**Forest Management Plan Criteria and Checklist**

**Practice/Activity Code (106) (No.)**

**Natural Resources Conservation Service – Michigan**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Client Name:** |       | **County:** |       |
| **Plan Writer Name:** |       | **Date Submitted:** |       |
| **NRCS Reviewer Name:** |       | **Date Reviewed:** |       |

This plan [ ]  meets / [ ]  does not meet the criteria listed below.       (reviewer initials)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **FMP Review/Certification Notes:**  |       |

**Introduction**

A CAP-106 Forest Management Plan (FMP) is a site-specific plan developed for a client to address one or more resource concerns on nonindustrial private forestland where forestry-related conservation activities or practices will be planned and applied. FMPs are developed by certified Technical Service Providers (TSPs). CAP-106 Forest Management Plans:

1. meet Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) planning criteria for the identified resource concern(s);
2. comply with Federal, State, Tribal, and local laws, regulations, and permit requirements;
3. be based on a forest inventory conducted using generally accepted forestry inventory methods; and
4. meet the client’s objectives.

**Deliverables**

The client must receive, at a minimum, a hard copy of the FMP document, including and all maps and resource assessment documentation.

The servicing NRCS Field Office must receive a complete hardcopy and an electronic copy (e.g., Microsoft Word document, PDF) of the FMP document, including all maps and resource assessment documentation.

Cultural Resources Reviews: As early in the planning process as possible, TSPs should provide NRCS with a list of conservation practices likely to be included in the FMP that have the potential to affect cultural resources, so that a Cultural Resources Review may be initiated in a timely matter, if needed. See eFOTG, Section II, Cultural Resources Folder, Folder 4, List of NRCS Undertakings: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/efotg/>.

**Forest Management Plan Criteria Review Checklist**

This section details the minimum criteria to be addressed by a Forest Management Plan. Additional information, such as tax information, a glossary, etc., should be considered for inclusion as well. This checklist can be used as a tool to assist both plan writers and reviewers.

**Property Identification and Overview**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **COMPONENT** | **Yes** | **No** | **N/A** |
| **1. Client Information** |  |  |  |
| 1. Client name, address, and phone number \*
 |     |     |  |
| 1. Client email address
 |     |     |     |
| 1. Client signature
 |     |     |  |
| **2. Technical Service Provider Information** |  |  |  |
| 1. TSP’s name, address, and phone number \*
 |     |     |  |
| 1. TSP’s email address
 |     |     |     |
| 1. TSP’s signature
 |     |     |  |
| **3. Site Information** |  |  |  |
| 1. Property location (county, township, range, section, etc.)
 |     |     |  |
| 1. Acres covered in plan \*
 |     |     |  |
| 1. Date of plan
 |     |     |  |
| 1. General overall property/resource description
 |     |     |     |
| 1. Client objectives
 |     |     |  |
| **4. Other Information** |  |  |  |
| 1. Signature block for NRCS acceptance \*
 |     |     |  |
| 1. Description of the forest/resource inventory methods used to develop plan.
 |     |     |  |

**\* Included these items on the plan cover page(s).**

**Resource Descriptions**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **COMPONENT** | **Yes** | **No** | **N/A** |
| **5. Management Unit Description** - The following should be provided for each management unit, if applicable, or they may be provided for the tract/property as a whole, only if there is no variability among land units. |  |  |  |
| 1. Acres (to the tenths of an acre)
 |     |     |  |
| 1. Site index
 |     |     |     |
| 1. Basal area and/or stocking level
 |     |     |     |
| 1. Common species by size class (saw, pole, sapling, etc., or diameter range)
 |     |     |    |
| 1. Wood products potential
 |     |     |     |
| 1. Soil type(s) and condition
 |     |     |  |
| 1. Topography
 |     |     |  |
| 1. Natural and cultural features
 |     |     |     |
| 1. Roads and trails (include on maps, if possible – see “Maps” below)
 |     |     |     |
| 1. Wildfire risk
 |     |     |     |
| 1. Disease, insect, and other pest risks
 |     |     |     |
| 1. Known fish and wildlife species
 |     |     |     |
| 1. Fish and wildlife species habitat elements
 |     |     |     |
| 1. Noxious and invasive species present
 |     |     |     |
| 1. Water quality and other important features
 |     |     |     |
| 1. Existing conservation practices
 |     |     |     |
| 1. Harvest history
 |     |     |     |
| **6. Identification of Resource Concerns**  |  |  |  |
| 1. Documentation of Resource Concerns (RCs), using NRCS-recognized RC categories. Document RCs using the “Resource Concern Checklist”1, or in the body of the plan. Resource concerns must be documented for each land use at a minimum.
 |     |     |  |
| 1. Resource assessments tools used and results of resource assessments for all resource concerns2. Document on the Resource Concern Checklist or in the body of the plan.
 |     |     |  |

**Prescriptions**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **COMPONENT** | **Yes** | **No** | **N/A** |
| **7. Desired Future Conditions (Goals)** - The following should be provided for each management unit, if applicable. |  |  |  |
| 1. Basal area and/or stocking level
 |     |     |     |
| 1. Diameter distribution (graphic or narrative description)
 |     |     |     |
| 1. Species composition
 |     |     |     |
| 1. Wildlife and pollinator habitat
 |     |     |     |
| 1. Recreation
 |     |     |     |
| **8. Planned Conservation Practices**3 |  |  |  |
| 1. Management unit on which practice is scheduled
 |     |     |  |
| 1. NRCS practice name and code
 |     |     |  |
| 1. Amount to be applied (in tenths of acres, feet, or number)
 |     |     |  |
| 1. Schedule for implementation (by month and year)
 |     |     |  |
| 1. Necessary specifications and/or job sheets for each practice (Provide site-specific practice installation details that meet the criteria in the “Plans and Specifications” section of the applicable Conservation Practice Standard.)
 |     |     |  |
| **9. Additional Management Considerations**4 – For management activities that aren’t addressed by NRCS Conservation Practices, are beyond the TSP’s certification level, or do not address a current RC (are to address an anticipated future RC), provide the following, if applicable. |  |  |  |
| 1. Management unit on which practice is scheduled
 |     |     |     |
| 1. NRCS practice name and code
 |     |     |     |
| 1. Amount to be applied (in tenths of acres, feet, or number)
 |     |     |     |
| 1. Schedule for implementation (by month and year)
 |     |     |     |

**Maps**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **COMPONENT** | **Yes** | **No** | **N/A** |
| **10. Maps** |  |  |  |
| 1. Location map – location of property in relation to surrounding landscape
 |     |     |  |
| 1. Plan map – property and management unit/stand boundaries and labels, location of engineering/structural practices, scale, north arrow, legend with appropriate map symbols
 |     |     |  |
| 1. Soils map – legend, applicable soil descriptions/reports, and suitabilities and limitations for use (may be in plan text)
 |     |     |  |

1. The Resource Concern Checklist (excerpt of Form CPA-52, Revised Environmental Evaluation) can be found online at <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/mi/technical/landuse/forestry/nrcs141p2_024578/> (“Resources for Technical Service Providers” section).
2. Resource Concern information, including appropriate assessment tools for each resource concern, can be found in the National Resource Concern List and Planning Criteria in the Michigan FOTG, Section III.
3. Include conservation practices that address a resource need as indicated on the Resource Concern checklist or other documentation. The plan should include site-specific specifications and/or job sheets for each practice that addresses a current or imminent RC.

For conservation practices to be eligible for EQIP program funding they must comply with NRCS-MI Conservation Practice Standards, address a resource concern, and meet NRCS Planning Criteria.

Note: not all conservation practices are eligible for funding through NRCS Programs (EQIP, CSP, etc.). For a complete list of eligible conservation practices, visit the specific program pages at [www.mi.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/](http://www.mi.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/). However, TSPs are encouraged to include any and all appropriate conservation practices and activities in the plan to provide technical guidance to clients.

When any of the following practices are scheduled to be applied, site-specific specifications must be included in the Forest Management Plan or in a NRCS-approved job sheet. A Forest Management Plan may include as appropriate, but is not limited to, the conservation practices listed below:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Practice Name** | **Code** |  | **Practice Name** | **Code** |
| Access Control | 472 |  | Silvopasture Establishment | 381 |
| Alley Cropping | 311 |  | Tree/Shrub Establishment | 612 |
| Firebreak | 394 |  | Tree/Shrub Pruning | 660 |
| Forest Stand Improvement | 666 |  | Tree/Shrub Site Preparation | 490 |
| Forest Trails and Landings | 655 |  | Windbreak/Shelterbelt Est. | 380 |
| Fuel Break | 383 |  | Windbreak/Shelterbelt Renovation | 650 |
| Riparian Forest Buffer | 391 |  | Woody Residue Treatment | 384 |
| Road/Trail/Landing Closure and Treatment | 654 |  |  |

1. The practices listed under 3 above are the primary NRCS forestry and agroforestry practices, but additional conservation practices may be needed to meet all the client’s objectives. For all other practices, document the planned amount, the fields/stands where the practice is to be applied, and the planned month and year of application, if possible.

Practices beyond the basic forestry/agroforestry practices may be included in a plan but they will be design and implementation by an appropriately certified TSP, NRCS staff or other professional.

All planned or recommended conservation practices and activities must comply with the wetlands and highly erodible land provisions of the Food Security Act of 1985. A wetland determination and highly erodible land determination are required for all EQIP participants. A copy of the wetland delineation map may be obtained from the client, or from the servicing NRCS Field Office with the client’s permission.

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These criteria were developed to implement Section 1240 (A) of the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008, which allows for the development of forest management plans as one of the purposes of the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). This checklist is consistent with the national NRCS Forest Management Plan Criteria, September 2017.