

American Tree Farm System Inspector Training 2020



Michigan Certified Facilitators:

Mike Smalligan, Nick Sanchez, Travis Kangas, Nia Becker



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

10 Participants; 1 new, 9 refresh, 1+ need CFEs?

- Yoopers (W>E)
 - Gary Willis
 - Linda Lindberg
 - Dave Pogoreski-C
 - Jim Ferris
 - Alex Helman
 - Dean Francis
 - Ernie Houghton
- Trolls (N>S)
 - Jim Malloy
 - Jeff Majors
 - Sean Sexton



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Introductions

- Name
- Employer
- Past Inspector?
- Tree Farm? CFEs? Other expectations?



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Workshop Outcomes

- Explain benefits of American Tree Farm System
- Able to conduct a Tree Farm inspection
- Complete 004 Form correctly
- Use www.ATFSdatabase.org



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Outline

- Introduction to the American Tree Farm System (8-25)
- Conducting a Tree Farm inspection (26-69)
 - Field Visit
 - 004 Form
 - www.ATFSdatabase.org
- Next Steps (70-76)
- Appendix (77-136)
 - Standards of Sustainability
 - History of Tree Farm



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Documents and Materials

1. 004 Form
2. Elevator speech
3. Standards of Sustainability
4. MI Specific Guidance on FORI, T&E, and Special Sites
5. Addendum to existing plan
6. Template for new plan
7. MI Inspection Payment Voucher
8. MI Tree Farm Committee Map
9. History of Tree Farm
10. Eligibility requirements
11. How to Complete 004 Form
12. ATFS Database User Guide
13. State BMP manual
14. Pdf of this presentation
15. Inspector training policy
16. Workshop registration form

Documents also available at:

www.TreeFarmSystem.org/Michigan

CFE Certificate mailed after class



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Registration Form

- If you want to become or remain a certified Tree Farm Inspector, fill out and submit the Workshop Registration Form to smalliganm@michigan.gov.
 - Note eligibility requirements for foresters on page 2
- Students – Write “Student” in employer section
 - Eligible upon graduation, so include graduation date
- Submit registration form to qualify for 3.5 CFEs



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

American Tree Farm System



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Tree Farm History

- Started by Weyerhaeuser in Washington in 1941
 - Prevent oppressive federal regulation of private forest lands
 - Show that private owners can manage forests responsibly
 - Address major problems like property taxes and wildfire
 - USFS wanted to stop Tree Farm but SAF supported in 1942 editorial
- American Forest Products Industries
 - 1991 - American Forest Foundation
- Certification since 2000
 - 2008 endorsed by PEFC
- Much more than just certification!
 - Best program for family forest landowners



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Foresters: Grow Your Business

- Motivated Clients
 - Active, passionate landowners
- Repeat Customers
 - Inspections every 5 years
 - Regular communication
- Resources
 - AFF publications & advocacy
 - Field days and meetings
- National Brand
 - People love Tree Farm
 - Swag – hats, shirts, stickers, etc



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Foresters: Obtain SAF CFEs

- Inspector Training
 - ***Classroom: 3.5 category 1 credits***
 - Online: 1 category 1 credit
- Inspection (one inspection per year credit limit)
 - 2 category 3 credits
- Serving on a State Committee
 - 2 category 3 credits
- National Leadership Conference
 - Varies by session
- ATFS webinars
 - Varies by webinar
- Facilitator Training



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Landowners: Why be a Tree Farmer?

- Community
 - People – 1,000 Tree Farmers and 125 Foresters
 - Information – forester, magazine, websites, field days
 - Advocacy in Washington DC
- Recognition
 - Big Green Sign for bragging rights
 - Awards for landowners and inspectors
 - Certifies that private forests provide public goods
- Legacy
 - Improve land for the next generation
 - Help heirs get involved with the land



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Awards and Recognition

- Tree Farmer of the Year
 - State, Regional, National
- Forester of the Year
 - State, Regional, National
- Field Leadership Award
- National Leadership Award
 - Michigan won in 2017 and 2019



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Resources for Landowners

- Tree Farm Sign (free from MI Committee)
- *Woodland* magazine from AFF for \$25 donation
 - www.forestfoundation.org/woodland-winter-2019
- Management Plan Template & Addendum
- Forests & Families Newsletter
- ATFS Webinars
- Brochures
- Swag – hats, shirts, stickers, etc
- www.ForestFoundation.org
- www.TreeFarmSystem.org
- www.MyLandPlan.org



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Family Forest Action Network

- Stay up-to-date on current legislation that will affect you and woodland owners
 - First Friday Forestry Update - policy calls with AFF
- Have your voice heard on Capitol Hill
 - Tree Farm Fly In in Washington DC
 - April 30-May 1, 2019 – not sure about 2020 dates
- Join our Grassroots Action Network:
www.ForestFoundation.org/ActionNetwork



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Forest Certification

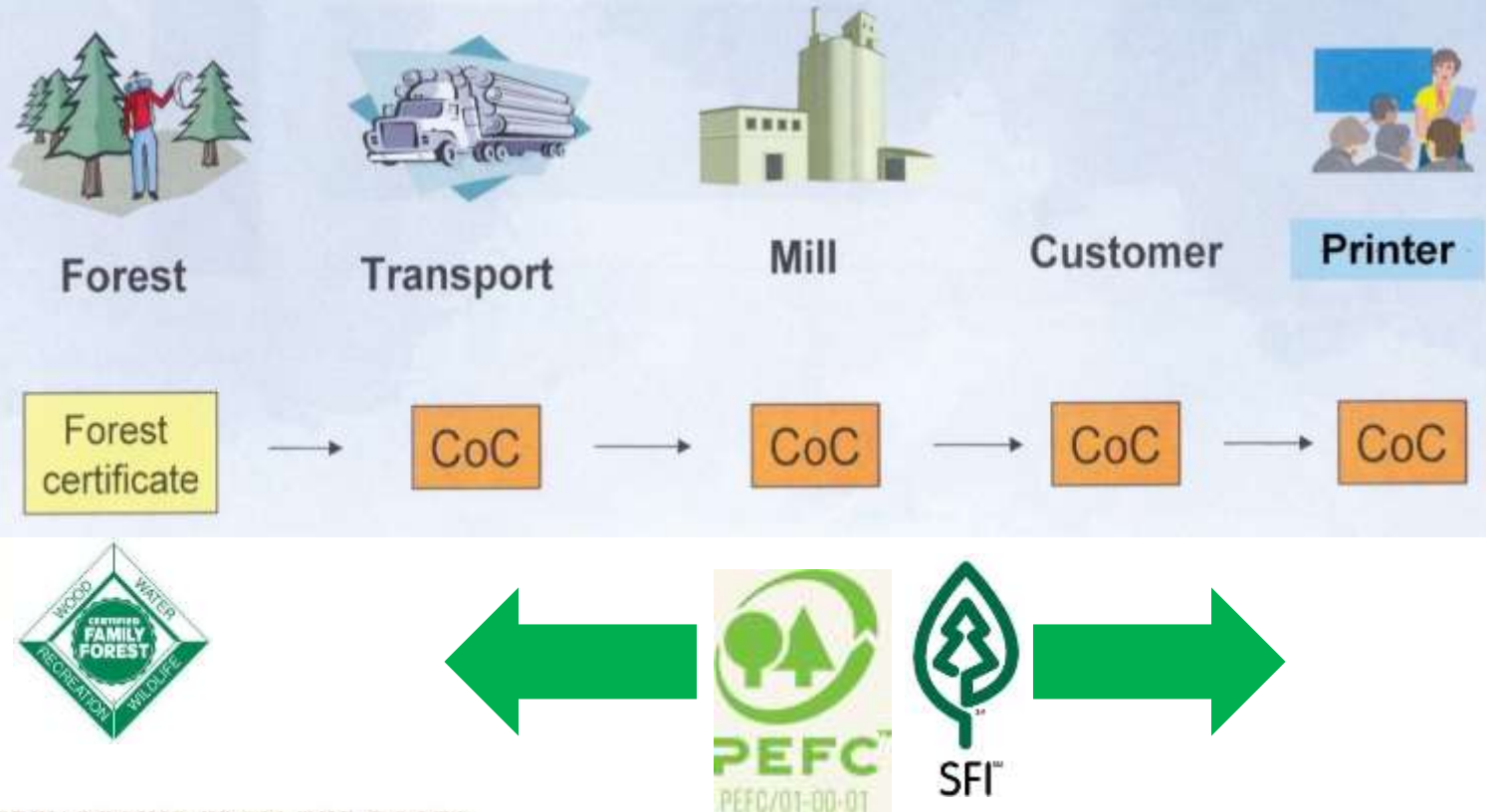
- Means for evaluating and confirming the quality of forest management against known standards
- Track and label forest products to assure consumers of responsibly managed sources
- Forest Stewardship Council
- Programme Endorsement of Forest Certification
 - Sustainable Forestry Initiative
 - American Tree Farm System



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Chain of Custody through SFI

A 3rd-party verified unbroken trail of accountability that confirms the share of wood from certified sustainable sources



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MI Tree Farm and K-12 Schools

- “Wheels to Woods” school forest bus fund – 41,651 people in the woods!
- Host Tree Farm Field Days for local school groups
- Develop FSP plan for and certify school forests
- Project Learning Tree curriculum for teachers and foresters



Big Picture Benefits

- Connect landowners to people and resources
- Define good forest management
 - Stewardship, sustainability, land ethic, etc
- Maintain markets and access to markets
 - No price premiums on individual sales
- Keep the government out of private forestry
 - Certification programs are private & voluntary



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Landowner Eligibility

- Parcels that contain 10 to 10,000 forested acres
 - Each non-contiguous parcel gets unique Tree Farm ID
- Private family forests
- Non-industrial private
 - small business (<500 employees, <7\$ million annual receipts)
- Public ownership (county, school, township, CD, etc)
- Conform to entire Standards of Sustainability
- Willing to participate in internal and external assessments
- Proud of their forest management!!
 - Promote forestry to their neighbors



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ATFS Certification Options

Ownership Type	ATFS Program Enrollment Options		
	State Committee	IMG (2 in MI)	Individual 3rd-Party
Private Individual - 10 to 10,000 ac.	X		
Small Business - 10 to 10,000 ac.	X		
Public - 10 to 10,000 ac.	X		
Private Individual – 10 to 20,000 ac.		X	X
Small Business – 10 to 20,000 ac.		X	X
Public – 10 to 20,000 ac.		X	X
TIMO/REIT - 10 to 20,000 ac.		X	



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Tree Farm in Michigan

- Michigan joined Tree Farm in 1949
 - 70th anniversary was June 10, 2019
- 1,300 Tree Farmers in Michigan
 - 900 Certified and 400 Pioneer
 - 190 Grossman and 80 Green Timber
- 515,000 acres in 80 counties
 - Mean is 300 acres; Median is 70 acres
- 235 Inspectors trained or re-trained since 2015
 - Only 105 active Inspectors (two-year window)
 - Only 36 foresters did an inspection in 2019



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Spatial Distribution of Top 20 Counties

Forest Stewardship Program - DNR Service Foresters



Eastern Upper Peninsula
Ernie Houghton
houghtone@michigan.gov
(906) 789 - 8208
6833 Highway 2, 42 & M35
Gladstone, MI 49837

Western Upper Peninsula
Gary Willis
willisg2@michigan.gov
(906) 353 - 6651
427 US 41 North
Baraga, MI 49908

Northern Lower Peninsula
Mike Hanley
hanleym@michigan.gov
(517) 675 - 5445
9870 West Stoll Road
Haslett, MI 48840

Top 20 True Farm
75%
excludes IMGs

Southern Lower Peninsula
Mike Smalligan
Forest Stewardship Coordinator
smalliganm@michigan.gov
(517) 284 - 5884
PO Box 30452
Lansing, MI 48909-7952



GROV

2020 Michigan Tree Farm Committee

- Administrator - Scott Robbins - srobbins@michiganforest.com
- Chair – Jim Malloy - jim.malloy@weyerhaeuser.com
- Vice-Chair - Nia Becker - nia.becker@macd.org
- Treasurer – Julie Crick - crickjul@anr.msu.edu
- Secretary - Tabitha O'Dell - todell@otsegocountymi.gov
- Training - Mike Smalligan – smalliganm@michigan.gov
- Communications – Amanda Hattis - asumerix@michiganforest.com
- District Chairs (regional coordinators)
 - WUP – Winona Grieshop - winona.grieshop@macd.org
 - CUP - Gary Bucklin - gbucklin1@gmail.com
 - EUP – Tabitha O'Dell - todell@otsegocountymi.gov
 - NLP – Ben Savoie - ben.savoie@macd.org
 - MLP – Josh Shields - joshua.shields@macd.org
 - SWLP – James Gray - jamesgray@naturalcapitalforestry.com
 - SELP – Nikita Brabbit - nbrabbit@gmail.com



Michigan Tree Farm Committee

12/17/2019

1-517-853-8880

District 1A (6)

Winona Grieshop
Gogebic/Ontonagon CD Forester
500 N Moore St.
Bessemer, MI 49911
906-667-1100 ext. 632
Winona.grieshop@macd.org

District 2 (5)

Tabitha O'Dell
Otsego Conservation District
800 Livingston Blvd. Ste. 4A
Gaylord, MI 49735
989-732-4021
todell@otsegocountymi.gov

District 1B (4)

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906-280-7208
gbucklin1@gmail.com

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District 3B (10)

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rensing@packagingcorp.com



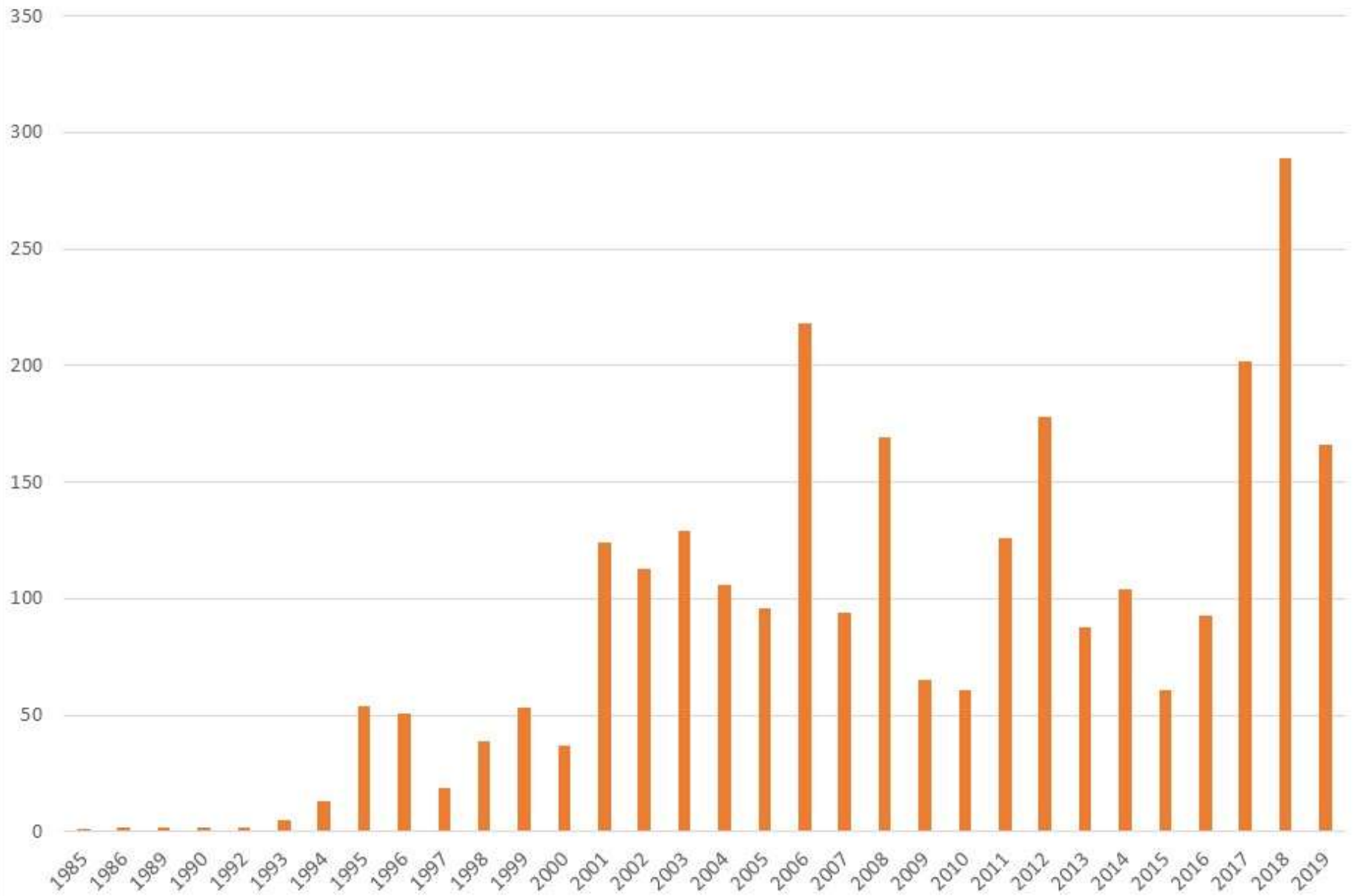
GROWING

Conducting a Tree Farm Inspection



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Inspections from 1985 to 2019



Inspectors are the Core of Tree Farm!!!

- Best salesmen for Tree Farm
- Provide service to landowners
- Maintain program credibility
- Gather data and information

Rank	Inspector	Field Inspections	Rank	Inspector	Field Inspections
1	Lazzari	14	11	Gray	4
2	Watkeys	11	12	Shields	4
3	Bucklin	10	13	Martell	4
4	Renken	10	14	Ferris	3
5	Smalligan	8	15	Lindberg	3
6	Jackson	7	16	Sobson	3
7	Begin	5	17	Brandon	3
8	Brinkman	4	18	O'Dell	2
9	Becker	4	19	Reid	2
10	Drysdale	4	20	Sanchez	2



60% private & 40% public

Are “inspections” helpful for landowners?

Advice from a professional forester

Site visit to observe the forest

Validation of good management

Free for Tree Farmer



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Types of Tree Farm Inspections

1. Initial Inspection to Join Tree Farm
 - Initiated by landowner or forester
 - Easiest when writing a forest management plan
2. Re-Inspections for Current Tree Farmers
 - Required and Optional samples from AFF
 - Voluntary request by Tree Farmer
 - *Goal: visit each landowner once every five years*
3. Third Party Audits
 - Every five years – 2014, 2019, 2024



Protocol – Initial Inspection

1. Talk to your Regional Coordinator

- If before the inspection - regional coordinator creates new Tree Farm ID in the database and sends pre-populated 004 form
- If after the inspection - you can send “generic” 004 form to regional coordinator for them to enter in the database

2. Site Visit and Landowner Interview

- Walk in the woods to observe forest
- Complete 004 form together
- Give landowner a sign

3. Submit 004 Form

- Email “Pre-populated” form to inspectors@forestfoundation.org
- Email “Generic” form to your regional coordinator



Protocol - Reinspection

1. Talk to your Regional Coordinator

- If you were previous inspector, you can assign the inspection to yourself and create pre-populated 004 form
- If you were not the previous inspector, get your regional coordinator to assign inspection to you and send you 004 form

2. Site Visit and Landowner Interview

- Walk in the woods to observe forest
- Complete 004 form together
- Make sure landowner has a nice sign

3. Submit 004 Form

- Email “Pre-populated” form to inspectors@forestfoundation.org



Inspection: New Tree Farm ID

1. Only the Administrators or Regional Coordinators can create new Tree Farms in www.ATFSdatabase.org
 - Tree Farmer ID: provide complete contact information – name, address, phone, email, etc
 - Tree Farm ID: provide forested acres and legal description for each non-contiguous parcel
 - MI-5000a, MI-5000b, MI-5000c, MI-5000d
2. Admin or Regional assigns inspection, then downloads and sends a pre-populated 004 form to inspector for each unique Tree Farm



Inspection: Eligibility and Contact

- Review eligibility
- Contiguous acreage
- Ownership type
- Willing participant
- *Exemplary landowner*
- Contact Info



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Inspection: Review Forest Management Plan

- No restrictions on author
- Contain all required elements?
- No expiration date in Tree Farm, so is the plan current?
- **Tree Farm does not ask for or store copies of plans**
 - *Except for those 17 Tree Farmers selected for audits every five years*



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Forest Stewardship Plan



Prepared for Joe and Jane Landowner

Example Plan Prepared by Mike Smalligan
DNR Forest Stewardship Coordinator
smalliganm@michigan.gov

Plan Start Date: August, 2014
Plan Duration: 20 Years (July, 2034)
[Updated January 2016]



www.Michigan.gov/ForestStewardship

The Forest Stewardship Program is funded by the United States Forest Service and administered by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

This plan also meets the requirements of the American Tree Farm System.
Renewal or revision of a prior Forest Stewardship Plan? – NO

Management Plan Addendum or Template

- Addendum (*Adam*)
 - If plan is incomplete
 - 2015 Standards
 - FORI, T&E, Special Sites
- Template (*Sweet*)
 - If no plan at all
 - Goals
 - Map
 - Activities
 - 2015 Standards
- Sell them a better plan



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Plan Addendum for the American Tree Farm System's 2015-2020 Standards of Sustainability

Name of Tree Farmer	Tree Farm Location
Plan Updated By	Date of Plan Update

2015 to 2020 Standards of Sustainability

Standard 1: Commitment to Practicing Sustainable Forestry. Landowner demonstrates commitment to forest health and sustainability by developing a forest management plan and implementing sustainable practices.

Performance Measure 1.1 - Landowner shall have and implement a written forest management plan consistent with the size of the forest and the scale and intensity of the forest activities.

Indicator 1.1.1 - Management plan shall be active, adaptive and embody the landowner's current objectives, remain appropriate for the land certified and reflect the current state of knowledge about natural resources and sustainable forest management.

Indicator 1.1.2 - Management plans shall describe current forest conditions, landowner's objectives, management activities aimed at achieving landowner's objectives, document a feasible strategy for activity implementation and include a map accurately depicting significant forest-related resources.

The forest management plan shall demonstrate consideration of the following resource elements: forest health, soil, water, wood and fiber production, threatened and endangered species, special sites, invasive species and forests of recognized importance. Where present and relevant to the property, the plan shall describe management activities related to these resource elements.

Where present, relevant to the property and consistent with landowner's objectives, the plan preparer should consider, describe and evaluate the following resource elements: fire, wetlands, desired species, recreation, forest aesthetics, biomass and carbon.

[Update all required components from Indicator 1.1.2 in the forest management plan as needed.]

Indicator 1.1.3 - The Landowner should monitor for changes that could interfere with the management objectives as stated in management plan. When problems are found, reasonable actions are taken.

Update Plan as Needed to Comply with Standard One	
Forest Health	www.michigan.gov/foresthealth

www.TreeFarmSystem.org Page 1 of 6 www.Michigan.gov/ForestStewardship

Inspection: Walk in the Woods

- Look for conformance to Standards
- Observe recent management activities
- Ground truth the plan and map
- **Answer landowner questions**
- *Take a few photos for social media*



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Inspection: Fill Out 004 Form

- Answer ALL relevant questions
- Landowner must meet ALL required Standards to become or remain certified
- Landowner should retain records
 - plan, contracts, records, notes, etc.
- Leave hard copy of 004 Form with Tree Farmer
 - Cc them on email to inspectors@forestfoundation.org



Results of Tree Farm Inspection

1. Certified or Recertified Tree Farm
 - Fully compliant with Standards of Sustainability
2. Pioneer Tree Farm
 - Moving towards, but not in full compliance
 - Indefinite time period
3. Decertification
 - No longer interested in program or compliance
 - Change in ownership, deceased, etc.
 - Specify reasons for decertification

Eliminate “Greenwashing”!!



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Tree Farm Signs

- Two types available
 - Certified Family Forest
 - Certified Tree Farm
- Sign belongs to Tree Farm
- MI Committee provides first sign
- Landowners can purchase signs
 - www.TreeFarmSystem.org/atfssigns
- 24 GIANT 4'x4' signs!



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Re-Inspection by Phone or Email

- Inspector was at property within past 180 days
- No management activity since visit
- 004 Form completed and submitted
- Not possible for Initial Inspection
 - *Do the field visit when collecting data to write a plan*
 - *Phone interview to fill out the 004 form when the plan is done*



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Cost of Tree Farm Inspection

- No charge to landowner for *Tree Farm inspection*
- Inspector may charge for other services
- Tree Farmer not obligated to hire Inspector for other services (plan, timber sale, etc.)
- ***MI Tree Farm Committee pays \$100-\$200 to Inspector for on site inspection***
 - Submit payment request form to Scott Robbins



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Inspection Reimbursement

- Initial Inspection
 - All foresters - \$100
 - Combine with FSP!
- Reinspection
 - Public forester - \$100
 - Private forester - \$200
- Send to Scott Robbins
srobbins@michiganforest.com



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Michigan Tree Farm System

Michigan Tree Farm Committee, 110 West Michigan Avenue, Suite 100, Lansing, MI 48933



2019 Inspection Payment Voucher

The Michigan Tree Farm Committee pays certified Tree Farm Inspectors for conducting a field inspection. Payment will be made even if the property is moved to Pioneer or De-Certified. Payment will not be made for phone or email inspections, only on-site inspections.

Initial inspections (new Tree Farmers) will be reimbursed at \$100. This \$100 may be paid by the DNR if associated with a new Forest Stewardship Plan. Otherwise the \$100 initial payment will be paid by Tree Farm.

Re-inspections of current Tree Farmers (required, optional, or voluntary) will be reimbursed at \$200 for private sector foresters and \$100 for government foresters. The \$200 rate may expire after 2019.

Please email this form to srobbins@michiganforest.com to request payment. Travel costs exceeding the payment may be a tax-deductible donation to the Michigan Tree Farm Committee (a 503c organization).

Inspecting Forester Information		
Name: Joe Tree Farm Inspector		Inspector ID Number:
Mailing Address:		
Phone:		Email:
Make Check Payable to:		Amount:
Tree Farmer Information		
Tree Farm ID Number:		Name of Tree Farmer:
Inspection Information		
Inspection Type (Initial, Required, Optional)	Result (Pioneer, Certified, De-Certified)	Date of Inspection:
Actual Cost of Inspection		
Labor – How many hours for research, travel, inspection, & paperwork?		Travel – How many roundtrip miles?

Please email this completed form to: srobbins@michiganforest.com

Questions? Contact Scott Robbins at 517-853-8880 or 906-250-5027

Michigan Tree Farm Committee, 110 West Michigan Avenue, Suite 100, Lansing, MI 48933

Co-Payment with FSP Cost Share

PLAN PREPARATION COSTS AND DISCOUNTS	
The cost to develop a Forest Stewardship Plan is determined by the plan writer and agreed upon by the landowner. A partial cost share, made possible with funding from the United States Forest Service, may be available through an annual grant to the plan writer. The cost share formula is "\$200 per plan plus \$0.50 per forested acre up to an annual maximum of \$2,500 per landowner." Landowners should expect to pay for a significant portion of the total plan costs. The DNR must report matching funds to the Forest Service so landowners must report the amount that they contribute to the total cost of the plan. This form is not a legal contract.	
Amount paid by the landowner for this Forest Stewardship Plan	\$ 220
Cost share from DNR paid to the plan writer after DNR review and approval	\$ 780
Write "100" for additional cost share from DNR to plan writer if landowner enrolls in American Tree Farm System. Plan writer must be a Tree Farm Forester and submit "004 Form" to Tree Farm prior to payment.	\$ 100
LANDOWNER SIGNATURE	
My Forest Stewardship Plan will describe my goals, forest resources and recommended activities to achieve my goals over the next 10 to 20 years. Participation in the <i>voluntary</i> Forest Stewardship Program indicates my intent to use my plan to take good care of my woods. I understand that enrolling in <i>separate</i> programs (Qualified Forest, Commercial Forest, American Tree Farm System, Forest Stewardship Council, Environmental Quality Incentives, etc.) requires compliance with those independent program guidelines.	
Landowner Signature	Date

- \$100 payment with FSP cost share is USFS Core Funding for FSP
- \$200 payment for re-inspections is separate LSR grant from USFS to DNR with a sub-grant to Tree Farm



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The 004 Form

- Only paperwork needed
- Specific to 2015 Standards
- Form will be returned to you if anything is missing



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

American Tree Farm System (ATFS) Tree Farm Inspection Record
ATFS Form 004 Revised 01/15

State Tree Farm Number

INITIAL INSPECTION INITIAL INSPECTION HOW DID THE LANDOWNER LEARN ABOUT ATFS? CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

☐ Certified Recognition ☐ My Pioneer ☐ Currently a Tree Farmer ☐ ATFS Sign ☐ Referred by Tree Farmer ☐ Website
☐ Pioneer ☐ Brochure ☐ Landowners Assn ☐ Magazine ☐ Forestry Association ☐ Field Day/Education Event

REINSPECTION ☐ Recertification Renewal ☐ Decertification (Choose One): ☐ Deceased ☐ Missing ☐ No Interest
☐ Pioneer ☐ Sold ☐ Substandard

FIELD INSPECTION DATE Month Day Year **INTERVIEW DATE** Month Day Year **TYPE** ☐ Field ☐ Phone ☐ Email

LANDOWNER INFORMATION (Legal Owner) Organization or Last Name First Name MI **PRIMARY CONTACT**
 Co-Owner / Contact Last Name First Name MI

PRIMARY CONTACT Mailing Address 1 Mailing Address 2
 City State Zip Absentee ☐ Yes ☐ No
 Email Phone Preferred Contact: ☐ Any ☐ Phone ☐ Email ☐ No Contact

WHAT CONSERVATION ORGANIZATIONS ARE YOU INVOLVED IN? CHECK ALL THAT APPLY
☐ State Forestry Assn ☐ State Landowner Assn ☐ County/Local Forestry Assn ☐ Ducks Unlimited ☐ Nat Wild Turkey Fed ☐ ODNR ☐ NWA
☐ Other (Please Specify)

TREE FARM LOCATION County Town Acres Location (Legal or GPS)

IMMEDIATE TREE CHECK (Indicate) ☐ Non-industrial Private/Family ☐ Conservation Easement ☐ Forest Tax Use / Tax Abatement ☐ State Forest Stewardship Program
☐ Public Lands ☐ Successional Planning (State Planning, etc)
☐ Other (Please specify) Cost Share (Please Specify) Other (Please Specify)
☐ Federal ☐ State ☐ Local ☐ N/A

NOTES/COMMENTS

APPROVALS

Signature	Month	Day	Year	Recommendation
Landowner's Signature <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> (Landowner) understands that checking this box constitutes this typed or written signature as a legal signature
Inspecting Forester Signature <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Recommendation: <input type="checkbox"/> Certification/Recognition <input type="checkbox"/> Pioneer <input type="checkbox"/> Decertification <input type="checkbox"/> Other
First Name <input type="text"/> MI <input type="text"/> Last Name <input type="text"/>				
Regional Approval Signature <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Recommendation: <input type="checkbox"/> Certification/Recognition <input type="checkbox"/> Pioneer <input type="checkbox"/> Decertification
State Approval Signature <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Recommendation: <input type="checkbox"/> Certification/Recognition <input type="checkbox"/> Pioneer <input type="checkbox"/> Decertification

* Signatory affirms compliance with all relevant laws, regulations, and permits; agents of ATFS sign and agree for inspection verification purposes. Only required for new enrollments.

004 Form: Tips

PRESCRIBED FIRE	
Is prescribed fire used on the property? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
If yes, PM 4.3 prescribed fire conforms with landowner's objectives and pre-fire planning. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Notes/Observations	Indicator
	4.3.1. Prescribed fire conforms with the landowner's objectives and state and local laws and regulations. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
	If yes, number of acres treated: MANY

- Use State abbreviation “MI” when asked for State.
- Date format is always “mm-dd-yyyy”
- Acres should be given as whole numbers
- Use only numerals to describe a quantity, not text
- Include location of the plan, sources of information
- Answer ALL required fields applicable to the Tree Farm



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

How To Obtain the 004 Form

- Your Regional Coordinator
 - Regional coordinator creates new records of both the landowner and Tree Farm
 - Assigns inspection to you
 - Emails you pre-populated 004 Form with page 1 filled
- www.ATFSdatabase.org
 - Download pre-populated 004 Form if you were previous inspector for the Tree Farm
- www.TreeFarmSystem.org
 - Download a blank 004 Form



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

004 Form: Top of Page 1



American Tree Farm System (ATFS) Tree Farm Inspection Record

ATFS Form 004 Revised 01/15

State **MI** Tree Farm Number **1234**

INITIAL INSPECTION

INITIAL INSPECTION: HOW DID THE LANDOWNER LEARN ABOUT ATFS? (Check All That Apply)

- ☐ Certified/Recognition ☒ My Inspector ☐ Currently a Tree Farmer ☐ ATFS Sign ☐ Referred by Tree Farmer ☐ Website
☐ Pioneer ☐ Brochure ☐ Landowners Assn ☐ Magazine ☐ Forestry Association ☒ Field Day/Education Event

REINSPECTION

- ☐ Recertification/Renewal ☐ Decertification (Choose One): ☐ Deceased ☐ Missing ☐ No interest
☐ Pioneer ☐ Sold ☐ Substandard

FIELD INSPECTION DATE

INTERVIEW DATE

Month **12** Day **19** Year **2019** Month **12** Day **19** Year **2019** Type: ☒ Field ☐ Phone ☐ Email

LANDOWNER INFORMATION (Legal Owner)

PRIMARY CONTACT

Organization or Last Name Tree Farmer	First Name Joe and Jane	MI 	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Co-Owner / Contact Last Name 	First Name 	MI 	<input type="radio"/>

PRIMARY CONTACT

Mailing Address 1 1234 Main Street	Mailing Address 2 Suite 250		
City Lansing	State MI	Zip 48933	Absentee Landowner? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Email joe@treefarm.org	Phone (517) 123-4567	Preferred Contact <input checked="" type="radio"/> Any <input type="radio"/> Phone <input type="radio"/> Email <input type="radio"/> No Contact	

WHICH CONSERVATION ORGANIZATIONS ARE YOU INVOLVED IN? (Check All That Apply)

004 Form: Bottom of Page 1

WHICH CONSERVATION ORGANIZATIONS ARE YOU INVOLVED IN? (Check All That Apply)

- ☐ State Forestry Assn ☒ State Landowner Assn ☐ County/Local Forestry Assn ☐ Ducks Unlimited ☐ Nat Wild Turkey Fed ☒ QDMA
- ☒ Other (Please Specify)
Qualified Forest Program, EQIP

TREE FARM LOCATION

County Newaygo	Town Bitely	Forested Acres 40	Location (Legal or GPS) SE ¼ of the SW ¼ of Section 1, T15N, R14W
-------------------	----------------	----------------------	--

OWNERSHIP TYPE (Check One)

- ☒ Non-Industrial Private/Family
☐ Other Public (non-State Forests)
☐ Municipal/City/Village
☐ Other

WHICH PROGRAMS IS THE PROPERTY ENROLLED IN? (Check All That Apply)

- ☐ Conservation Easement ☐ Forest Tax Law / Tax Abatement ☒ State Forest Stewardship Program
- ☐ Successional Planning (Estate Planning, etc)
- Cost Share (Please Specify)
☐ Federal ☐ State ☐ Local
- ☐ Other (Please Specify)

NOTES/UPDATES

APPROVALS

Landowner * Signature Joe and Jane Tree Farmer	Month 12	Day 19	Year 2019	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I (Landowner) understand that, by checking this box, my typed or written signature constitutes a legal signature.
Qualified ATFS Inspector Signature Mike Smalligan	Month 12	Day 19	Year 2019	Recommendation: <input checked="" type="radio"/> Certification/Recognition <input type="radio"/> Pioneer <input type="radio"/> Decertification
First Name Mike	MI	Last Name Smalligan		ID# 88296
Regional Approval Signature	Month	Day	Year	Recommendation: <input type="radio"/> Certification/Recognition <input type="radio"/> Pioneer <input type="radio"/> Decertification
State Approval Signature	Month	Day	Year	Recommendation: <input type="radio"/> Certification/Recognition <input type="radio"/> Pioneer <input type="radio"/> Decertification

*Signature affirms commitment to comply with the 2015-2020 AFF Standards of Sustainability and all relevant laws/regulations/ordinances. Signature further permits agents of ATFS ingress and egress for purposes of verification and in coordination of corrective or preventative activities. Participation in ATFS is purely voluntary and may be discontinued by landowner at any time or if found ineligible by ATFS. Only required for new certifications.

Standard One – Management Plan

STANDARD 1. COMMITMENT TO PRACTICING SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY (MANAGEMENT PLAN)

PM 1.1 Landowner has and implements a written forest management plan consistent with the size of the forest and the scale and intensity of the forest activities.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Location of management plan, maps and other related documents?

Joe and Jane keep their forest management plan in their home.

Notes/Observations

Joe and Jane have a 2012 Forest Stewardship Plan developed by Smith Forestry.

Mike Smalligan filled out the Tree Farm Addendum to help them update their plan and keep it current at the December 2019 inspection.

Indicator

1.1.1. Management plan is active, adaptive and embodies the landowner's current objectives, remains appropriate for the land certified and reflects the current state of knowledge about natural resources and sustainable forest management.

☒ Yes ☐ No

1.1.2. (a) Management plan describes current forest conditions, landowner's objectives; management activities aimed at achieving landowner's objectives, documents a feasible strategy for activity implementation and includes a map accurately depicting significant forest-related resources.

☒ Yes ☐ No

1.1.2. (b) Management plan demonstrates consideration of the following resource elements: forest health, soil, water, wood and fiber production, threatened and endangered species, special sites, invasive species and forests of recognized importance (FORI).

☒ Yes ☐ No

1.1.2. (c) Where present and relevant to the property, the plan describes management activities related to the following elements: fire, wetlands, desired species, recreation, forest aesthetics, biomass, and/or carbon.

☒ Yes ☐ No

1.1.3. The landowner should monitor for changes that could interfere with the management objectives as stated in management plan. When problems are found, are reasonable actions taken?

☒ Yes ☐ No

- Addendum to update old plan
- Template make a new one



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Standard Two - Laws

STANDARD 2. COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS

PM 2.1 Landowner complies with all relevant federal, state, county and municipal laws, regulations and ordinances governing forest management activities.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Notes/Observations

Obtain a stream crossing permit from EGLE if installing a culvert or bridge.

Follow label instructions if using any pesticides.

Indicator

2.1.1. Landowner corrects conditions that led to adverse regulatory actions, if any.

☒ Yes ☐ No

2.1.2. Landowner should obtain advice from appropriate qualified natural resource professionals or qualified contractors who are trained in, and familiar with, relevant laws, regulations and ordinances.

☒ Yes ☐ No

State Laws

- NREPA
- Right to Forest

Federal Laws

- FIFRA
- Clean Water Act
- Endangered Species



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Standard Three - Reforestation

STANDARD 3. REFORESTATION AND AFFORESTATION

Has the property been harvested or afforested since 2010 under this ownership? (If no, skip to Standard 4: Air, Water and Soil Protection) ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, PM 3.1 reforestation or afforestation achieved by a suitable process that ensures adequate stocking levels. ☒ Yes ☐ No

Notes/Observations

The Tree Farmers harvested 10 acres of northern hardwoods in 2015.

Indicator

3.1.1 Harvested forest land achieves adequate stocking of desired species reflecting the landowner's objectives, within five years after harvest, or within a time interval as specified by applicable regulation. ☒ Yes ☐ No

Tot. Number of acres affected?

10

Methods of regeneration

natural

Species selected?

sugar maple and red oak

- Adequate stocking
- Desired species
- 5 years or reasonable time



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Standard Four – Air, Water & Soil

STANDARD 4: AIR, WATER AND SOIL PROTECTION

PM 4.1 Landowner meets or exceeds practices prescribed by State Forestry Best Management Practices (BMPs) that are applicable to the property. ☒ Yes ☐ No

Notes/Observations

The loggers complied with BMPs during the 2015 timber sale.

Indicator

4.1.1. Landowner implements specific State Forestry BMPs that are applicable to the property. ☒ Yes ☐ No

4.1.2. Landowner minimizes road construction and other disturbances within riparian zones and wetlands. ☒ Yes ☐ No

PM 4.2 Landowner considers a range of forest management activities to control pests, pathogens and unwanted vegetation. ☒ Yes ☐ No

Have pesticides been used on the property? (If no, skip to Prescribed Fire) ☒ Yes ☐ No

Notes/Observations

Glyphosate was used for site preparation for tree planting in accordance with the label.

Indicator

4.2.1. Landowner should evaluate alternatives to pesticides for the prevention or control of pests, pathogens and unwanted vegetation to achieve specific management objectives. ☒ Yes ☐ No

4.2.2. Pesticides used are EPA-approved and applied, stored and disposed of in accordance with EPA-approved labels and by persons appropriately trained, licensed and supervised. ☒ Yes ☐ No

Landowner's Last Name

Tree Farmer

State

MI

Tree Farm Number

1234

PAGE 2 OF 4

PRESCRIBED FIRE

Is prescribed fire used on the property? (If no, skip to Standard 5: Fish, Wildlife, Biodiversity and Forest Health) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, **PM 4.3** prescribed fire conforms with landowner's objectives and pre-fire planning. ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, number of acres treated:

Notes/Observations

Indicator

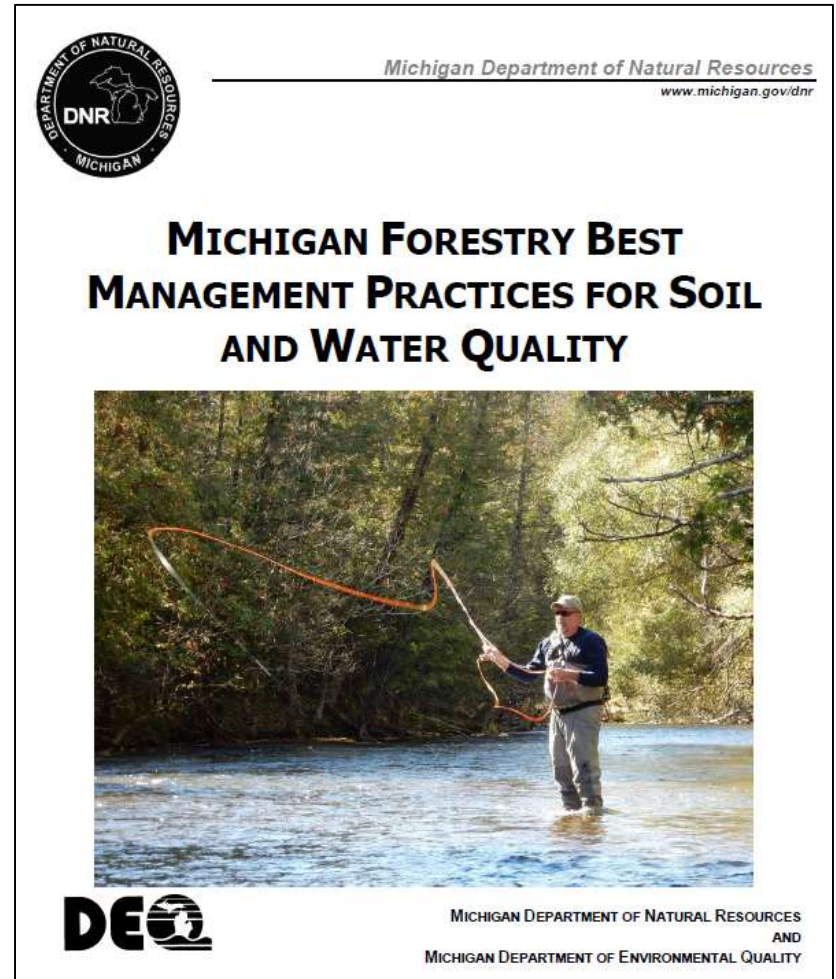
4.3.1. Prescribed fire conforms with the landowner's objectives and state and local laws and regulations. ☐ Yes ☐ No

Michigan BMPs

1. Introduction
2. Laws & Permits
3. Fuels & Spills
4. Timber Harvest Planning
5. Riparian Management Zones
6. Forest Roads
7. Water Diversion Devices
8. Stream Crossings
9. Harvest Operations
10. Site Preparation



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS



www.Michigan.gov/Forestry

Standard 5 – Fish, Wildlife, Diversity & Health

STANDARD 5: FISH, WILDLIFE, BIODIVERSITY AND FOREST HEALTH

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

Indicator

5.1.1. Landowner conferred with natural resource agencies, state natural resource heritage programs, qualified natural resource professionals or reviewed other sources of information to determine occurrences of threatened or endangered species on the property and their habitat requirements.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Which resources were consulted to determine occurrences of threatened or endangered species on the property?

The local DNR Service Forester checked the Michigan Natural Features Inventory database for the inspector prior to the field inspection.

Are there known occurrences of threatened and endangered species on the property? (If no, skip to Desired Species)

☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, which species?

Karner Blue Butterfly

Number of acres affected:

15

If yes, **PM 5.1** forest management activities protect habitats and communities occupied by threatened or endangered species as required by law. ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, **5.1.2.** forest management activities incorporate measures to protect identified threatened or endangered species on the property ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, what management activities have been undertaken or are planned to protect the habitats and communities occupied by threatened or endangered species?

manage the 15-acre oak stand as a savanna for good oak regeneration and habitat for the Karner Blue Butterfly

DESIRED SPECIES

Has the landowner identified objectives related to desired species and/or forest communities? (If no, skip to PM 5.3: Forest Health)

☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, which species?

deer, turkey, songbirds and trout

Number of acres affected:

40

If yes, **PM 5.2** landowner should address the desired species and/or desired forest communities when conducting forest management activities, if consistent with landowner's objectives.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Notes/Observations

Consider joining Trout Unlimited and NWF

Indicator

5.2.1. Landowner should consult available and accessible information on management of the forest for desired species and/or forest communities and integrate it into forest management.

☒ Yes ☐ No

FOREST HEALTH

PM 5.1 – T&E Species

- What should a landowner do to find out if they have threatened or endangered species on their Tree Farm?
 1. Check federal list
 2. Check state database
 3. On site inspection
- Michigan Natural Features Inventory
 - DNR checks MNFI database to the quarter, quarter section
 - Public access to the county and watershed level
 - <http://mnfi.anr.msu.edu/>



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Standard 5 – Fish, Wildlife, Diversity & Health

FOREST HEALTH

PM 5.3 Landowner should make practical efforts to promote forest health.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Notes/Observations

last timber sale was intended to remove diseased trees and promote forest health

Indicator

5.3.1. Landowner should make practical efforts to promote forest health, including prevention, control or response to disturbances such as wildland fire, invasive species and other pests, pathogens or unwanted vegetation, to achieve specific management objectives.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Which forest health issues are relevant to the property?

autumn olive, beech bark disease

Number of acres affected:

25

In what ways is the landowner seeking to prevent, control or respond to forest health concerns?

treat autumn olive with triclopyr; remove large beech with lots of scale; avoid pruning oak between April 15 and July 15 to prevent introduction of oak wilt

FORESTS OF RECOGNIZED IMPORTANCE (FORI)

Which resources were consulted to determine relevance to FORI on property?

The Michigan Tree Farm Committee Guidance on FORI (Great Lakes coast, legally protected rivers, important wildlife habitat, rare forests)

Are FORI relevant to the property? (If no, skip to Standard 6: Forest Aesthetics)

☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, **PM 5.4** forest management activities should maintain or enhance forests of recognized importance (FORI).

☒ Yes ☐ No

Notes/Observations

This property is along the White River which is a State Natural River.

Indicator

5.4.1. If relevant, appropriate to the scale and intensity of the situation, forest management activities should incorporate measures to contribute to the conservation of identified forests of recognized importance.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Landowner's Last Name

Tree Farmer

State

MI

Tree Farm Number

1234

PAGE 3 OF 4



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

FORI in Michigan

1. Forests along Legally Designated Rivers

- “Natural Rivers” – www.Michigan.gov/DNRNaturalRivers
- “Wild and Scenic Rivers” – www.Rivers.gov/Michigan.php

2. Forests along Great Lakes Coastline

- Any forest type located within 0.5 miles of any Great Lake

3. Important Wildlife Habitat

- Southern Lower Peninsula: large contiguous forests >500 acres
- Statewide: forests that provide required habitat for T&E species

4. Rare Forest Types

- Old growth, or exceptional natural communities (MNFI)
 - <http://mnfi.anr.msu.edu/mnfi/communities/index.cfm>



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Standard Six – Aesthetics

STANDARD 6: FOREST AESTHETICS

PM 6.1 Landowner should manage the visual impacts of forest management activities consistent with the size of the forest, the scale and intensity of forest management activities and the location of the property.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Notes/Observations

Smith Forestry placed a nice sign along the main road to explain the 2001 aspen clearcut.

Indicator

6.1.1. Forest management activities should apply visual quality measures compatible with appropriate silvicultural practices.

☒ Yes ☐ No



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Standard Seven – Special Sites

STANDARD 7: PROTECT SPECIAL SITES

Notes/Observations

Special Site is located on the map in the plan

Indicator

7.1.1. Landowner made a reasonable effort to locate and protect special sites appropriate for the size of the forest and the scale and intensity of forest management activities.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Which resources were consulted to reach this determination? For example, field observations by qualified natural resource professional, state natural, historical or cultural heritage databases or offices.

The local DNR Service Forester checked the State Historic Preservation Office database for archaeological sites prior to the inspection. SHPO was positive so we contacted Stacy Tchorzynski (MSHDA) TchorzynskiS@michigan.gov to learn more about the site. There are no MNFI S1 or S2 ranked natural communities here.

Are special sites relevant to the property? (If no, skip to Standard 8: Forest Product Harvests and Other Activities)

☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, which special sites are present?

Native American burial mound

Number of occurrences:

1

How are special sites protected?

forest management activities are restricted near the burial mound

Notes/Observations

landowners contacted State Archaeologist and the local tribe to work together to maintain the site

If yes, **PM 7.1** forest management activities consider and maintain any special sites relevant on the property.

☒ Yes ☐ No

STANDARD 8: FOREST PRODUCT HARVESTS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Ask your friendly DNR Service Forester to check the State Historic Preservation Office database

Special Sites in Michigan

- Archeological and Cultural Sites
 - Consult State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) database
 - DNR Service Foresters provide check for all FSP plans
 - Stacy Tchorzynski - TchorzynskiS@michigan.gov
- Unique Natural Communities
 - Consult MNFI for S1 or S2 natural communities
 - <http://mnfi.anr.msu.edu/communities/index.cfm>



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

MI Natural Communities

Rank (S1-S5)

[Alvar](#)

S1

[Cave](#)

S1

[Dry-mesic Prairie](#)

S1

[Granite Lakeshore Cliff](#)

S1

[Hillside Prairie](#)

S1

[Inland Salt Marsh](#)

S1

[Lakeplain Oak Openings](#)

S1

[Lakeplain Wet Prairie](#)

S1

[Lakeplain Mesic Prairie](#)

S1

[Limestone Lakeshore Cliff](#)

S1

[Mesic Prairie](#)

S1

[Mesic Sand Prairie](#)

S1

[Northern Bald](#)

S1

[Oak Barrens](#)

S1

[Oak Openings](#)

S1

[Volcanic Lakeshore Cliff](#)

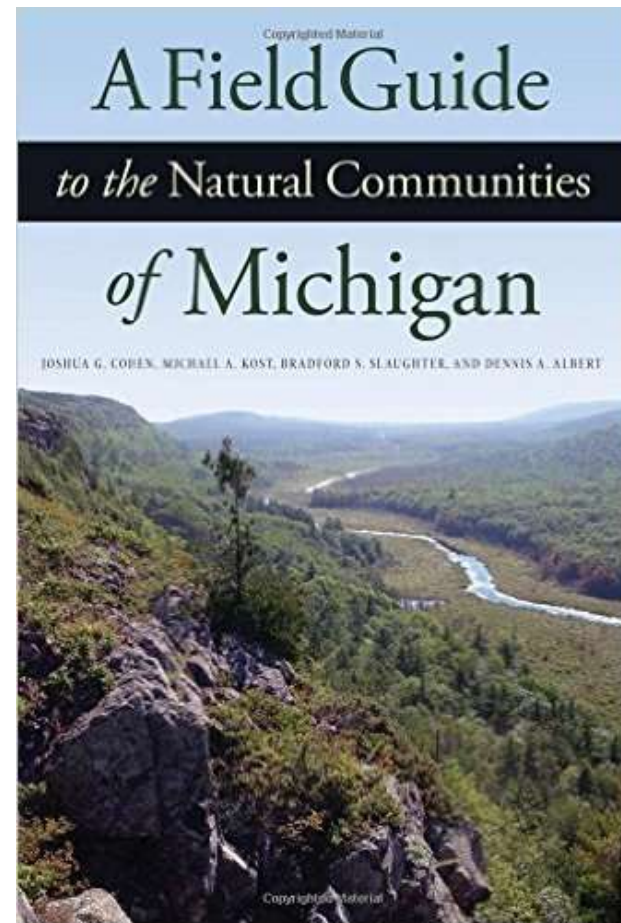
S1

[Wet Prairie](#)

S1

[Wet-mesic Prairie](#)

S1



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Standard Eight – Harvests

STANDARD 8: FOREST PRODUCT HARVESTS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

PM 8.1 Landowner should use qualified natural resource professionals and qualified contractors when contracting for services. ☒ Yes ☐ No

Notes/Observations

Joe and Jane Tree Farmer hired Smith Consulting Forestry to administer their sale.

They sold the wood to a procurement forester at a reputable sawmill.

SFI-trained qualified logging professionals conducted the harvest and did great work.

Indicator

8.1.1. Landowner seeks qualified natural resource professionals and qualified contractors when undertaking forest management activities. ☒ Yes ☐ No

8.1.2. Landowner should engage qualified contractors who carry appropriate insurance and comply with appropriate federal, state and local safety and fair labor rules, regulations and standard practices. ☒ Yes ☐ No

8.1.3. Landowner should retain appropriate contracts or records for forest product harvests and other management activities to demonstrate conformance to the Standards. ☒ Yes ☐ No

PM 8.2 Landowner monitors forest product harvests and other management activities to ensure they conform to their objectives. ☒ Yes ☐ No

Notes/Observations

Joe and Jane live at their forest and monitored the harvest to make sure it conformed to their goals and forest management plan.

Indicator

8.2.1. Harvest, utilization, removal and other management activities conducted in compliance with the landowner's objectives and to maintain the potential of the property to produce forest products and other benefits sustainably. ☒ Yes ☐ No



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

What to Do with a 004 Form

- Fill out form with landowner during inspection
 - Leave hard copy with landowner
 - Use the fillable pdf to update and save 004 Form
- Email pdf to inspectors@forestfoundation.org
 - Subject Line is “Upload004”
 - CC your regional inspector and the landowner
- OR email “generic” 004 to regional coordinator
 - They will complete and submit for you
- OR enter data online at www.ATFSdatabase.org




Database Feedback - Error

Inspection PDF 004 Form Validation Errors



Forest Foundation <noreply@forestfoundation.org>

To  Smalligan, Mike (DNR)



You forwarded this message on 12/04/2019 3:19 PM.

We could not verify the identity of the sender. [Click here to learn more.](#)

This message has extra line breaks.

Inspection PDF 004 Form Audit:

File: scott, jody and jodi -tf 004 mi-5008.pdf

Tree Farm State: MI

Tree Farm Number: 5008

Tree Farm Owner: Scott

Inspector: Keith R. Martell Jr.

Inspector ID: 21874

Validation message(s):

* No response has been entered for [Desired Species - Number of acres affected]. Please fill in this required field.



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Database Feedback - Success

Inspection Approval Request



ATFS System <atfs.support@jws.com>

To Smalligan, Mike (DNR)

Reply



Mike,

An inspection for the following Tree Farm is ready to be reviewed and approved online.

This notification is sent to all State Administrators, District Chairs and Approvers in your state. Please disregard this notice if you are not the approver for this Tree Farm.

This is an automated message, please do not reply.

If you have questions, contact your state admin or ATFS staff directly.

Tree Farm State: MI

Tree Farm Number: 8348

Tree Farm Acres: 433

Tree Farm County: Marquette

Tree Farm Owner: Ketvirtis

Inspector: Matthew Watkeys

Inspector ID: 141339



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Tree Farm Database

ATFSdatabase.org

Username: “msmalligan”
(first initial and last name)

Password: “changeme”

Questions: Annica McGuirk
amcguirk@forestfoundation.org

LOG OUT HOME Print Inspection Forms

Privacy Statement
User Manual (pdf)
User Profile
Search/Create Records
Inspections
Assign Inspector
View/Edit/Submit Inspections
Print/Create Inspection Forms
Blank 004 Form - 2010 Standards
Writable Blank 004 Form - 2010 Standards
Training

Search Records:

Tree Farm State: Montana

Tree Farm Number:

Tree Farm County: All counties
Unknown
Beaverhead
Big Horn
Blaine

Owner Last Name:

Owner First Name:

Owner Organization:

Owner ID#:

Owner State: All States

Owner County: All counties
To select multiple countries... Mac: Apple+Click PC: Ctrl+Click

Years Since Last Inspection:

Target Year:

National/Optional: National
Optional
To select multiple... Mac: Apple+Click PC: Ctrl+Click

Tree Farm Status: All
Certified
To select multiple status... Mac: Apple+Click PC: Ctrl+Click



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Nondisclosure Agreement
to only use data for Tree Farm purposes!

Database Privileges

Capabilities of each role	State Viewer	Approver	Inspector	District Chair	State Admin	Nat'l Admin
Verify certifications					✓	✓
Create Users						✓
Delete Records						✓
Search Records	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Create Individuals				✓	✓	✓
Create TF Properties				✓	✓	✓
Edit Individuals/ Properties			✓**	✓	✓	✓
Assign Inspections			**	✓	✓	✓
View/Edit/Submit Inspections	(Can view)	(Can view)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Approve Inspections		✓		✓	✓	✓
Print/Create Inspection Forms			✓	✓	✓	✓
Tree Farm Reports				✓	✓	✓
Tree Farmer Reports					✓	✓
Administrative Reports					✓	✓
Online Training			✓	✓	✓	✓

****Inspectors can edit/assign themselves to a property if they were the last person to inspect that property (according to the database). They can edit individuals.**



Database Demo

1. Searching for Tree Farmers
2. Modifying a Tree Farm
3. Assigning inspection
4. Creating a pdf of 004
5. Submitting inspection online
6. Online Training

The screenshot displays the 'Searching Tree Farms' page of a web application. The left sidebar contains a navigation menu with options like 'LOG OUT', 'HOME', 'Privacy Statement', 'No Harassment Policy', 'Verify Certifications', 'User Guide (pdf)', 'User Profile', 'Administrative', 'Search/Create Records', 'Individual', 'Inspector', 'Tree Farm Properties', 'Inspection', 'Tree Farm Reports', 'Tree Farmer Reports', 'Facilitator Reports', 'Administrative Reports', 'Group Reports', and 'Training'. The main content area is titled 'Searching Tree Farms' and features a 'Search Tree Farms:' section with various dropdown menus for 'Tree Farm State' (Michigan), 'Tree Farm Number' (4504), 'Tree Farm County' (All counties), 'Tree Farm District' (All districts), 'Owner Last Name', 'Owner First Name', 'Owner Organization', 'Owner Herdcat ID', 'Owner State' (All States), and 'Owner County' (All counties). A 'SEARCH' button is located below these fields. Below the search section, a message states 'One result found:'. A table displays the search results with columns for 'Tree Farm', 'Owner', 'County', 'Notes', 'Type', 'Status', 'Last Inspection', 'Last Inspector', 'Assigned Inspector', and 'Certificate Number'. The table shows one entry for a tree farm in Livingston County, Michigan, with a status of 'Owner' and a certificate number of 10070004. Below the table are buttons for 'VIEW', 'EXPORT CSV', 'CREATE PDF', 'UPDATE', and 'CREATE NEW'. A final instruction at the bottom reads 'Select from the table above to View, Update, or Create a Tree Farm.'

Tree Farm	Owner	County	Notes	Type	Status	Last Inspection	Last Inspector	Assigned Inspector	Certificate Number
4504	Livingston County, Mich	Livingston	MI	State Program - Certificates	Owner	10070004	Michael Burns	None	None



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Next Steps



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

I'm trained, now what?

1. Turn in your registration form today
2. Added to national database and assigned ID
3. CFEs processed quarterly
4. Contact your Regional Coordinator
 - Request inspections
 - Submit inspections
 - Request brochures & signs to distribute to landowners
5. Do an inspection!



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Stay Engaged!

- Update your contact information
- Feedback on your inspector experiences
 - First inspections with a mentor are available
- Keep in touch with your State Committee
 - Always welcome at quarterly meetings
- Complete inspections when requested
- Initiate inspection with new or current Tree Farmers



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Recognize Good Work

- Nominate Tree Farmer OTY
 - Submit by September 1 to Nia Becker
 - Should we do UP and LP OTFOY?
- Nominate Forester OTY
 - Submit by September 1 to Nia Becker
- Seek out landowners to enroll into Tree Farm
- Do inspection when writing management plan



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Questions?

- Michigan Tree Farm Committee
 - www.TreeFarmSystem.org/Michigan
- American Tree Farm System
 - www.TreeFarmSystem.org
- AFF Staff - www.ForestFoundation.org/staff
 - Kayti Brinkman - KBrinkman@ForestFoundation.org
 - Annica McGuirk - amcguirk@forestfoundation.org
 - Leigh Peters - lpeters@ForestFoundation.org
 - Angela Wells - awells@forestfoundation.org



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Workshop Outcomes

- Explain benefits of American Tree Farm System
- Able to conduct a Tree Farm inspection
- Complete 004 Form correctly
- Use www.ATFSdatabase.org



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Thanks for your time and participation!

Mike Smalligan – smalliganm@Michigan.gov



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Appendix Materials



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Why FSP and Tree Farm?

- 2018 National Woodland Owner Survey
 - 5% of Michigan landowners have forest management plan
 - 29% of Michigan landowners use a forester for timber sales
 - Landowners value: beauty, privacy, wildlife, nature, hunting, water, legacy, family, recreation, investment, firewood, timber, NTFP
- Tree Farm is far more than plans, timber & certification
 - Social network for peer to peer learning and exemplary **influencers**
 - Regular follow-up between foresters and landowners
 - Comprehensive approach to good forest management
 - Oldest program in country for family forest landowners
 - Better branding and marketing than FSP
 - **COMMUNITY – RECOGNITION - LEGACY**



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS



2019 Income

Donations
\$1,595

AFF
\$15,410

FSP
\$25,158

MI FSP Support for MI Tree Farm Committee	Investment	Percent
Wheels to Woods trips for 40,000+ people since 2016	\$127,500	46%
Inspection stipends at \$100 to \$200 per inspection	\$85,000	31%
Committee Administration (marketing, travel, field days, etc)	\$65,500	24%
	\$278,000	100%

COMPETITIVE USFS GRANTS	Fiscal Years	MI Tree Farm
Wheels to Woods	16	\$7,500
Wheels to Woods	17	\$10,000
Forests for Fish - inspections	17-19	\$30,000
Every School in the Forest - W2W	18-20	\$90,000
Little Bridges of Michigan Counties - inspections	20-22	\$55,000
		\$192,500
CORE USFS FOREST STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM	Fiscal Years	MI Tree Farm
FSP Partnership Grant - W2W	16	\$5,000
FSP Partnership Grant - W2W	17	\$15,000
FSP Partnership Grant - admin	18	\$12,500
FSP Partnership Grant - admin	19	\$20,000
FSP Partnership Grant - admin and IMGs	20	\$24,000
		\$76,500
IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS	Fiscal Years	Estimate
Printing and mailing 2,000 newsletters	15	\$1,500
Printing and mailing 2,000 newsletters	16	\$1,500
Printing and mailing 2,000 newsletters	17	\$1,500
Printing and mailing 2,000 newsletters	18	\$1,500
Printing and mailing 2,000 newsletters	19	\$1,500
Printing and mailing 2,000 newsletters	20	\$1,500
		\$9,000



GROWING STEWARDSHIP

2015 to 2020

Standards of Sustainability



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Development of Standards

- 2015-2020 Independent Standards Review Panel
 - At the direction of the AFF Board of Trustees
 - Two rounds of public comments
- Focus on Sustainable Forest Management
 - Defines “Forest Stewardship”
- Source of Credibility
 - PEFC – international endorsement
 - Guidelines for internal and external assessments
 - Conformance to Standards is essential



Who uses these Standards?

- Tree Farmers
- Tree Farm Inspectors
- Independent Auditors



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

2015 to 2020 Standards of Sustainability

1. Prologue

- How to Use the Standards

2. Eight Standards

- Guidance included in document

3. Glossary

- Bolded text in Standards



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Overarching principle of sustainability

Standard 1: Commitment to Practicing Sustainable Forestry

Landowner demonstrates commitment to **forest health** and **sustainability** by developing a forest **management plan** and implementing sustainable practices.

Explains Standard and pathways for conformance

Performance Measure 1.1

Landowner shall have and implement a written forest **management plan** consistent with the size of the forest and the **scale** and intensity of the forest activities.

Specific actions that demonstrate conformance

Indicator 1.1.1

Management plan shall be active, adaptive, and embody the **landowner's** current objectives, remain appropriate for the land certified, and reflect the current state of knowledge about natural resources and **sustainable forest management**.



Key Phrases

Shall
vs.
Should

Size
Scale
Intensity



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Standard 1:

Commitment to Practicing Sustainable Forestry

Performance Measure 1.1 - Landowner **shall** have and implement a written forest management plan consistent with the size of the forest and the **scale** and intensity of the forest activities.

Indicator 1.1.1 - Management plan shall be active, adaptive and embody the landowner's current objectives, remain appropriate for the land certified and reflect the current state of knowledge about natural resources and sustainable forest management.



Indicator 1.1.2 – Management Plans

- Landowner goals and objectives
- Describe current forest conditions
- Management activities
 - Strategy and schedule (how and when)
- Map depicting all significant forest resources



Indicator 1.1.2 – Resource Elements

SHALL

1. Forest Health
2. Soil
3. Water
4. Wood & Fiber Production
5. T&E Species
6. Special Sites
7. Invasive Species
8. Forests of Recognized Importance (FORI)

SHOULD

1. Prescribed Fire
2. Wetlands
3. Desired Species
4. Recreation
5. Aesthetics
6. Biomass
7. Carbon



Indicator 1.1.3 – Monitor

- Monitoring
 - Forest growth
 - Management activities
 - Invasive species, pests, disease, storms, theft
- Written records and notes
- Updates with Management Plan Addendum
- Plans are considered current if they accurately describe landowner goals and forest conditions



Management Plan Options

1. Hire a Forester

- Forest Stewardship Program
- NRCS CAP 106
- Just Do It

2. Statewide Landscape Stewardship Plan

- Inspector & Tree Farmer fill out Addendum

3. Landowner Writes Own Plan

- Tree Farm does not specify WHO can write plan



Recent Nonconformities

- Not having a forest management plan
- Missing required elements
 - FORI
 - Special Sites
 - Invasive Species
 - T&E Species
- Insufficient for size and scale
 - For example, a 2 page plan for 5,000 acres



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

What would you do?

A Tree Farmer has a 2007 forest management plan that is missing three of the eight required plan elements.

(health, soil, water, wood, T&E species, special sites, invasive species, FORI).

Scenario A: a major revision to the plan is needed

Scenario B: an easy 5 minute update is possible

Scenario C: “I’m not wasting any time or money updating my plan!”



Standard 2: Compliance with Laws

Performance Measure 2.1 - Landowner shall comply with all relevant federal, state, county and municipal laws, regulations and ordinances governing forest management activities.

- Federal, state, local laws
- Best Management Practices
- Correct conditions leading to any regulatory actions
- Obtain professional advice



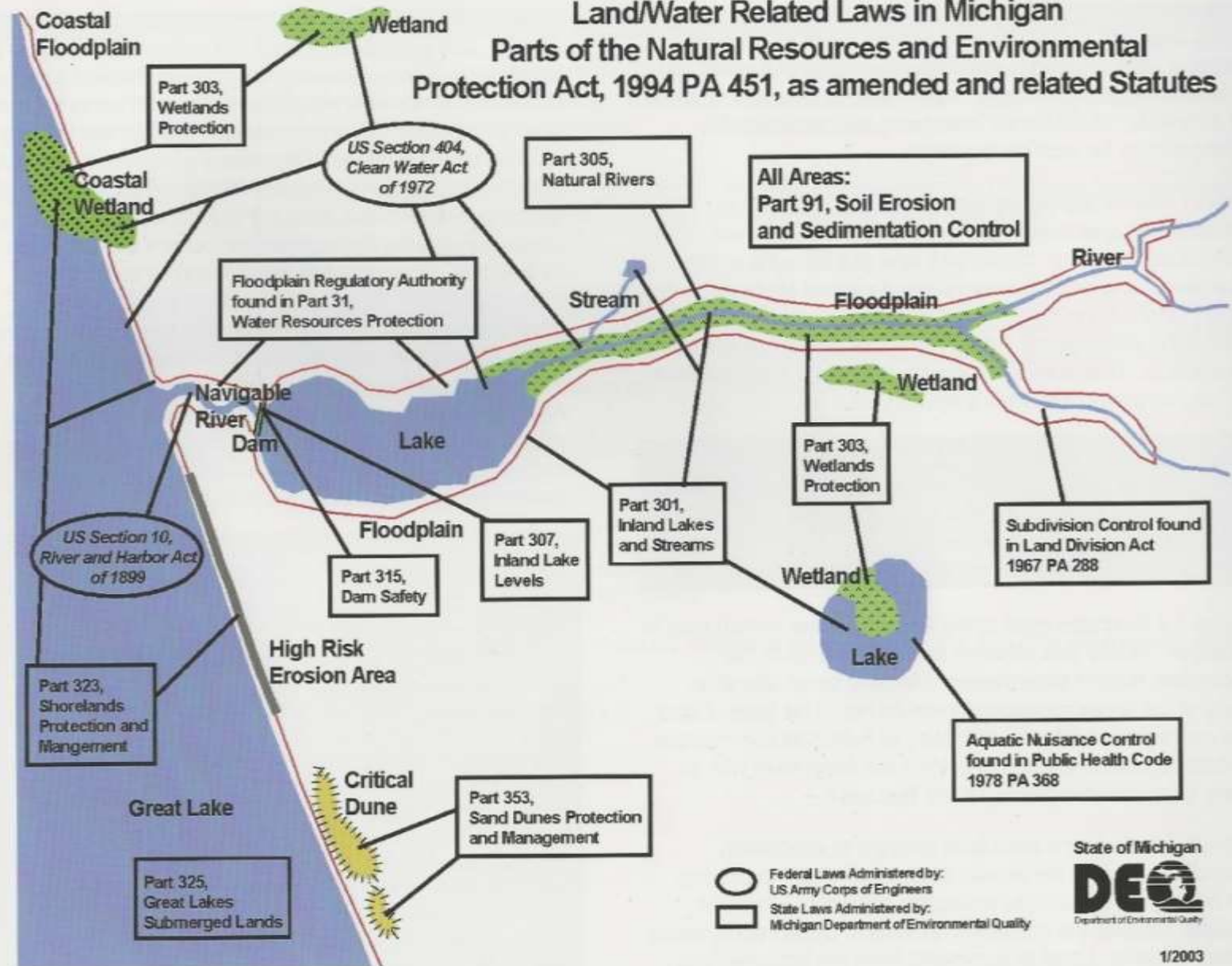
Standard 2: Michigan Forestry Laws

- Commercial Forest Act
 - Parts 511 and 512 of Public Act 451, 1994, (since 1925)
- Michigan Pesticide Control Act
 - Public Act 171 of 1976
- Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act
 - Public Act 451 of 1994
- Right to Forest Act
 - Public Act 676 of 2002
- Qualified Forest Program
 - Public Acts 42 and 45 of 2013



Land/Water Related Laws in Michigan

Parts of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended and related Statutes



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Standard 2: Federal Forestry Laws

- Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (1947)
 - Pesticide use, storage, and disposal
- National Historic Preservation Act (1966)
 - State Historic Preservation Office
- Clean Water Act (1948, 1972)
 - Protect water quality from point and non-point pollution
- Endangered Species Act (1973)
 - Protect Threatened and Endangered species and their habitat



What would you do?

During a field Inspection, you notice that the Tree Farmer is in the process of building a 25' long permanent bridge over a year-round stream on their property for recreational use.

You ask if they have the required stream crossing permit from the DEQ, and the landowner tells you that, “I can’t stand the DEQ and I won’t waste \$50 on their stupid permit!”



Standard 3: Reforestation & Afforestation

PM 3.1 - Shall be achieved by a suitable process that ensures adequate stocking levels.

- Adequate stocking
- Desired species
- 5 years or reasonable time
- LAND USE CHANGE



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

What would you do?

While inspecting a Tree Farm, you observe a regeneration harvest that was carried out six years ago in one of the stands in accordance with the forest management plan.

Natural regeneration was called for in the plan, but due to heavy deer browse, it does not yet meet minimum stocking requirements.



Standard 4: Air, Water & Soil Protection

PM 4.1 - Shall meet or exceed state Best Management Practices

- Implement applicable state forestry BMPs
- Minimize disturbances in riparian zones and wetlands



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Michigan BMPs

1. Introduction
2. Laws & Permits
3. Fuels & Spills
4. Timber Harvest Planning
5. Riparian Management Zones
6. Forest Roads
7. Water Diversion Devices
8. Stream Crossings
9. Harvest Operations
10. Site Preparation

www.Michigan.gov/Forestry



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS



Michigan Department of Natural Resources

www.michigan.gov/dnr

MICHIGAN FORESTRY BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR SOIL AND WATER QUALITY



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
AND
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

PM 4.2 – Treatment options for pests

Shall consider a range of activities to control pests, pathogens, and unwanted vegetation

Integrated Pest Management Options:

- Silvicultural
- Mechanical
- Biological
- Chemical
 - Compliance with all pesticide laws for use, storage and disposal



PM 4.3 – Use of prescribed fire

Shall conform with objectives and state and local laws



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Michigan Prescribe Burning Laws

- Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act
Public Act 451 of 1994

324.51503b Prescribed burning; liability; requirements.

- Adequate firebreaks
 - Firefighting equipment and personnel
 - Certified Prescribed Burn Manager
 - Written Burn Plan
- Check state law and local ordinances
 - www.Michigan.gov/BurnPermit Permit Required!
 - <http://glffc.utah.edu/> Great Lakes Fire & Fuels
 - <http://firecouncil.org/> Michigan Prescribed Fire Council



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Recent Nonconformities

Improper use, storage, and disposal of chemicals

Ineffective installation of water quality BMPs



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

What would you do?

During an Inspection, you notice a gully filled with dozens of mostly empty oil and pesticide containers.

The Tree Farmer tells you that he dumps leftover oil and herbicides into the gully and it is OK because it is clay soil.



Standard 5: Fish, Wildlife, Biodiversity & Forest Health

PM 5.1 - Shall protect habitats and communities occupied by Threatened & Endangered species as required by law.

- Research to determine known occurrences
- Protect habitat and avoid harm to species
- Document findings and activities in plan



PM 5.1 – T&E Species

- What should a landowner do to find out if they have threatened or endangered species on their Tree Farm?
 1. Check federal list
 2. Check state database
 3. On site inspection
- Michigan Natural Features Inventory
 - DNR checks MNFI database to the quarter, quarter section
 - Public access to the county and watershed level
 - <http://mnfi.anr.msu.edu/>



T&Es to Watch For in Michigan

- 26 species federally listed that occur in Michigan
 - www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/lists/michigan-spp.html
- Almost 400 species listed by State of Michigan
 - [http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/2007-007 NR Threatened Endangered Species nonstrike 9-12. 274586 7.pdf?20160113120003](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/2007-007_NR_Threatened_Endangered_Species_nonstrike_9-12_274586_7.pdf?20160113120003)
- “Endangered” species are in danger of extinction.
- “Threatened” species in danger of becoming endangered
 - May not be killed, harassed, handled, or possessed without a permit
- “Special Concern” - declining but not legally protected



Federally Listed Species in Michigan

[Canada lynx](#)

[Gray wolf](#)

[Indiana bat](#)

[Northern long-eared bat](#)

[Kirtland's warbler](#)

[Karner blue butterfly](#)

[Small whorled pogonia \(orchid\)](#)

[American hart's tongue fern](#)

[Copperbelly water snake](#)

[Eastern massasauga](#)

[Hine's emerald dragonfly](#)

[Mitchell's satyr \(butterfly\)](#)

[Poweshiek skipperling \(butterfly\)](#)

[Eastern prairie fringed orchid](#)

[Lakeside Daisy](#)

[Pitcher's thistle](#)

[Piping plover \(shorebird\)](#)

[Dwarf lake iris](#)

[Rufa red knot \(bird\)](#)

[Houghton's goldenrod](#)

[Michigan Monkey-flower](#)

[Hungerford's crawling water beetle](#)

[Clubshell \(mussel\)](#)

[Northern riffleshell \(mussel\)](#)

[Rayed bean \(mussel\)](#)

[Snuffbox \(mussel\)](#)



www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/lists/michigan-spp.html

GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

PM 5.2 – Desired species

Should address the desired species and/or desired forest communities

- Fish, wildlife, and/or plant
- Refer to objectives
- Consult sources of information
- Integrate into management



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

PM 5.3 – Forest Health

Should make practical efforts to promote forest health

- Prevention, control, and response
 - Wildfire
 - Invasive species
 - Pests/Pathogens
 - Unwanted vegetation
- Document: date and source



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Michigan Forest Health Priorities

- Forest Health:
 - Oak wilt, EAB, ALB, HWA, BWA, BBD, ...
 - www.Michigan.gov/ForestHealth
 - www.Michigan.gov/ExoticPests
- Invasive Species:
 - www.Michigan.gov/InvasiveSpecies
 - www.misin.msu.edu



PM 5.4 – Forests of Recognized Importance

Where present, activities should maintain or enhance FORI

- Evaluated at landscape level, not stand or ownership level
- Contribute to conservation of FORI
- No central clearinghouse
 - Consult with experts
 - Review available info
- MI.gov/ForestCertification

GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Where present, activities **should** maintain or enhance FORI

- Evaluated at landscape level, not stand or ownership level
- Contribute to conservation of FORI
- No central clearinghouse
 - Consult with experts
 - Review available info

- MI.gov/ForestCertification



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS



FORI in Michigan

- Forests along Legally Designated Rivers
 - “Natural Rivers” – www.Michigan.gov/DNRNaturalRivers
 - “Wild and Scenic Rivers” – www.Rivers.gov/Michigan.php
- Forests along Great Lakes Coastline
 - Wooded Dunes and Swales
- Important Wildlife Habitat
 - Southern Lower Peninsula: large contiguous forests >500 acres
 - Statewide: forests that provide required habitat for T&E species
- Rare Forest Types
 - Old growth, or exceptional natural communities (MNFI)
 - <http://mnfi.anr.msu.edu/mnfi/communities/index.cfm>



Recent Nonconformities

- FORI not identified in plan
- Invasive species not identified in plan
- Desired species not described in plan



What would you do?

The management plan does not say anything about Forest of Recognized Importance. The Tree Farm is an 80-acre jack pine forest along the Au Sable River east of Grayling.



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Standard 6 - Forest Aesthetics

PM 6.1 - Landowners should manage for visual impacts consistent with size, scale and intensity of activities.

- Apply visual quality measures
- Compatible with appropriate silvicultural practices
- MI Right to Forest Act



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS



What would you do?

You are inspecting a Tree Farm that abuts a major county road. Stand Two, a mature aspen stand that is visible to the road, is scheduled to be clear-cut next year to create young forest wildlife habitat in accordance with the management plan. No buffer zone is planned.



Standard 7 - Protect Special Sites

PM 7.1 – Activities shall consider and maintain any relevant special sites.

- Research, locate, identify, and protect on the ground
- Document in plan and show on map



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

What is included in Special Sites?

- Historical
- Archeological
- Cultural
- Geological
- Biological
- Ecological



Can also be self-designated by the landowner**



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Special Sites in Michigan

- Archeological and Cultural Sites
 - Consult State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) database
 - DNR provides database check for all FSP plans
 - Stacy Tchorzynski - TchorzynskiS@michigan.gov
- Unique Natural Communities
 - Consult MNFI for S1 or S2 natural communities
 - <http://mnfi.anr.msu.edu/communities/index.cfm>



MI Natural Communities

Rank (S1-S5)

[Alvar](#)

S1

[Cave](#)

S1

[Dry-mesic Prairie](#)

S1

[Granite Lakeshore Cliff](#)

S1

[Hillside Prairie](#)

S1

[Inland Salt Marsh](#)

S1

[Lakeplain Oak Openings](#)

S1

[Lakeplain Wet Prairie](#)

S1

[Lakeplain Mesic Prairie](#)

S1

[Limestone Lakeshore Cliff](#)

S1

[Mesic Prairie](#)

S1

[Mesic Sand Prairie](#)

S1

[Northern Bald](#)

S1

[Oak Barrens](#)

S1

[Oak Openings](#)

S1

[Volcanic Lakeshore Cliff](#)

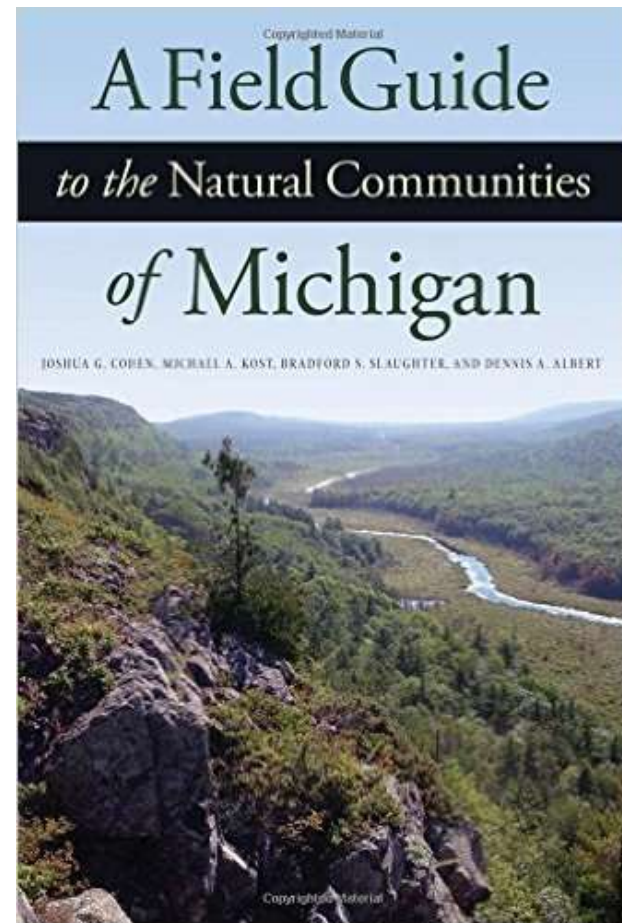
S1

[Wet Prairie](#)

S1

[Wet-mesic Prairie](#)

S1



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Recent Nonconformities

- Special sites are not described in the forest management plan or located on the map



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

What would you do?

A Tree Farmer has an 80-acre Tree Farm in Huron County. Most of the Tree Farm is lowland hardwoods, but there is a 4 acre “lakeplain wet prairie” in a gap in the southwest part of the forest.

The landowner loves four wheeling and you can see lots of deep ruts and two tracks going through the non-forested lakeplain wet prairie.



Standard 8:

Forest Product Harvests and Other Activities

PM 8.1 – Landowner should use qualified natural resource professionals and contractors

Seek qualified professionals and contractors

- Require Liability and Workers' Comp insurance
- Use contracts – MSUE Bulletin #E1656
- Retain contracts and records of harvests



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS



Standard 8:

Forest Product Harvests and Other Activities

PM 8.2 – Landowner shall monitor harvests and other activities to ensure conformance with objectives

- Activities conducted in accordance with objectives
- Activities maintain potential of property
- Sustainably produce forest products and other benefits



Recent Nonconformities

- Not using written contracts
 - not required, but still best practice
- Incomplete or poorly written contracts
 - May impact ability to produce future forest products



What would you do?

During the inspection, the Tree Farmer asks if she is required to harvest timber to be in Tree Farm.



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Tree Farm History

- Started by Weyerhaeuser in Washington in 1941
 - “Recognition” that private owners can manage forest land
 - Avoid oppressive federal regulation of private forest lands
 - Address property taxes and wildfire problems
 - USFS wanted to stop it, SAF supported it
- American Forest Products Industries
 - 1969 – American Forest Institute
 - 1986 – American Forest Council
 - 1991 – American Forest and Paper Association
 - American Forest Foundation



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

“Tree Farm” in Historical Context

- **1830 to 1900 – exploitation and degradation (timber, fires, taxes)**
 - 1887 – Independent Forestry Commission (1899 SFC, 1921 MDC, 1968 DNR)
 - 1891 – Forest Reserve Act to establish national forests
 - 1897 – Organic Act – national forests for forest protection, water and timber
- **1900 to 1925 – conservation era – retain and manage forests**
 - 1902 – MSU Forestry Department (forestry education)
 - 1903 – Higgins Lake and Houghton Lake State Forests (nursery in 1904)
 - 1905 – United States Forest Service (professional foresters)



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

“Tree Farm” in Historical Context

- 1925 to 1950 – restoration: fire control and tree planting
 - 1925 – Commercial Forest Program
 - Tax break for planting trees
 - 1935 - “Wood is a crop. Forestry is tree farming.”
 - Gifford Pinchot, 1935, First Chief of the US Forest Service
 - 1941 – *American Tree Farm System*
- 1950 to 1975 – managing for timber
 - Beginning of the environmental movement



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

“Tree Farm” in Historical Context

- **1975 to 2000 - multiple use (water, wildlife, recreation)**
 - Societal concerns about forest sustainability
 - 1990 Forest Stewardship Program
 - 1992 Earth Summit in Rio (deforestation, climate, biodiversity)
 - 1994 Montreal Process (basis of forest certification)
- **2000 to present – ecosystem management**
 - 2000 – Standards of Sustainability
 - “Certification” of forest and forest products
 - Written forest management plans required
 - Standards updated in 2005, 2010, and 2015
 - 2008 - Programme for Endorsement of Forest Certifications
 - Founded in 1999, 35 national certifications, 240 million hectares



Clint Bentz, Chair, AFF Board of Trustees

Barbara Bentz, Tree Farmer

GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Michigan Strategic Plan 2014-2020

Utilize Database

Financial Stability

Inspire Tree Farmers

Engage Inspectors

Committee Capacity

Strategic Partnerships



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS

Michigan Communications Plan

- Tree Farmers
 - Annual newsletter, 2 mailings, quarterly email, signs
- Tree Farm Inspectors
 - Quarterly emails, annual training, 2+ signs
- Potential Tree Farmers
 - Field Days with Conservation District foresters, brochure
- Teachers
 - Project Learning Tree, Field Days, Wheels to Woods
- Mailing list is only to be used for Tree Farm business



Tree Farm compared to MAEAP

(Michigan Agricultural Environmental Awareness Program)

- **Certified by independent 3rd party**
- Certifies only forest land
- **Chain of Custody for products**
- **International recognition**
- National AFF leadership
- Michigan TF Committee
- **Since 1941 and in 44 states**
- Standards describe land ethic
- Professional Foresters
- Documents public goods
- Sign and many AFF benefits
- **Connections to local schools**
- Verified 2nd party (MDARD)
- **Verifies all land uses**
- Not Applicable
- Not Applicable
- Not Applicable
- MDARD, MSUE, FB, et al
- Since 1998 and only in MI
- Comply with environmental law
- CD and MDARD employees
- **NRCS EQIP MAEAP fund**
- **Sign and avoid pollution fines**
- Not Applicable



GROWING STEWARDSHIP FROM THE ROOTS