

	<b>Title: Forest Management Guideline</b>	
	<b>Date: September 6, 2007</b>	<b>Revision: 01</b>

## **I. Scope and Applicability**

Forest management activities will be conducted with consideration for the Karner blue butterfly Kbb and in a manner that will allow for continued beneficial disturbance management within the High Potential Range of the Kbb.

This guideline applies to all forest management activities that may occur within the High Potential Range of the Kbb. Forest management activities include planned vegetative manipulation practices that are conducted on lands owned or managed by HCP partners in the “shifting mosaic” and “management to feature and enhance” categories of participation in the HCP. More specifically, it includes most timber harvesting, site preparation and timber stand improvement activities that are routinely used to ensure healthy and productive forests from the time of stand establishment through the final harvest of mature timber.

This guideline does not apply to construction activities, emergency situations, corridor management practices, recreational management, or conservation management practices.

## **II. General Requirements**

- a. Pre-management surveys will be conducted prior to conducting forest management activities unless specifically detailed in a management protocol, in emergency situations, or in a specific conservation agreement (DNR’s Implementing Agreement (IA) or other partner’s Species and Habitat Conservation Agreement (SHCA)).
- b. Kbb and Kbb habitat surveys will be conducted following approved HCP monitoring guidelines and protocols.
- c. When Kbb are present, conservation measures described in approved HCP management guidelines and protocols will be followed.
- d. In addition partners are required to follow any specific provisions in their conservation agreements (SHCAs or IA).

## **III. Specific Activities**

*See Forestry Management Guideline flow chart for process depiction*

- a. If burning activities are to be used for forest management refer to the Burning Protocol.
- b. If mowing, brushing, or hand cutting, is to be used, refer to the Mowing and Brushing Protocol.

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- c. If pesticides are to be applied for forest management purposes, refer to the Pesticide Use Protocol.
- d. When plowing snow on corridors refer to the Snow Plowing Protocol.
- e. For intermediate stand management activities including but not limited to weeding, thinning, improvement cutting, sanitation cutting, release treatments and pruning, refer to the Timber Stand Improvement Protocol.
- f. For general access to forest stands to conduct inspections, to collect data and information, to establish forest management activities, or for other non-disturbance management purposes, the following is applicable:
  - i. Avoid travel through lupine areas to the extent practicable.
  - ii. Pre-management surveys are **not required**
- g. For routine maintenance and construction activities, e.g. new access roads, or improvement of existing roads that would result in *short term take* of occupied Kbb habitat that would *temporarily* remove or destroy all vegetation, but will be replaced within 5 years, follow the Construction Management Guideline.
- h. For construction or other activities that result in *permanent take* of occupied Kbb habitat, consult with DNR's HCP Coordinator as soon as possible to determine appropriate course of action.
- i. For emergency situations that require immediate management action such as forest fire suppression activities or salvage cutting of damaged timber from windstorms, forest fires, flooding or insect and disease epidemics, refer to the Emergency Guideline.

### IV. Reference Documents

Manual of Control Techniques Recommended for Ecologically Invasive Plant Species Occurring in Karner Blue Butterfly Habitat (Larsen, et al January 2000)

Wisconsin Statewide Karner Blue Butterfly Habitat Conservation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement, Appendix F. (March, 2000)

Wisconsin DNR Silviculture Handbook 2431.5

Forestry Management Flow Chart

