



Interim Forest Management Plan

Property Identifiers

Property Name and Designation: Southern Iron County Scattered State Lands

County(ies): Iron

Property Acreage: 120

Forestry Property Code(s): 2660

Master Plan Date: no master plan

Part 1: Property Assessment (1-2 pages maximum)

General Property Description

- Landscape and regional context

This plan encompasses three state owned parcels in southern Iron County as well as 3 boat landings (Gile Flowage landing, South Fork Flambeau River Access in Price County, and Pike Lake access in Price County). One parcel consists of 40 acres in the town of Mercer. The Mercer Ranger Station currently is part of these 40 acres. The other two parcels are both located in the town of Sherman and are both 39 acres in size. One of these parcels includes the boat landing for Bearskull Lake. The other parcel is an isolated wooded parcel. None of these properties have had a management plan in the past.

- History of land use and past management

The Gile, South Fork and Pike Lake landings have been owned since at least the early 70's. The forty acres that the Ranger station sits on has been owned since the 40's. The DNR has owned the isolated wooded parcel in the town of Sherman at least since the late 80's. The 39 acres around Bearskull lake boat landing was acquired in the late 1990's as part of a "Great Addition" deal involving the Turtle-Flambeau Scenic Waters Area.

The Gile and Pike lake boat landings consist of launch area with a pier and parking. South Fork landing is a canoe access only and has room for three vehicles. These sites are too small for timber management.

The Ranger station property, Bearskull boat landing acres, and the isolated forty have had timber management in the past and will continue to be managed.

Site Specifics

- Current forest types, size classes and successional stages

Currently, 108 acres are forested and scheduled for management. Of the total forested acres, 37% consists of aspen in varying ages. Black spruce and tamarack comprise 29%, and white pine/red pine comprises 34

- High Value Conservation Forests (HCVF) or other resources/natural community types limited in the landscape

None of these properties are identified as having HCVF.

- Biotic Inventory status

No Report available.

- Deferral/consultation area designations (refer to the following website):

Not Completed.

- Rare species

Some species of greatest conservation need may pass through these properties, although none are documented. Some are directly tied to the water (black duck, blue-winged teal,



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black tern, trumpeter swan) while others are migrants and pass through (wood thrush, Connecticut warbler, Kentucky warbler, Canada warbler, and moose). While Northern goshawk, osprey, and bald eagle are all known to nest nearby on the TFSWA, none have been documented on these properties. When nests are identified, the necessary steps are taken to protect the nests from timber harvests. Future timber sales will consider wildlife as part of the sale prescription such as requiring 4-5 den trees per acre be left standing and that valuable food trees such as oak, cherry, and ironwood be left uncut. Woodcock will benefit from aspen regeneration cuts.

- Invasive species

Currently, spotted knapweed in the parking areas of the boat access sites is the only known terrestrial invasive. In the future, as time and personnel permit, this may be treated with Milestone by pesticide certified DNR employees. Spotted knapweed is present on some old logging roads but as the tree cover grows over, this should be reduced. Requiring clean machines before logging would help prevent invasives from taking hold.

Cultural and Recreational Considerations

- Cultural and archeological sites (including tribal sites)

There are no known cultural or archaeological sites.

Part 2: IFMP Components (1-2 pages maximum)

Management Objectives (Outline primary forest management objectives):

The role of forest management on the three larger properties will be timber production with an emphasis on aesthetic and wildlife management objectives. Vegetative management prescriptions will be based on information derived from available tools such as the Habitat Type Classification System. In general, these properties are well suited for pine, aspen, and white birch management.

Property Prescriptions (Identify specific and pertinent prescriptions by area or forest type, including passive management areas, extended rotation, and other information that will help achieve the objectives):

Aspen/White Birch – Aspen will be retained for its wildlife benefits through regeneration cuts. Ironwood, cherry, oak, and scattered pine and hemlock will be kept for additional wildlife benefits. Birch will be managed using sound silvicultural practices.

White and Red Pine – These stands should utilize big tree management. Where natural stands of white pine exist, utilize appropriate management to maintain these stands. Carry these stands to maximum rotation.

Swamp Conifer – Tamarack and Black Spruce - Where feasible these sites may be harvested but only after consult with wildlife management and their consent.



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Approvals:

Regional Ecologist Date

Forester Date

Property Manager Date

Area/Team Supervisor Date