Interim Forest Management Plan

Property Identifiers

Property Name and Designation:
St. Louis/Red River Streambank Protection Area
County:
Douglas
Property Acreage:
6,703
Forestry Property Code(s):
2460
Master Plan Date:
None

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

The following items should be considered during the property assessment. Not all sections may be relevant for all properties.

General Property Description

The 6,700 acre St. Louis/Red River Stream Bank Protection Area is characterized by steep dendritic ravines that flow into the Red River, or directly into the St. Louis River. The Red River gets its name from the red clay soils in the area. The Stream Bank Protection Area was purchased in order to prevent uses in these locations that would contribute to silt eroding into the river system. More level areas exist between the ravines and are heavily wooded. Marshy areas may make travel difficult at times. Nine islands in the St. Louis River are also owned by the State. Most of this property is not suitable for timber management due to topography, heavy soils and drainage.

This Stream Bank Protection Area is part of a mosaic of wetlands in the St. Louis waterway that are included in the National Estuarine Research Reserve System [exit DNR]. The National Estuarine Research Reserves System is a network of 27 areas representing different biogeographic regions of the United States that are protected for long-term research, water-quality monitoring, education and coastal stewardship.

Site Specifics

- This property is primarily comprised of aspen, birch and ash timber types with smaller percentages of white pine, fir/spruce, and tag alder pockets. The majority of the timber is mature, but passive management is being used on all acres north of the County trail. Active management will be done on the parcel lying south of the county rec. trail.
- State Natural Area designations
  There are no State Natural Areas designated on this property.
- High Value Conservation Forests (HCVF) or other resources/natural community types limited in the landscape
- Biotic Inventory status

A biotic inventory was conducted in 2013. The results have not been published yet.

- Deferral/consultation area designations
  A draft deferral/consultation plan includes the Red River Breaks Boreal Forest and Hardwood Swamp, St. Louis River Dry-mesic Forest and the Fond du Lac Island Marshes. Any timber harvest would occur outside these areas.
- Rare species
  NHI check on 3-19-14 revealed no "hits".
- Invasive species
  Purple loosestrife, non-native buckthorn and reed canary grass have been found on this property.
- Soils Red clay is the primary soil type on the property with muck soil in the alder pockets.

Cultural and Recreational Considerations

Cultural and archeological "hits" are found on several of the State owned islands and one upland location outside the proposed timber sale boundary.

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

Management Objectives

The main objectives are to protect the St. Louis and Red Rivers and their tributaries from siltation and bank slumping by eliminating motorized vehicle use and intensive development.

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):

Timber management is a low priority on this property. All the acres lying north of the County owned Recreation Trail will be passively managed. The parcel lying south of the trail will be managed using utilizing the clearcut with reserves method. This will provide some young forest in a large block of primarily mature and over mature timber. This will benefit wildlife by creating a different age class of timber on the property. Green tree retention will be utilized during management activities to aid in aesthetics and provide for some large woody debris within the cut area in years to come.

Approvals:

Interim Forest Management Plan

6-20-14

Regional Ecologist — Date

Dale Rochon — 3\24\2014 — 6-30-14

Forester — Date

7-2-14

Property Manager — Date

8/25/14

Area/Team Supervisor — Date