

COLORADO FOREST AGRICULTURE PROGRAM



Management Plan Guidelines and Checklist

Introduction:

Forest management plans are plans developed for landowners, to guide and assist them to actively manage their forest, woody vegetation and associated resources. The following outline is provided to facilitate the preparation of a forest management plan that meets the requirements of the Colorado Forest Agriculture Program (i.e., “Forest Ag”). ***According to Colorado Revised Statute C.R.S. 39-1-102, the Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) is responsible for developing and implementing the Colorado Forest Agriculture Classification Program.*** The Forest Ag program provides an eligible forest landowner the opportunity to seek an agricultural land-use tax classification. The landowner must be willing to produce tangible wood products from his/her forestland for the primary purpose of obtaining a monetary profit.

C.R.S. 39-1-102 further defines a forest management plan as “an agreement which includes a plan to aid the owner of forest land in increasing the health, vigor, and beauty of such forest land through use of forest management practices and which has either been executed between the owner of forest land and the Colorado State Forest Service, or executed between the owner of forest land and a professional forester, and has been reviewed and has received a favorable recommendation from the Colorado State Forest Service.”

A Forest Ag plan is a long-term land management strategy that clearly communicates how to meet landowner goals and objectives (including products/profit). A minimum 10-year implementation schedule is required as part of the plan. The forest management plan, 10-year implementation schedule and subsequent annual work plans that are required for Forest Ag participation must show consistency in order for the CSFS to verify that a landowner is following the approved plan. These planning components will provide information and direction, so that stated landowner goals and objectives can be met through agreed upon methods and treatments.

The following outline meets requirements of the Colorado Forest Stewardship Program and will also facilitate participation in other forestry programs, such as the American Tree Farm System (ATFS) Tree Farm Program and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP), as well as other programs that may require a forest management plan. In such cases, a brief and simple plan addendum may provide for any additional requirements that are necessary for these other programs.

Primary Plan Considerations:

The forest management plan should be written in a manner that is comprehensible to the landowner and subsequent forest managers. It should also document current forest health and productivity, the desired future condition, and the forest management practices that are recommended to achieve that future condition. The plan will convey the landowner objectives, an inventory of resources, and provide proposed methods and management activities to pursue. The plan also will document management decisions and will include a 10-year implementation schedule that includes both professional forester and landowner input to achieve the stated objectives. The plan will serve to guide the landowner as to which management activities are to be pursued and completed over a minimum 10-year period as outlined. This plan will also provide any assisting foresters, and the CSFS, with the expected management actions that will be reviewed for completion during annual inspections.

The plan preparer will consider, describe and evaluate all elements in the plan outline. The extent to which the management plan addresses these elements will depend upon their prevalence on the property and their importance with respect to the landowner's primary objectives. These guidelines are multi-resource in scope, and adequately comprehensive, with respect to forest ecosystem management. The plan does not have to follow the exact format, but close adherence to the outline will help ensure inclusion of all required items and will expedite the plan review process. If a listed item/resource is not present on the property, or does not apply, a statement should be made indicating that fact and the basis for that determination.

Other Plan Considerations:

1. The plan should be written for all land that is to be managed for forestry, including property that is stratified into multiple management areas. This may include blocks of land that are not necessarily contiguous. **Note: For Forest Ag lands, per C.R.S. 39-1-102 a parcel with less than 40 acres of forestland must be contiguous with other parcels and able to meet eligibility requirements.**
2. A plan may cover more than one landowner property if the combined properties are to be managed as a unit. In a situation where two or more separate legal entities are under one umbrella plan: each entity must have its own implementation schedule, accomplishment record and annual work plan(s). Additionally, all information must be presented in a format that allows all planning elements and associated activities to be evaluated and interpreted separately for each entity in meeting eligibility and program requirements.
3. The plan will consider environmental, social and economic management principles. This includes management strategy and decisions that are based upon sound business principles.
4. A Forest Ag plan may vary in length and detail, depending on the diversity of natural resources, management needs and landowner objectives and experiences. To maintain status in the Forest Ag Program, a landowner must understand his/her responsibilities, and adhere to annual work plans (AWPs) that are consistent with the management plan and 10-year implementation schedule.

5. The plan (including 10-year schedule) is intended to be a working/living document and may be amended or revised. All plan elements should be reviewed at least every 10 years and revised as necessary. Subsequent revision or amendments, involving all forestry technical elements in the plan, must be performed with assistance from a professional forester. Plan revisions and amendments also must be approved by the CSFS. Any plan deviations that occur due to unforeseen circumstances must be communicated to the CSFS and documented in accordance with the Forest Ag timeline and deadline dates. Inconsistent planning documents and/or accomplishment activities may jeopardize a landowner's Forest Ag classification.
6. The CSFS must receive both a hard copy and electronic copy (i.e., flash drive, CD, email, etc.) of each Forest Ag management plan submitted for review. It is suggested that the landowner be provided both a hard copy and electronic copy of the final plan that can later be edited to facilitate revisions. This will improve the review process and facilitate plan updates and revisions.

Forest Agriculture Management Plan Outline



(**Bold Type indicates required elements that must be addressed**; *italics indicate examples or prompts for consideration/discussion.*)

I. Cover Page

- A. **Landowner contact information:** Name, mailing address, email address and phone number of landowner(s) (and land manager, if applicable).
- B. **Legal entity & parcel information:** Specify the legal title(s) of parcel(s) as recorded on the property deed(s), as well as the parcel identification number(s) and respective acres.
- C. **Physical address and legal description** of property, including county(ies).
- D. **Acreage covered by plan:** Indicate both forestland acres and total acres.
- E. **Plan preparer's contact information:** Forester/resource professional name, address, email address and phone number.
- F. **Date plan was prepared:** Include both initial preparation date as well as revision dates, when applicable.

II. Signature Page

- A. **Management plan acceptance statement:** The following acceptance statement is **required** and should be signed only after the landowner has reviewed the plan AND the reviewing CSFS forester has approved the plan.

I have reviewed this plan, which has been prepared at my request to guide my stewardship management activities, and I will voluntarily apply the plan recommendations on my property for the health, vigor and beauty of the forest. I understand that it is my responsibility to comply with all relevant federal, state and local laws and regulations in the implementation of the management plan. I believe the management recommendations in this plan are appropriate to meet my stated goals and objectives. I agree to apply the recommended management practices provided in this plan and to follow the guidance for helping to create a productive forest and to ensure the sustainability of natural resources. I understand this is an agreement as described in the CSFS Forest Ag Program guidelines and I intend to implement the recommendations of this plan according to CRS 39-1-102. Failure to apply these recommendations may result in my property not receiving a Forest Agriculture classification for property tax purposes.

- B. **Landowner approval signature and date**
- C. **CSFS Forester approval signature and date**

III. Table of Contents

IV. Landowner Goals and Objectives for the Property

Landowners must be involved in plan development by setting clear goals and objectives, timetables and targets, and clearly understanding the plan's details and desired outcomes. These important statements reflect the landowner's personal values and management approach, expectations, priorities and recognized potential of their forestland. The plan preparer should encourage landowners to make a priority list of their goals and objectives. Goals and objectives must be clearly stated to provide the landowner a sense of confidence and direction to move toward implementing the recommendations.

Goals are typically long-term and provide a direction, vision or desired outcome. Landowner goal statements should broadly summarize their vision for their land including a statement of desired forest condition. *A primary goal statement for a Forest Ag property must indicate the intent "to produce and market tangible wood products consistent with the land's productivity, and for the purpose of obtaining a monetary profit," per Forest Ag requirements. An example of a possible goal statement: "An uneven-aged forest condition is desired that provides for optimal productivity while addressing other resource concerns."*

Objectives are typically short- to mid-term with specific actions that can be achieved and measured. The objectives may vary for each management unit and may be identified within the management unit descriptions or where appropriate for the organization of the management plan. Objectives should be specific enough to know if progress is being made. Objectives may indicate acres of specific treatments, amount and types of wood product to be produced and marketed, etc. *Example 1: "Within lodgepole pine management unit 3, the stand will be 'thinned from below' to improve the future growing conditions of the stand and wood product potential. The material removed in this thinning will be marketed and sold as post-and-pole material." Example 2: "Under favorable market conditions, approximately 100 acres of mature aspen are desired for harvesting within the next 10 years, with patch-cuts not to exceed 20 acres in size and all wood marketed as saw timber, excelsior and/or firewood product."*

V. General Description/Discussion

Describe how the following physical, social, economic and environmental attributes apply to the property and the management of natural resources. Maps and aerial photos are necessary tools used to illustrate important information that can be spatially represented, quantified and visually displayed. Where indicated and applicable, required information must be provided on an appropriate map that provides consistent and clear spatial representation. Required mapping elements do not have to occur on separate maps and may be combined, as long as the information is clearly legible and understandable to the reader.

- A. **Property Location:** Describe the general location of the property and provide guidance on how it is accessed. County assessor parcel delineation and parcel identification numbers must also be illustrated on a map or aerial photo for multiple parcels. **A property location map is required.**

- B. **Management Units:** Describe how the management plan is structured, in terms of referencing identified vegetation types, management units, compartments, individual stands of trees, etc. When mapping management units, each unit or polygon must have a unique identification and acreage determination. **A map of management units is required.**
- C. **Climatic Characteristics:** Describe general climatic elements that may support or influence vegetative response or management decisions. *Factors that may be applicable include: average annual temperature, annual precipitation, local weather patterns, growing season, cold-hardy ratings, operating season, etc. References may include information from NRCS data and the Western Regional Climate Center <http://www.wrcc.dri.edu/climatedata/climsum/>*
- D. **Geologic or Topographic Features:** Describe and indicate on a map applicable geologic and topographic features, including slope and aspect. Identify limitations and concerns that are related to access and operability to remove forest products. **Areas that are inoperable should be clearly identified on a map and be accompanied with an explanation of the extent and definition of operability used in determining the area's limiting factors. A map depiction of inoperable areas is required.**
- E. **Historical and Current Land Use:** Describe how these factors have and are contributing to existing forest resource conditions and concerns.
- F. **Social Concerns:** Describe concerns related to neighbors, surrounding communities or the ability to manage natural resources. *Describe known concerns such as restricted land use, laws, covenants, easements, restrictions to remove wood products, etc., and their impact to the management of the property.*
- G. **Wood Products, and Economic and Market Conditions:** Identify type(s) of tangible wood products that will be produced, and describe the strategy for producing such products to obtain a monetary profit. Describe forest conditions, opportunities or obstacles related to producing, utilizing and marketing wood products. Describe how these factors may influence forest resource management decisions. *Factors may include: historic, current and trending market opportunities, stumpage prices, desired tree species, wood quality and quantities, value-added opportunities, networking opportunities, niche markets, "working circle" distances, skilled labor and contractor availability, etc. Provide ongoing or additional potential sources of marketing opportunities and information, such as the Colorado Wood Utilization and Marketing Program (CoWood), etc.*
- H. **Access Roads, Trails and Bridges:** Include a description of current roads, trails, bridges, culverts, etc., as well as their extent and condition. *Identify possible limitations such as surface material, width, grade, turning radius, accessibility by vehicle type (e.g., logging trucks, ATVs only, etc.), weight limits, special-use permits, etc.* Identify any additional permanent or temporary access needs for the future and required standards. Also identify any applicability to Colorado's Forestry Best Management Practices (BMPs) to protect water quality. **A map including roads, trails and bridges is required.**
- I. **Other Infrastructure Features:** Describe other infrastructure features such as buildings, fences, power lines, pipelines, railroads, etc., that affect forestry operations or may have an influence on the management of the property. **A map of noteworthy, existing infrastructure significant to the plan (though not necessarily all infrastructure) is required.**

VI. Resource Concerns

- A. **Soil Information:** Describe and map soil types that are found on the property. **A map of soil types is required;** soil type descriptions are typically available through NRCS-published soil surveys and at the following website: <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov>. Relate soil types and descriptions to concerns, limitations and opportunities that may influence proposed on-the-ground management activities. *Example: Some soil surveys may include a table that addresses “Woodland Management and Productivity” where a level of “management concern” is identified for equipment limitations, seedling mortality, wind-throw hazard, plant competition or other concerns. Consider factors such as erosion, compaction, depth to bedrock, site productivity, etc.*
- B. **Wildland Fire:** 1) Describe concerns to the property related to wildfire hazard risk, including a statement of risk rating method. *Consider fire behavior factors related to fuels, weather and topography; values to be protected; threat of ignitions; predicted fire intensity, rate of spread, etc. Additional options include referencing fuel models, photo series and other fire planning documents. The Colorado Wildfire Risk Assessment Portal (CO-WRAP) www.ColoradoWildfireRisk.com is a good source for wildfire mapping needs.* 2) Describe and consider ecological impacts of fire (or lack thereof) on the property. *If applicable and when relevant to the landowner and property, consider factors such as historic fire intervals and intensity, vegetative species adaptation, tree regeneration, wildlife habitat impacts, etc.*
- C. **Insects, Disease and Other Damaging Agents:** Describe the presence, damage from or risk of tree insects, disease and other significant biotic or abiotic damaging agents (*wind events, hail damage, wildlife damage, etc.*) to the forest, including information on significant incidents, both historic and more current.
- D. **Invasive Plants/Noxious Weeds:** Describe the presence and abundance of any invasive plants and noxious weed species on or threatening the property.
- E. **Water, Wetland and/or Riparian Features:** 1) Describe and indicate water and wetland features that are present on the property. **A map of these features is required.** 2) Describe any limitations or concerns related to protecting and maintaining such features. Identify issues and locations where Forestry Best Management Practices (BMPs) may apply, such as at water crossings.
- F. **Recreational, Scenic and Aesthetic Qualities:** Describe any unique recreational, scenic and aesthetic qualities that are present. This may include any “special sites” that are identified by the landowner.
- G. **Wildlife:** Describe species of wildlife known to occur on the property, as well as their desirability, extent of habitat and condition; also describe the potential impacts of forest management activities to wildlife species or their habitat. Identify any negative impacts wildlife may be having on desired forest conditions, seedling tree establishment, young tree development, etc.
- H. **Archeological, Historical or Cultural Sites:** Describe the type of known or potential sites found to occur on the property and strategies to protect known sites.
- I. **Public Values Related to Biological Diversity, Rare Ecological Communities and Threatened and Endangered (T&E) Species:** Describe the presence of, concern for and/or known habitat of T&E species (both plant and animal) or other unique public values to which the property may contribute. *This may include areas such as Potential Conservation Areas (PCAs) identified through the Colorado Natural Heritage Program or*

areas that are identified as “Forests of Recognized Importance” (FORI).

VII. Forest Inventory Procedures and Methodology

- A. Describe forest inventory procedures and the methodology used to derive qualitative and quantitative attributes of the forest land and related resources. Inventory methodology and information should be presented so that it is consistent and applicable to forest vegetative types, management units, stands, etc., as determined by how the plan is structured.

On operable forest land, forest stand inventories must include a cruise of at least +/- 20 percent accuracy (or sampling error) at one standard deviation. Statistical analysis is made at the stand level so each operable stand must meet these criteria. Additionally, inventories for properties with a minimum of 40 acres of forest land must include at least 10 cruise/inventory plots. While 10 plots is the cruising minimum for 40 acres of forest land, properties that are stratified need to have at least three plots per stratified stand, for statistical purposes.

Methodology will include a **required cruise plot map** that illustrates each inventory plot by number and location. Information on sampling method, sample size, basal area factor, data collection procedures and attributes, and cruise accuracy determination will be explained. Methodology should explain the applicability and use of any sub-plots or procedures used to account for seedling and sapling presence and condition. Inventory data must be presented in a way that is reasonable, realistic, and necessary to justify and guide treatment alternatives and management decisions.

Individual cruise plots are not necessary for inoperable forest land, identified as such due to limiting topographic and physical land features that are neither economically nor physically feasible to operate on. However, a visual or walk-through reconnaissance should be used to generally describe tree species, size, density, and any applicable resource concerns involving inoperable areas.

- B. The following attributes should be summarized for each forested cover type/management unit/stand or other spatial unit that is inventoried (individually or in aggregate). *Consider illustrating inventory information with use of stand and stock tables, charts, graphs, etc., to facilitate understanding by the landowner.*

Forest Land Attributes

- Inventory spatial unit (*Example: Stand 1*)
- Acreage
- Tree species
- Age (*clarify whether DBH or total age*)
- Diameter (*DBH or DRC*)
- Condition/Vigor (*live/dead, good/poor*)
- Height (*total and/or merchantable top*)
- Site index (*determined by sampled site trees*)
- Live crown ratio (*compacted*) *where appropriate*
- Wood volumes per acre (*bd. ft., cubic ft., cords, tons, etc.*)
- Density/Stocking level (*Trees/acre, BA/acre, growing stock levels, etc.*)

- Growth increment (*% growth, # of rings per inch, last 10-year growth increment*)
- C. Describe attributes of the forest understory such as vegetative species, tree/shrub density, ground cover, and any related issues or management concerns.

VIII. Specific Management Unit Descriptions, Silvicultural Prescriptions and Other Recommended Treatments *(The plan preparer may choose to communicate the information for this required plan element in the form of narrative, tables or a combination)*

Unit Descriptions:

Properties containing multiple vegetation types, management units or stands typically require further discussion and interpretation of inventory data, resource concerns and general information that is specific to the individual unit. Unit descriptions should address any landowner objectives that are relevant to a specific unit. Unit descriptions should also highlight resource concerns and specific inventory findings that are relevant to an individual unit. Unit-specific descriptions should facilitate the development of silvicultural prescriptions and other treatment recommendations, and help determine priorities and prioritization lists.

Silvicultural Prescriptions and Other Recommended Treatments:

- A. Silvicultural prescription, management practice, treatment, activity and recommendation(s) are all terms that may be used to indicate desired outcomes. They are the basis for providing guidance of action items for the landowner to take toward reaching stated goals and objectives. All recommendations should consider alternative strategies to accomplish outcomes and be site-specific to applicable forest vegetation types, management units or stands that are identified in the plan. Prescriptions and recommendations should be clear and easy for a landowner to understand – in both qualitative and quantitative measures – and be presented for both operable and inoperable areas.

Examples of items typically addressed in silvicultural prescriptions and recommendations may include, but are not limited to:

- *Use of even-aged or uneven-aged silvicultural systems*
- *Proposed harvest/regeneration methods*
- *Planned “rotation” or “cutting (entry) cycle”*
- *Planned intermediate treatments (such as commercial or non-commercial thinning, pruning, etc.)*
- *Planned treatments to the forest understory (such as mastication or site preparation)*
- *Site preparation for tree regeneration or the planting of seedlings*
- *Planned activities involving prescribed fire (i.e., broadcast or pile burning), addressing necessary smoke and/or burn permits*
- *Herbicide, insecticide and integrated pest management practices*
- *Planned resource protection or maintenance activities*
- *General treatment specifications or wildlife habitat requirements*
- *Treatments involving potential impacts to T&E species and projects that*

involve federal funding must be done consistent with federal and state laws.

- B. Include a short discussion on the type(s) and amount(s) of wood product(s) that are projected to result from proposed treatments. Include estimated management costs to landowner and incoming revenues.
- C. Identify the need for any additional or improved roads and trails needed to manage the unit and/or remove forest products. *The CSFS publications “Colorado Forestry Best Management Practices” (covering BMPs) and “Colorado Forest Road Field Handbook,” available on the CSFS website and in print, should be referenced and used. Permits from local government may be required for earth-moving and/or road use or building activities. Permits for stream crossings or activities around other wetlands or water supply sources may be required from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers under the Clean Water Act.*
- D. Specify any desired restrictions or special practice requirements. *Examples: acceptable or recommended equipment types, implementation timing, weather limitations, road conditions, erosion control, slash treatment(s), protection of special sites, retaining snags or creating brush piles for wildlife, etc.*
- E. Identify specific implementation standards necessary to meet the landowner objectives. *Examples: specifications for slash treatments, stump heights, residual coarse woody debris, mastication standards, etc.*
- F. Identify any suggested or desired monitoring practices related to specific activities.

IX. 10-Year Implementation Schedule

This is an essential component of the forest management plan. The 10-year implementation schedule provides a clear timeline of specific activities to implement while being reasonable and practical to achieve the desired outcomes.

Progress and completion of the 10-year implementation schedule is part of the basis for judging compliance to continued participation in the Forest Ag Program.

An effective implementation schedule will:

- Specify treatment activities, locations and amounts.
- Provide quantifiable measures and appropriate standards or specifications to accomplish the recommended forest management activity.
- Include projected dates for start and completion, while providing a landowner adequate guidance and enough flexibility to adapt to changing conditions and circumstances.
- Identify significant “planning needs,” such as periodic inventories and plan revisions, when necessary.
- Provide cost and revenue estimates.
- Identify any access issues and recommendations to improve access if needed.

X. Accomplishment Record

The accomplishment record of the forest management plan serves to document management decisions and all practices and activities that are achieved as the plan is implemented. This record is particularly important to justify and legitimize a landowner’s participation in the Forest Agriculture Program. The accomplishment record must include:

- Spatial reference (*such as a stand or management unit number*)
- Activities and treatments that are completed (*harvests, thinnings, plantings, etc.*)
- Quantitative results (*such as acres of a specific treatment, amount of forest product produced by species, product type and quantity of wood volume harvested and sold, species and numbers of trees planted, length of roads/trails built, etc.*)
- Costs and revenues that are associated with specific activities (document with receipts if possible)
- Completion dates (***Section B of CSFS Form 840, “Forest Agriculture Management Summary & Inspection Request For Tax Year 20XX,” can be used annually as documentation to fulfill this item as required for Forest Ag participation. However, Forest Ag participants may be better served by maintaining their accomplishment records on an alternate form or record that reflects their cumulative accomplishment over time.***)

XI. Appendices

- A. **Inventory data for each stand, with error calculation.** This dataset should include individual tree data for each plot and the summarized stand data (i.e., stock and stand tables, visual and other graphical representations, and any additional information about meeting the statistical requirements not already addressed in the body of the plan). Other representations of the data may be warranted (i.e., management unit or forest vegetative type) depending on the plan’s structure.
- B. **Attach all relevant maps if not incorporated within the body of the plan.**
- C. *Annual work plans, changes to annual work plan, blank and sample forms, other forms and landowner assistance practice specifications (as needed). See attached examples of sample “Implementation Schedule” and “Accomplishment Record” forms.*
- D. *Listing of the individuals and agencies participating in evaluations and recommendations.*
- E. *Bibliography of reference material utilized.*
- F. *Supplemental information on relevant insects, diseases, weeds, etc.*
- G. *Glossary*
- H. *Photos*
- I. *Other pertinent information as related to landowner goals and property characteristics. Examples: conservation-based estate planning/legacy planning information, existing or planned conservation easements.*

Examples of 10-Year Implementation Schedule and Accomplishment Record formats. (Note: These are not the complete forms.)

Management Activity Schedule and Accomplishment Tracking

| Mgmt Unit or Stand | Unit of Measure & Amount (Acres, Feet, etc.) | Management Activity Short Description (or reference to description in plan) | Dates | | Cash Flow | |
|--------------------|--|--|---------|-----------|---------------|-----------------|
| | | | Planned | Completed | Expense /Cost | Revenue/ Income |
| | | | | | | |
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Example of a 10-Year Implementation Schedule format. (This is not a complete form.)

| 10 - YEAR IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE | | | |
|--|-----------|--------|--|
| FOR | | | |
| PROPERTY | | | |
| Prepared by: _____ | | | Date: _____ |
| YEAR | MGMT UNIT | AMOUNT | ACTIVITY (indicate anticipated income/expense) |
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Example of a cumulative Accomplishment Record format. (This is not a complete form.)

| Accomplishment Record | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------|----------|----------------|------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| For | | | | | | | |
| Property | | | | | | | |
| Date | Mgmt Unit | Activity | Accomplishment | | Unit Cost | Landowner | |
| | | | Quantity | Unit | | Expense | Revenue |
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Future Planning Considerations and Guidance



Annual Work Plan:

The landowner and/or assisting forester will complete an annual work plan (AWP) based on recommendations provided for in Sections VIII and IX of this outline. The AWP will be consistent with the forest management plan and will list those items that will be implemented that year. Information to include is: management unit, activity(ies), unit of measurement and amount, forest product(s) produced and expected quantities, anticipated costs and/or revenues, and other comments relating to the forest management plan and the scheduled activity(ies), including public sources used to fund treatment practices.

CSFS Form 840, “Forest Agriculture Management Summary & Inspection Request for Tax Year 20XX,” will be signed and submitted by the landowner for each tax-year a Forest Agriculture inspection is requested. CSFS Form 840 contains four sections: A) General Information, B) Accomplishments Record, C) Annual Work Plan (for the following year) and D) Agreement and Signature. Completion of this form is used by the CSFS to verify participation and landowner program compliance.

The AWP’s merit will be determined according to how accurately it implements the approved management plan recommendations. Any significant changes or adjustments to the AWP due to unforeseen circumstances must be mutually agreed upon (by the landowner and CSFS) and documented by email or with a revised AWP as soon as changes are realized for that calendar year.

Plan Updates:

Forest Ag participants are responsible for keeping their management plans updated as forest/resource conditions, markets and landowner information changes. Plan elements that involve significant technical forestry updates or decisions (particularly Sections VII, VIII and IX above) must involve assistance from a professional forester. Periodic updates to a plan will help to facilitate the more thorough plan revisions when they occur.

Plan Revisions:

Plan revisions will address and update all required elements of the “Forest Agriculture Management Plan Outline” to assure the plan is current and relevant. The need for a plan revision is typically triggered by either a 10-year time period elapsing or a significant change to one or more of the plan elements. At a minimum, a revision will result in an updated cover page with signatures (Section I), as well as a new 10-year implementation schedule (Section IX). In some cases where conditions have minimally changed, a walk-through reconnaissance of the property may suffice to verify conditions. When forest conditions change significantly, inventory updates will be scheduled. The landowner and assisting forester will mutually work on plan revisions with all revisions being prepared or approved by a professional forester.

Changing landowner objectives, forest conditions, wood product markets, forestry programs and treatment alternatives are examples of inevitable changes. As implementation schedules are revised, any future inventory or additional planning needs should be evaluated and scheduled as appropriate. When a future wood product sale is planned or if property boundaries are expanded, cruise the timber at the appropriate statistical standard for the situation.

New Landowners:

It is not uncommon for Forest Ag properties to sell, with the new owners expressing interest in continuing the forestry program. In such cases, many of the planning elements in the existing plan may suffice and can be used to prepare a new initial plan for the new owner. All required planning elements must be evaluated, updated and applied to the new plan, including a new 10-year implementation schedule.

COLORADO FOREST AGRICULTURE PROGRAM MANAGEMENT PLAN CHECKLIST



LANDOWNER: _____

PHONE: _____

FORESTER (PLAN PREPARER): _____

PHONE: _____

I COVER PAGE:

- _____ Landowner's name, address, phone number, email (Manager contact info if applicable)
- _____ Legal description, physical address, county
- _____ Parcel number(s) – If multiple parcels is titled owner the same? Y / N / NA
- _____ Acres – total and forested
- _____ Forester's name, address, phone number, email
- _____ Date Prepared [Initial and revision date(s) if applicable]

II SIGNATURE PAGE:

- _____ Signed landowner acceptance statement and date
- _____ CSFS Forester approval signature and date

III TABLE OF CONTENTS:

IV GOALS & OBJECTIVES:

- _____ Prioritized, Quantified, and including "monetary profit"

V DESCRIPTION/DISCUSSION:

- _____ General location
 - _____ Location Map
 - _____ Parcel Map (if multiple parcels)
- _____ Management unit delineation
 - _____ Map with acreages
- _____ Climatic characteristics
- _____ Geologic & Topographic features
 - _____ Topo Map/Inoperable areas identified
- _____ Current and historical land use
- _____ Social concerns
- _____ Wood Products/Economic/Market conditions
- _____ Access Road, Trails, Bridges/limitations
 - _____ Map
- _____ Other Infrastructure
 - _____ Map

VI RESOURCE CONCERNS:

- _____ Soil types (limitations/concerns)
 - _____ Map
- _____ Fire impacts/hazard risk
- _____ Insect, disease, other damaging agents presence/risk
- _____ Invasive Plants/Noxious weeds
- _____ Wetlands/Riparian/Water sources/features
 - _____ Map (if needed)
- _____ Recreation, Scenic, Aesthetic Qualities
- _____ Wildlife observed/habitat
- _____ Archeological/historical/cultural sites
- _____ Public Values/Rare Communities/T&E Species

VII INVENTORY:

- _____ Methodology (minimum 10 plots for 40 acres and minimum 3 plots per stratification)
- _____ Plot Location Map
- _____ Statistical Analysis (20% +/- @ 1SD)
- _____ Forest Tree & Understory attributes/Vegetative species, age, height, DBH, stocking, condition, site index, wood volume, growth
- _____ Vegetation/Stand Map

VIII DESCRIPTION/PRESCRIPTION:

- _____ Specific & quantitative recommendations per management unit
- _____ Type and amounts of wood product to be harvested
- _____ Estimated costs and revenues
- _____ Additional roads/trails needed
- _____ BMP/Permits
- _____ Map (if needed)
- _____ Restrictions/special requirements, timing, equipment, slash
- _____ Standards necessary to meet objectives
- _____ Implementation priority
- _____ Monitoring Practices

IX 10 YEAR IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE:

X ACCOMPLISHMENT RECORD:

XI APPENDICES:

- _____ Summarized inventory data per management unit. Including individual tree data per plot (stand and stock table, etc)
- _____ If needed; Maps, Assisting agencies, bibliography, photos, annual work plans, glossary, etc.

NOTES/COMMENTS:

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| RECEIVED BY CSFS: _____ | DATE: _____ |
| REVIEWED BY CSFS: _____ | DATE: _____ |
| RETURNED TO FORESTER IN CHARGE: _____ | DATE: _____ |
| DATE OF PLAN APPROVAL: _____ | |