

Use of Management Guides

Management Guides

- Ontario and many other jurisdictions control / regulate many aspects of forest management operations through the use of Guidelines
- Management Guides in Ontario are given the strength of legislation by being identified in the Forest Operations and Silviculture Manual (i.e. they are basically listed)

Management Guides

- The Forest Ops and Silv Manual is one of 4 regulated manuals which are specifically identified in the Crown Forest Sustainability Act; this manual identifies the guidelines/guides which are to be used in forest management planning in Ontario.
- There are varying levels of flexibility given to particular sections of the different guides
- Guidelines and Guides are used to manage specifics which may change over time and which are too detailed for inclusion in the act or the regulated manuals

Management Guides

- **standard:** a component of a guide that provides mandatory direction
- **guideline:** a component of a guide that provides mandatory direction, but requires
- professional judgment for it to be applied appropriately at the local level
- **best management practice:** a component of a guide that suggests a practice or strategy to
- help implement the overall purpose of the standards and guidelines

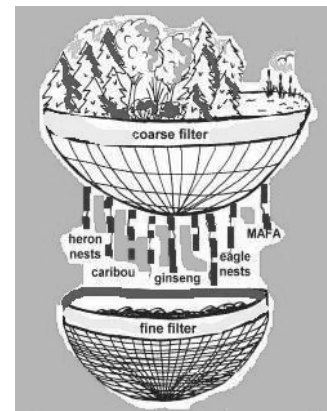
Coarse and Fine Filters

- The Forest Management Planning Process and the Forest Management Guides are built conceptually on what is described as coarse and fine filter approaches
- Coarse filter items would include the manipulation of the landscape, age class structure, forest unit distribution etc to meet management objectives and a desired future forest condition

Conceptualization of Coarse and Fine Filtered Approach as Envisioned by MNR

MNR has adopted this concept so fully that the terms Coarse and Fine Filter are used to describe processes in the guides.

An environmental condition or particular species habitat may require both coarse and fine filter approaches or may be fully accommodated by the overarching coarse filter approach. Certain guides contain elements of both coarse and fine filters while others are specific to one or the other.



Coarse and Fine Filters

- Currently the Coarse Filter direction (Jan.2012) in the planning process is not very straight forward. There are elements of landscape level direction for Northern (boreal) Ontario found in:
 - the Forest Management Guide for Natural Disturbance Pattern Emulation
 - Forest management guidelines for the provision of marten habitat
 - Forest Management Guidelines for the Conservation of Woodland Caribou
- The direction from all* of these Guides will be wrapped into something called the Landscape Guide which is under development

* The caribou guidelines may need to be retained because of Endangered Species issues.

Coarse and Fine Filters

- **Many species, and ecosystem elements can be addressed through the coarse filter only (e.g. overall forest distribution for moose, natural landscape emulation)**
- **Certain species or certain elements of a particular species' habitat need further refinement ~ a fine filtered approach (e.g. management of mineral licks for moose, management of habitat for stick nesters)**

Coarse and Fine Filters

- The fine filter is applied primarily through the application of the Forest Management Guide for Conserving Biodiversity at the Stand and Site Scales (Stand and Site Guide)
- The Stand and Site Guide (2010) replaced a large number of other “species” guides and to an extent reduced the duplication and contradiction which existed under the old set of guides

Previous Guides Replaced by the Stand and Site Guide

- Bald eagle habitat management guidelines, 1987
- Code of practice for timber management operations in riparian areas, 1998
- Environmental guidelines for access roads and water crossings, 1990
- Forest management guide for the protection of osprey nests, 2006
- Forest management guidelines for the protection of the physical environment 1997
- Forest management guidelines for the provision of white-tailed deer habitat, 1997
- Forest raptors and their nests in central Ontario, 1998
- Golden eagle habitat management guidelines, 1987
- Guidelines for providing furbearer habitat in timber management, 1986
- Habitat management guidelines for bats in Ontario, 1984
- Habitat management guidelines for birds of Ontario wetlands, 1985
- Habitat management guidelines for cavity nesting birds in Ontario, 1984
- Habitat management guidelines for Ontario's forest nesting accipiters, hawks and eagles, 1984
- Habitat management guidelines for warblers of Ontario's northern coniferous forests, mixed forests or southern hardwood forests, 1984
- Habitat management guidelines for waterfowl in Ontario, 1985
- Management guidelines for the protection of heronries in Ontario, 1984
- Peregrine falcon habitat management guidelines, 1987
- Timber management guidelines for the protection of fish habitat, 1988
- Timber management guidelines for the provision of moose habitat, 1988

Current Guides:

•Landscape and Stand and Site Guides:

- Forest Management Guide for Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Landscapes (GLSL Landscape Guide)
- Forest Management Guide for Conserving Biodiversity at the Stand and Site Scales (Stand and Site Guide)
- Forest Management Guide for Natural Disturbance Pattern Emulation
- Forest Management Guidelines for the Conservation of Woodland Caribou - A Landscape Approach
- Forest Management Guidelines for the Provision of Marten Habitat
- Forest Management Guidelines for the Provision of Pileated Woodpecker Habitat

Silviculture Guides:

- Silvicultural Guide for the Tolerant Hardwood Forest in Ontario
- Silvicultural Guide to Managing for Black Spruce, Jack Pine and Aspen on Boreal Ecosites in Ontario
- Silvicultural Guide to Managing Southern Ontario Forests
- Silviculture Guide for the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Conifer Forest in Ontario
- Silviculture Guide to Managing Spruce, Fir, Birch, and Aspen Mixedwoods in Ontario's Boreal Forest

Societal Values Guides:

- Management Guidelines for Forestry and Resource-Based Tourism (Tourism Guide)
- Forest Management Guide for Cultural Heritage Values (Cultural Heritage Values Guide)

Landscape and Stand and Site Guides Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Forest Region

Forest Management Guide for Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Landscapes (GLSL Landscape Guide)

- The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Landscape Guide replaces existing landscape level direction for the GLSR forest region currently found in the Natural Disturbance Pattern Emulation Guide, the White-tailed Deer Guide, the Pileated Woodpecker Guide, the Moose Habitat Guide, and the Marten Guide.
- This is the “coarse filter” guide which will be applied in Central Ontario. A similar landscape guide for boreal Ontario is under development

Landscape and Stand and Site Guides Boreal Forest Region

- Forest Management Guide for Natural Disturbance Pattern Emulation
- Forest Management Guidelines for the Conservation of Woodland Caribou - A Landscape Approach
- Forest Management Guidelines for the Provision of Marten Habitat
 - Until a landscape guide for the boreal forest region of Ontario is produced, coarse filter direction will continue to be provided in these three documents

- Forest Management Guide for Natural Disturbance Pattern Emulation
 - provides direction for planning disturbance patches in configurations that emulate forest fires
- Forest Management Guidelines for the Conservation of Woodland Caribou - A Landscape Approach
 - provide for creating a landscape pattern mosaic favorable to woodland caribou to support the survival of this threatened species in Ontario
- Forest Management Guidelines for the Provision of Marten Habitat
 - prescribes landscape patterns designed to support those species which favor large patches of undisturbed conifer

Landscape and Stand and Site Guides Boreal Forest Region

- Forest Management Guide for Conserving Biodiversity at the Stand and Site Scales (Stand and Site Guide)
 - The stand and site guide is a province wide guideline; it provides a collection of standards, guidelines and best management practices for managing species habitats, and environmental conditions at the scale of the forest stand where actual activities are taking place
 - It is therefore operational in nature while containing links to the FMP process

Silviculture Guides

- Silviculture Guides set the overall framework for the practice of Silviculture in the province of Ontario. They describe the current standards of practice, based on science and professional experience. They are organized on the basis of forest type (species) and forest region.
 - Silvicultural Guide for the Tolerant Hardwood Forest in Ontario
 - Silvicultural Guide to Managing for Black Spruce, Jack Pine and Aspen on Boreal Ecosites in Ontario
 - Silvicultural Guide to Managing Southern Ontario Forests
 - Silviculture Guide for the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Conifer Forest in Ontario
 - Silviculture Guide to Managing Spruce, Fir, Birch, and Aspen Mixedwoods in Ontario's Boreal Forest

Societal Values Guides

- Unlike the previously mentioned guides, the Societal Values Guides deal with items which are human oriented. They are in part prescriptive and in part a framework for developing negotiated solutions to landuse conflict in terms of the tourism industry as well as cultural heritage resources.
 - Management Guidelines for Forestry and Resource-Based Tourism (Tourism Guide)
 - Forest Management Guide for Cultural Heritage Values (Cultural Heritage Values Guide)

Back to the Stand and Site Guide

- The release of the stand and site guide was an extremely important step in clarifying a variety of often conflicting guidelines
- When combined with the promised Landscape Guide, it will be a valuable tool for clarifying provincial direction
- The Stand and Site Guide is therefore worthy of greater examination

Back to the Stand and Site Guide

- In addition to a lot of material regarding the background and context of the guide, it contains:
 - “coarse filter” elements and linkages to the landscape level guides
 - Specific guidance for managing a variety of wildlife species, and natural resource values (lakes, streams, site quality, etc)
 - Specific discussion around certain operational issues such as road and water crossing construction and salvage and bio-fibre harvesting operations

How do these guidelines get put into Practice?

- With few exceptions the “rules” (directions) which arise from the application of guidelines are normally documented in a forest management plan
- Ontario recognizing the areas where forestry activities come in proximity to a value as “Areas of Concern”
- These areas are viewed differently from the rest of the forest (Normal Operating Areas)

How do these guidelines get put into Practice?

- The directions for operating inside the AOCs come directly from the guidelines OR they may be developed through the contemplation and negotiation of the planning team amongst themselves and with public stakeholders
- They are documented in FMP tables 14 (Operational Prescriptions for AOCs) and 23 (Road Crossings of AOCs), as well as in a collection of Supplemental Documentation which elaborate on the prescriptions.

How do these guidelines get put into Practice?

- Typical Measures prescribed in AOCs
 - Harvest reserves around values
 - Timing restrictions on operations (Harvest, silviculture, road construction)
 - Notification measures
 - Road use, maintenance, and abandonment directions
 - Remedial or compensating activities
 - Specific operational direction applicable to harvest, renewal or road construction

Stand and Site Guide Assignment

In groups of one or two, you will read, summarize, and interpret the content and impact of various elements of the stand and site guide. You will prepare a verbal and a written presentation on your section which will be presented in class. Make sure that Standards, Guidelines, and Best Management Practices are captured and appropriately identified. Boil the guideline direction down to what needs to be done, in a FMP, in an AWS as well as in the field.

- Structure 3.2.3.1, 3.2.3.2 (1 person)
- White Tailed Deer 3.3.3 (1 person)
- Moose 3.3.4 and 4.2.4 (1 person)
- Standing Waters 4.1.1 (2 people)
- Flowing Waters 4.1.2 (1 person)
- Wetlands 4.1.3 (1 person)
- Peregrine, Eagles and Ospreys 4.2.2.1, 4.2.2.2 (2 people)
- Colony Nesters 4.2.2.3 (1 person)
- Other Stick Nesters 4.2.2.4, 4.2.2.5 (1 person)
- Other Raptors 4.2.2.6 and 4.2.2.7 (1 person)
- Beaver and Animal Dens 4.2.3 & 4.2.5 (1 person)
- Species at Risk; Amphibians and reptiles 4.3.5 (1 person)
- Roads and Water Crossings 5.1 (2 people)
- Soil and Water Conservation 5.2 (2 people)