



# Forest Stewardship Management Plan



# Forest Stewardship Management Plans

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*Plans must identify and describe actions to protect, manage, maintain and enhance relevant resources listed (soil, range, aesthetic quality, recreation, timber, water, and fish and wildlife) in a manner compatible with landowners objectives.*



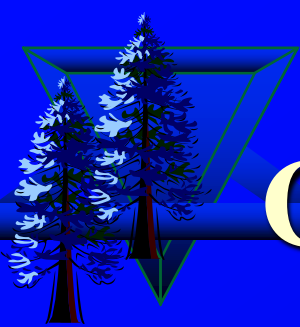
# Purpose of Forest Stewardship Program

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*...is to assist private forest landowners in more actively managing their forest and related resources; to keep these lands in a productive and healthy condition for present and future owners; and to increase the economic and environmental benefits of these lands.*





# Components of a FSMP

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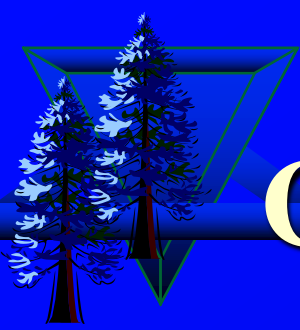
**#1 Identify  
the Plan -  
*Introduction***

**#2 Present  
Management  
Objectives**



**#3 Present  
Baseline  
Conditions**

**#4 Present  
Management  
Recommendations**



# Components of a FSMP

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**#5 Supplemental Information**

**= Forest Stewardship Management Plan**





# #1 Identify the Plan – Introduction

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## Cover Page Should Include:

- ◆ Landowner's Name, Address, Phone Number
- ◆ Plan Writer's Name, Address, Phone, E-mail, Signature
- ◆ Acreage in Plan
- ◆ Date of Plan





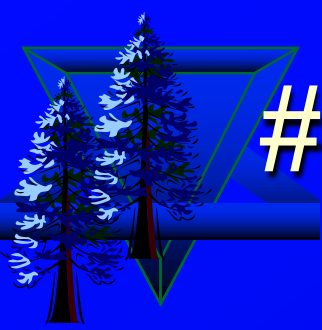
# #1 Identify the Plan – Introduction

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## Additional Introduction Information:

- ◆ Landowner's Objective Stated in Measurable Terms (*i.e.*)
- ◆ General Property Description
- ◆ List of known Threatened & Endangered Species
- ◆ Past and Current Use of the Land
- ◆ Cultural or Natural Heritage Features



# #1 Identify the Plan – Introduction

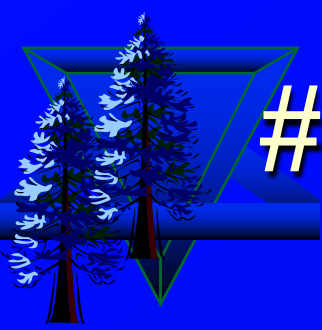
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- ◆ Soils Information
- ◆ Maps with Boundaries, Cover Types, Water, Roads, and other Topographic Features
- ◆ Directions to Property







# #1 Identify the Plan – Introduction

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## Optional Introduction Information:

- ◆ Legal Description, Plat, Tax Book Information
- ◆ Interaction of Site with Surrounding Land
- ◆ Easements or other Restrictions
- ◆ **List of Available Assistance Programs**





## #2 Present Management Objectives

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- ◆ Identifying and presenting the landowner's goals and objectives is the single most important element of a successful plan. (**This is Your Plan**)
- ◆ Identify landowner's interest, preferences, priorities, financial and philosophical commitment to forest stewardship and determine landowner's knowledge about natural resource management.
- ◆ Know the landowner's expectations and abilities.



# Discuss with the Landowner

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- ◆ How does the landowner rank the 5 most important objectives on the application?
- ◆ How does the landowner rank their interest in managing for wildlife ?





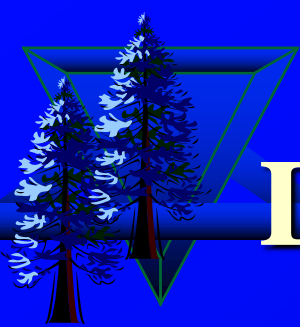
# Discuss with the Landowner

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- ◆ What are the outputs desired?
- ◆ How will specific objectives be evaluated?
- ◆ What is the landowner's time frame for results?
- ◆ Are the landowner's financial expectations consistent with anticipated results?





# Discuss with the Landowner

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◆ Are the objectives and outputs realistic for the property?

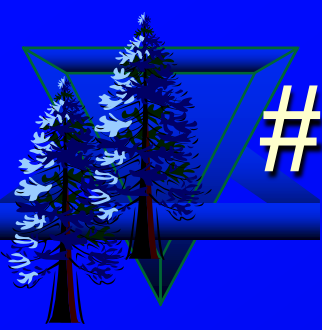
– Quail range 1 mile

– Cerulean warblers need 10,000 acres

– Deer range 5 or more miles

Take into account the current and future economic and environmental benefits





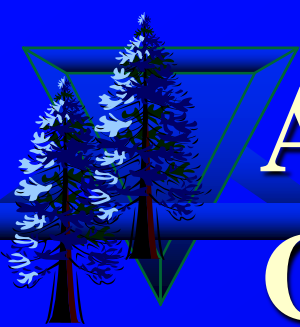
# #3 Present Baseline Conditions

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Standard Outline Format provides a reminder list of items to be addressed in stand descriptions:

- Parcel Number
- Parcel Name
- Acres
- Forest Type
- Species Present
- Age
- Size
- Quality
- Trees per Acre
- Growth Rate
- Soil/Water/wetland
- Topography
- Wildfire Hazard/Risk
- Forest/Stand Health
- Pest or Disease
- Wildlife Habitat
- Unique Natural Features
- History/Natural Heritage
- T & E
- Recommendation



# Additional Field Considerations

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- Significance of stand due to location or other attributes
- Snags or Den Trees
- Edge
- Mast Availability
- Browse
- Ground Cover
- Canopy Cover
- Canopy Layers
- Stand Diversity
- Noxious/ Invasive Species
- Accessibility





# Soils

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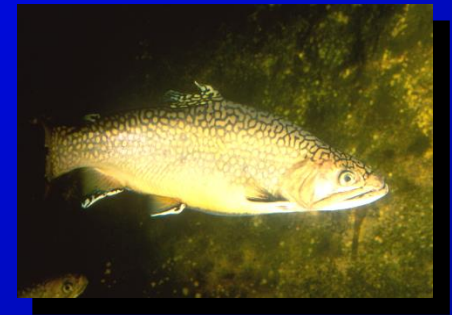


- ◆ Soil Series and General Pertinent Properties
- ◆ Drainage
- ◆ Associated Topography
- ◆ Equipment Restrictions
- ◆ Site Productivity





# Fish and Wildlife



- ◆ Evaluate each stand for wildlife habitat, especially for any species desired by the landowner.





# Fish and Wildlife

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- ◆ Plan should include a statement on Threatened and Endangered Species.





# Fish and Wildlife

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- ◆ If T & E Species are present, provide necessary resources or appropriate agency in case landowner desires more specific information.
- ◆ Recommendations should include expected impact on wildlife, water, flora and fauna.





# Water Quality

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- ◆ Address water quality in a manner compatible with the landowner's objectives.
- ◆ All management recommendations will include water quality considerations.





# Water Quality

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- ◆ If timber harvest is recommended, include specific BMPs needed to protect water quality.
- ◆ Emphasis should be placed on
  - Streamside Management Zones
  - Stream Crossings
  - Road and Trail Locations and Stabilization



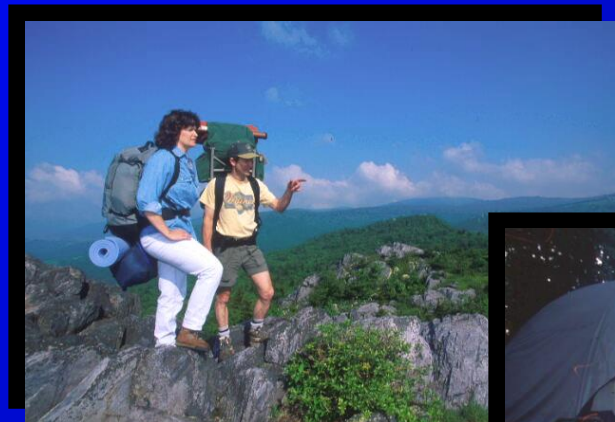


# Recreation and Aesthetics

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## ◆ Forest Recreation by the Landowner, Family, Friends, and Neighbors





# Recreation and Aesthetics

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- ◆ Diversity of Habitat
- ◆ Visual Impact of Recommended Practices
- ◆ Plant Species Favored because of Color, Flower, or other Value.
- ◆ Streams and Waterways





# Recreation and Aesthetics

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- ◆ Key Access Routes
- ◆ Areas in View by the Public
- ◆ Objects of Special Value to Landowner such as: Vistas, Bluffs, Old Home Sites, Unique Stands of Trees, Flowering Plants







# Recreation and Aesthetics

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- ◆ Hiking or Riding Trails
- ◆ Picnic Areas, Tree Stands, etc.





# Wetlands

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- ◆ Subject to Federal protection and should be identified in the FSMP.
- ◆ Keep roads and landings away from wetlands.
- ◆ Restrict timber harvest to times of the year when rutting and soil compaction are minimized.





# Wetlands

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◆ Leave riparian buffers around wetlands.



◆ Avoid use of pesticides near wetlands.

◆ Keep slash out of wetland areas.





# Heritage Resources

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The FSMP should identify all historical resources on the property.

- ◆ Determine locations and include on the map.
- ◆ Cemeteries are protected by law.



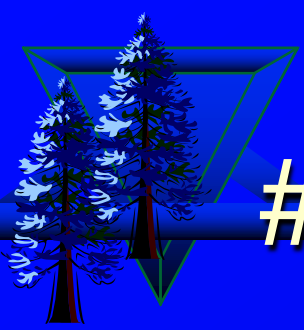


# #4 Management Recommendations

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- ◆ Recommendations for each stand or management unit should be operational.
- ◆ Include necessary steps for accomplishing the goals.
- ◆ 5 & 10 year time line
- ◆ Cost share possibilities and Agencies





# #5 Supplemental Information

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- ◆ Stewardship Appendix
- ◆ Aerial Photo copies
- ◆ Topographic and/or Soils Maps
- ◆ Additional Brochures and information not covered in the appendix but of interest to the landowner.





# Resources

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- ◆ Definitions Checklist:

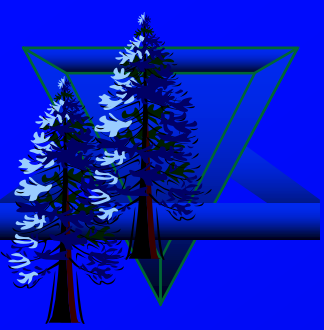
<http://www.dof.state.va.us/mgt/stewardship-plan.shtml>

- ◆ Available Assistance Programs and Easements

- ◆ Sample Plan:

<http://www.dof.state.va.us/mgt/fsp-example.shtml>





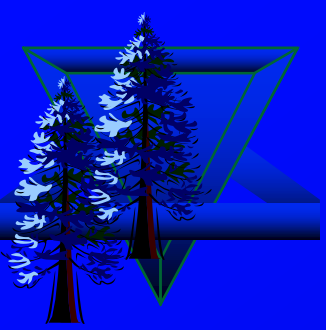
# Check List

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- Stewardship Plan
- Cooperators
- Programs
- Easements
- Relationship with  
Your Forester







# This is just the Beginning

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