

American Tree Farm System® 2010 Standards

Management Plan Addendum

Introduction

The American Tree Farm System has developed this management plan addendum for Tree Farmers whose management plans already meet the current requirements and are looking to update their plans to be in conformance with the newly released 2010 – 2015 American Forest Foundation Standards of Sustainability. All lands certified by the American Tree Farm System must meet the requirements of the 2010 AFF Standards by December 31, 2010.

The Management Plan Addendum covers only the new items required in the 2010 Standards that were not previously addressed under the 2004 Standards (which you would have been certified under if you were certified before 2010).

For more information on the AFF Standards, please visit www.treefarmssystem.org/certification or call Victoria Lockhart at 202.463.2738.

Instructions

Management plans for properties certified by the American Tree Farm System are required to be active, adaptive, embody the landowner's current objectives, remain appropriate for the land certified and reflect the current state of knowledge about forestry and natural resource management. An active management plan is updated on a frequent basis with handwritten notes, plan revisions and informal plan amendments such as this document. Please consider contacting a professional forester (consulting forester, landowner assistance forester, state agency forester) to assist you with your addendum or if your plans needs a more complete update.

- 1) Read through your current management plan. If you see any items that you would like to update, please consider including handwritten notes. Please consider reviewing your management plan annually and update informally with any pertinent information.
- 2) Please review each new required plan element (new under the 2010 Standards) and evaluate whether or not your current management plan meets the new requirements. If your current plan meets these new requirements, please make note of where in your plan this information can be found.
- 3) Where there are updates needed, please follow the guidance under each required resource elements.
 - a. For any check box sections, please add comments if appropriate.
- 4) Once you have completed the addendum, please attach to your current management plan. Please be sure to initial and date the addendum.

Where present and relevant to the property, your management plan must address the following resource elements:
Please include only those items not already addressed adequately in your current management plan.

1. Review your management plan to determine if it states a desired forest condition, management activities aimed at reaching that condition, and a general schedule of activity implementation.

2. Forest Health: *The previous standards addressed environmental quality generally. The 2010 standards now separate out forest health, soil and water.*

What is the condition of your forest? Are you conducting any activities to improve the health of your forest?

3. Soil: *The previous standards addressed environmental quality generally. The 2010 standards now separate out forest health, soil and water.*

Do you have any general information on your forest soils? To conduct some preliminary research on your soils, visit the National Resource Conservation Service's (NRCS) website: <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/> or contact your local office of the USDA-Natural Resource Conservation Service.

4. Water: *The previous standards addressed environmental quality generally. The 2010 standards now separate out forest health, soil and water. For more information on your state's Forestry BMPs, visit www.treefarmssystem.org/woodlandresources.*

Do you have any water on your property (e.g. streams, ponds, vernal pools, etc.)? If relevant, indicate water resources on your tract map? Are you planning any activities (new or continued) to protect these water resources?

All Tree Farmers must adhere to current State Forestry Best Management Practices (BMPs) even in those states where BMPs are voluntary. I commit to implementing applicable BMPs on my Tree Farm.

Yes No

COMMENTS:

5. Threatened or Endangered Species: Are you aware of any occurrences of any threatened or endangered species (listed by your state or the Federal government?) on your property?

Yes No

COMMENTS:

What sources of information have you consulted to determine occurrences of threatened or endangered species on your property? The following are examples of research you may have conducted (please check those you have completed):

Walk the property with a knowledgeable natural resources professional

DATE:

COMMENTS:

Consulted the state natural resource agency

DATE:

COMMENTS:

Researched sites provided on the ATFS Woodland Owners' Resource (www.treefarmssystem.org/woodlandresources)

DATE:

COMMENTS:

Other

DATE:

COMMENTS:

Please include management activities related to the protection of any special sites found on the property:

6. Special Sites: *Although this is not a new requirement under the AFF Standards, it has been included in the addendum as results of ATFS inspections and third-party certification assessments have shown this management plan component could be improved.*

Do you have any special sites on your property? (e.g. historical burial ruins, old cemeteries, cave entrances, rare mineral outcroppings, unique ecological communities).

Special sites can be identified by the landowner or by outside credible organizations such as a state forestry agency.

Yes No

COMMENTS: _____

How have you made an effort to locate any special sites on your property? The following are examples of efforts you may have made to locate special sites (Please check those you have completed):

Yes No

COMMENTS: _____

Walk the property with a knowledgeable natural resources professional

DATE: _____

COMMENTS: _____

Researched sites provided on the ATFS Woodland Owners' Resource (www.treefarmssystem.org/woodlandresources)

DATE: _____

COMMENTS: _____

Review old property maps

DATE: _____

COMMENTS: _____

Contacted local cultural heritage organization

DATE: _____

COMMENTS: _____

Other

DATE: _____

COMMENTS: _____

Please include management activities related to the protection of any special sites found on the property:

7. Integrated Pest Management and Invasive Species: What have you done to monitor your forest for the possible presence of any pests and/or invasive species?

Do you have any pest problems or invasive species on your property? If yes, please list.

Yes No

All Tree Farmers must consider integrated pest management to control pests, pathogens and unwanted vegetation (including invasive species). I commit to considering a variety of available pest management options when dealing with pest problems on my property. (Remember, integrated pest management techniques may include mechanical devices, physical devices, genetic, biological or chemical management techniques)

Yes No

COMMENTS (may include examples of management activities you will conduct to deal with any pests): _____

8. High Conservation Value Forests: Are you aware of any forests of exceptional conservation value on your property? (Definition: Forests of outstanding and critical importance due to their environmental, social, biodiversity, or landscape values)

Landowner Signature: _____

Date: _____