considerations: Recreation, Carbon Sequestration, Non-Timber Forest Products, Grazing, etc. Landowner may provide additional detail on activities not specifically addressed in other sections.

**Timetable of Recommended Activities:** Add or delete rows as needed.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Activity** | **Timeline** | **Completed?** |
| Yr 1 |  |  |  |
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| Yr 2 |  |  |  |
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| Yr 3 |  |  |  |
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| Yr 4 |  |  |  |
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| Yr 5 |  |  |  |
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| Yr 6 |  |  |  |
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| Yr 7 |  |  |  |
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| Yr 8 |  |  |  |
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| Yr 9 |  |  |  |
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| Yr 10 |  |  |  |
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Forest management plans are active, adaptive, and embody the landowner’s current objectives. The above timetable is a *recommended* schedule of activities for the property reflecting the current state of knowledge about natural resources and sustainable forest management. Activities listed above may be postponed, canceled, or revised based on economic, environmental, or personal factors.

**Map(s)**

(One or more maps accurately depicting relevant significant forest-related resources: forest health, soil, water, wood and fiber production (stands), T&E species, special sites, invasive species, and any other important considerations).