

**Proposed Revisions to the
Forest Management Planning Manual,
Forest Information Manual, and Scaling Manual**

Ministry Natural Resources and Forestry

June 5, 2023

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1. Introduction

The *Crown Forest Sustainability Act, 1994* (CFSA) provides legal direction for forest management in the managed forest of Ontario. Three of four manuals regulated under section 68 of the act are the:

- Forest Management Planning Manual (FMPM)
- Forest Information Manual (FIM)
- Scaling Manual

The FMPM provides direction for the preparation and implementation of forest management plans. The FMPM sets out the requirements for the forest management planning system within the managed forest and includes a detailed description of the process required to prepare a forest management plan. Forest management plans are developed for each designated management unit in the province, with the exception of the southern Ontario management unit. The plans identify where, and how, the activities of forest access, harvest, renewal, and maintenance (i.e., tending and protection) will occur during the plan period.

The FIM and associated FIM Technical Specifications provide direction for the exchange of information between the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) and the forest industry. They describe the information requirements for the preparation and delivery of forest resources inventories, maps, geospatial data layers, forest operations inspections, forest values, base data (e.g., water features), and other information required for forest management planning.

The Scaling Manual provides guidance and direction for the measurement of Crown forest resources harvested in Ontario, as authorized under the CFSA.

2. Goals of Revision

MNRF regularly revises its forest policy framework so that the most up to date guidance and direction is available for the continued sustainable management of Ontario's forests. The proposed revisions to these manuals provide an opportunity to further modernize our business processes while continuing to provide for sustainability.

All identified revisions (Section 6.0) are proposals and are subject to consultation with Indigenous communities, review and comment by stakeholders, and the public, and are also subject to approval by the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

FMPM and FIM

The continued modernization of the forest management planning process supports commitments identified within Sustainable Growth: Ontario's Forest Sector Strategy, and other policy drivers (e.g., Ontario Onwards: Action Plan). The objectives of the revisions to the FMPM and FIM are to:

- Identify further opportunities to modernize the forest management planning process to support and reduce overall burden for forest industry and the MNRF while maintaining the sustainability of Ontario's forests and engaging and consultation with Indigenous communities whose constitutionally protected rights are exercised in Ontario forests;
- Support the Ontario Onwards: Action Plan which aims at using a digital lens and modern tools when developing products, policies, programs or services; and
- Enable the preparation and implementation of small-scale community-based FMPs in Ontario's Far North

The modernization of the forest management planning process has incorporated implementation experience of both ministry and industry forest practitioners through the Forest Management Planning Advisory Group (FMPAG), and Forest Information Data Advisory Group (FIDAG).

Descriptions of how these objectives will be realized for this revision are included in the following sections.

Scaling Manual

The purpose of the Scaling Manual revision is to fill existing information gaps and update descriptions and direction if appropriate, and to seek opportunities to streamline processes or procedures. Revisions to the Scaling Manual will provide clear direction and standards for wood measurement, improve regulatory compliance benefits, and improve forest industry competitiveness.

Revisions to the Scaling Manual align with goals and objectives of Sustainable Growth: Ontario's Forest Sector Strategy, as well as corporate priorities including Open for Business, Ontario's Digital and Data Strategy, and Ontario Onwards.

3. Investigation of Existing Policy Requirements to Support Proposed Revisions to the FMPM and FIM

MNRF has investigated specific existing policy requirements to address actions identified through Sustainable Growth: Ontario's Forest Sector Strategy, and Ontario Onwards: Action Plan.

3.1. FIM Technical Specification FMP Table Review

The FIM and FIM Technical Specifications outline the forest management planning information to be displayed in table format. These table requirements have been reviewed to ensure the effective and efficient exchange of information, reduce duplication, and reduce unstructured data products. Input from both FIDAG and FMPAG was vital in ensuring modernization improvements were determined and viable for implementation.

3.2. Enable the Preparation and Implementation of Small-Scale Community-Based FMPs in Ontario's Far North

To support First Nation community-based economic development opportunities in Ontario's Far North, a revision to the FMPM is being proposed to enable small-scale community-based forest operations (e.g., limited harvest and use of forest resources) to occur. This proposal would provide First Nation communities with a viable option, consistent with MNRF's forest policy framework, to conduct sustainable forest management in the Far North. The FMPM would provide direction for the preparation and implementation of FMP's for newly designated management units in the Far North. Each forest management plan would be prepared with local First Nation communities and identify and provide for a sustainable supply of wood to help support community initiatives (e.g., bioenergy facilities).

3.3. Modernizing the Forest Management Planning Process

The management direction of a FMP provides for the sustainability of the forest within a management unit. The management direction considers management objectives, indicators, an assessment of sustainability, a social and economic assessment, a risk assessment, and identifies levels of activities required to achieve the desired forest and benefits. The FMPM requires that analytical methodologies, models, and tools be used to develop the management direction. For over 20 years the Strategic Forest Management Model, a non-spatial forest estate model, was applied to support the strategic level decision making as part of the management direction. Following the development of the strategic planning component of FMP development, planning teams would then proceed to operationalize (identify planned harvest areas) the results provided through the model. The key proposed revision to the FMPM and FIM will seek to modernize the process through the integration of all components of the management direction (i.e., strategic, tactical, and operational planning) to determine the locations, types and levels of access, harvest renewal and tending activities. This will be realized through modern spatial analyses and tracking the entire forested and non-forested landbase of a management unit through time and space (e.g., location, area, shape, and neighboring forest stands). These spatial analyses will improve and modernize the evaluation of forest sustainability.

All revisions to the FMPM, FIM and Scaling Manual are identified in Section 6 below.

4. Updates to Current Direction

The Ministry regularly reviews its forest policy framework to ensure that the most up-to-date direction is available for forest management planning and implementation. Proposed revisions to the manuals also include the updating of references to other direction (e.g., wildland fire policy).

5. Advice from Forestry Practitioners

Ontario's forest management program is based on a legal and policy framework that has adaptive management as a key element. The Ministry takes an active approach to incorporate lessons learned and findings into policies, guidelines, manuals, planning processes and related reporting systems. As part of this approach, the Ministry seeks advice from forestry practitioners — those who put policy direction into practice through preparation and implementation of forest management plans — on ways to improve the forest management program. Advice from the forest industry and the Ministry's field staff has been considered in the proposed revisions to the manuals.

6. Proposed Revisions to the Forest Management Planning Manual, Forest Information Manual and Scaling Manual

6.1. Forest Management Planning Manual (FMPM)

#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
1	N/A	N/A	Add a land acknowledgment at the beginning of the FMPM.	Forward / iii
2	Introduction	Intro	<p>Add Sustainable Growth: Ontario’s Forest Sector Strategy to the listed higher order policies and strategies that the FMPM supports for the successful delivery of forest management in Ontario.</p> <p>Clarify that the purpose of a management unit is to provide for the effective and efficient administration and delivery of forest management planning, forest operations and forest resource licensing.</p> <p>To support response to a recommendation from the Office of the Auditor General, add a requirement that the ministry will place a bulletin (i.e., for information purposes only) on the Environmental Registry each year to give notice on the preparation of specific FMPs. Also, include that the Ministry’s Notices Best Practices document may aid with the preparation of Environmental Registry notices, consistent with obligations under the Environmental Bill of Rights, 1993.</p>	N/A
3	Ministry References Identification of ministries that are involved in forest management planning, and insect pest management programs.	All	<p>Update the FMPM to refer to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry as “the ministry” throughout.</p> <p>Update FMPM to reference correct names for other ministries (e.g., Ministry of Mines)</p>	All

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#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
4	First Nation and Métis involvement and consultation Requirements to involve and consult First Nation and Métis communities in forest management planning.	All	Revise the positioning of references to First Nation and Métis involvement and consultation in the FMPM.	N/A
5	Stages of FMP Preparation	A / 1.0	Update section and terminology to reflect a planning process with four stages of consultation to support modernization of forest management planning process (e.g., requirement for spatially explicit forest analyses).	N/A
6	Planning Team A FMP will be prepared by a plan author, who will be assisted by an interdisciplinary planning team and a local citizens' committee (LCC). Steering committees will be established to monitor preparation of the FMP and resolve issues and disagreements among planning team members to ensure plan preparation remains in accordance with the project plan.	A / 1.1.2	Add that task teams will be established to prepare plan components in accordance with the terms of reference and project plan for the FMP. Task team decisions will be communicated with the planning team to support the preparation of the FMP Clarify where the steering committee may be required to resolve an issue or disagreement among the planning team to the development of applicable local level management objectives, indicators, and their timing of assessment by the planning team.	N/A
7	Terms of Reference Developed by plan author and planning team to support preparation of FMP (e.g., identify key plan deliverables, identify planning team members, identify communications plan)	A / 1.1.2.1	Remove requirement to outline costs for communications efforts in terms of reference. Identification of costs are unnecessary as communication efforts are required to be completed. Change that the Terms of Reference must be submitted to the Ministry for review and comment at least 30 days before issuing the first public notice instead of 60 days. Change that the Ministry will review and comment on the draft Terms of Reference over a 7-day period instead of a 15-day period.	N/A

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#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
8	Project Plan Contents of the Project Plan to support the preparation of a FMP are described in the FMPM.	A / 1.1.2.2	Add forest industry liaison officers as an example of plan advisors to the forest analysis and modeling task team in the development of the management direction for the FMP. Add additional roles and responsibilities of identified Ministry plan reviewers and plan advisors to be contained in the project plan.	N/A
9	Local Citizen's Committee This committee assists the plan author and the interdisciplinary planning team during the preparation of the FMP.	A / 1.1.3	Add that the Ministry District Manager will review the membership of the Local Citizen's Committee and fill any vacancies normally at least six months prior to commencing the formal consultation process.	N/A
10	Decision Support Systems Decision support systems used in forest management planning are information systems that utilize strategic models, analysis tools, and databases in an interactive, analytical process, to support decision making.	A / 1.1.5	Add that decision support systems facilitate the management direction for the FMP and must be capable of tracking the entire forested and non-forested landbase of a management unit through time and space (e.g., location, area, shape, and neighboring forest stands). Add that the decision support systems must be able to produce a spatial harvest schedule for at least 40 years, complete risk assessments, and be capable of representing alternative approaches in the development of the management direction. Add that when management direction incorporates current and potential levels of silvicultural investments, consideration of their effectiveness is contemplated.	N/A
11	Progress Checkpoints Progress checkpoints are key steps in the development and preliminary endorsement of the management direction of a FMP	A / 1.1.6	Add who confirms progress towards completion of checkpoints, when progress checkpoints can be revisited, and that the support for progress checkpoints is to be documented in the analysis package.	N/A

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#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
12	<p>Analysis Package Summarizes the collaborative analysis conducted by the forest analysis and modeling task team during the development of the LTMD.</p>	A / 1.1.7 B / 6.1	<p>Add intent and content requirements of the analysis package and that the content and submission requirements for the analysis package will be completed in accordance with the FIM.</p> <p>To reduce duplication of information within the FMP text and analysis package, add requirement that management direction will be documented in the FMP text and that the analysis package technical analysis and information will support the management direction. The FMP will reference the sections of the analysis package that support the management direction.</p> <p>Add requirement for the analysis package to document the forest analysis and modeling task team support for checkpoints one to four, and to support the preparation of enhanced management unit annual reports and future FMPs for the management unit.</p>	B / 5.1
13	<p>Sources of Direction Sources of direction for the preparation of a FMP include approaches for dealing with wood supply issues from wood supply documents developed for each MNRF administrative region.</p>	A / 1.1.8.1	<p>Add that the sources of direction may be provided in either digital or hard copy format.</p> <p>To align with the digital delivery of wood supply information, revise the sources of direction to include wood supply information (i.e., available harvest volume (supply), current and projected wood supply use, and planned and actual harvest levels).</p>	N/A
14	<p>Management Unit Annual Reports</p>	A / 1.1.8.4	<p>Add that additional information including the conclusions and recommendations in the year six management unit annual report (e.g., the review of renewal and tending activities, review of assumptions in modelling) will provide information for confirming or changing the management direction for the FMP.</p>	A / 1.1.8.5

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#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
15	Planning Composite Inventory	A / 1.1.8.5	Rename this section as “Planning Inventory Information”. Update terminology/language and clarify the purpose and components of the planning inventory including the connection to the forecast depletion layer as described in the Forest Information Manual.	A / 1.1.8.6
16	Values Information	A / 1.1.8.9 B / 2.1.4.3	<p>Add example of value information which would not be portrayed in a FMP (i.e., classified values) and reference the section of the FIM where the requirement exists.</p> <p>Clarify that only confirmed old growth forest communities as defined in the glossary will be required to be identified. The reference to identification of old growth red and white pines forest communities being “consistent with the forest management guides related to landscape pattern and structure” to be removed due to the inconsistency and uncertainty with information contained in forest resource inventories, guide indicators, and actual site conditions. Also, clarify that this requirement will not only apply to red and white pine but all confirmed old growth forest stands (i.e., other species).</p> <p>Add that the most up-to-date values information will also be available for First Nation and Métis community viewing, as well as to the public.</p>	A / 1.1.8.10

17	<p>Roads and Water Crossings Inventory Requirements for existing roads and water crossing inventory for the management unit.</p>	A / 1.1.8.10	<p>Revise FMPM to distinguish between roads and water crossings inventories within Section 1.1.8.10 to support information exchange.</p> <p>Revise the definition of a road for clarity and enable the use of old roadbeds to reduce footprint on landscape (i.e., limit loss of productive land by anthropogenetic disturbances).</p> <p>For the purposes of the FMP roads inventory, road and/or road networks will include those which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fall within the <i>Public Lands Act, 1990 (PLA)</i>, Section 48 definition of a road; • support or supported the haul of timber as defined under the Scaling Manual; • are not impassable to licensed highway vehicular traffic due to vegetation ingress; deterioration of the roadbed; or decommissioning activities that have returned the road to productive forest (i.e., established regeneration). <p>Add that the existing roads inventory will be prepared by the sustainable forest licensee and confirmed by the Ministry and that road use management strategies will be required for existing roads and/or road networks that are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • planned to be used for forest management purposes during the period of the FMP; • the responsibility of the sustainable forest licensee (e.g., maintenance and monitoring activities); except for any roads and/or road networks that have been reported as decommissioned and are not scheduled for use during the period of the FMP; and • a shared responsibility between the sustainable forest licensee and another resource user or party 	A / 1.1.8.11
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#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
18	N/A	N/A	<p>Remove term Industrial Wood Requirements from the glossary of the FMPM and add a new section Industrial Wood Requirements in Part A. The new section would distinguish between current and projected industrial wood requirements and identify the necessary involvement of ministry forest industry liaison officer's in determining the projected industrial wood requirements.</p> <p>Add requirement that the projected industrial wood requirements will contribute to the development of management objectives and support the management direction.</p> <p>Add requirement that projected industrial wood requirements will be documented in the FMP.</p>	A / 1.1.8.12 B / 2.1.4.4
19	<p>Social and Economic Description and Assessment A social and economic description will be considered in the development to the LTMD and planning of operations.</p> <p>A social and economic assessment will be prepared for the proposed long-term management direction. (Part A, Section 1.1.8.11, Appendix I). The assessment will identify the expected social and economic impacts of implementing the long-term management direction.</p>	A / 1.1.8.11 A / 1.2.5.2 A / 3.6.2 B / 2.2 Appendix I	<p>Consolidate requirements of the social and economic description (Part A, Section 1.1.8.11), the social and economic assessment (Part A, Section 1.2.5.2) and Appendix I of FMPM. Consolidation removed duplication and non-applicable requirements for completing a social and economic assessment for a FMP.</p> <p>To support the preparation of the demographic profiles, add that First Nation and Métis communities may provide additional local level information or knowledge.</p> <p>Consolidate requirements by combining all of Part I of Appendix I into Part B, Section 2.2.2 and all of Part 2 of Appendix I in Part B, Section 2.2.3.</p>	A / 1.1.8.13 B / 3.11

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#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
20	<p>Modified Fire Response Modified fire response may be identified as a management consideration in the preparation of a forest management plan.</p>	<p>A / 1.2.3 A / 1.2.5.1 A / 1.2.7 A / 1.2.2 A / 1.3.3.1 B / 3.2 B / 4.8 D / 3.2.4</p>	<p>Remove requirements associated with modified fire response areas as the approach is outdated and is no longer required to enable the ecological benefits of wildland fire.</p> <p>Update and modernize FMPM to reflect current wildland fire policy terminology (i.e., wildland fire opportunities, assets, and resources). Wildland fire opportunities will be provided with the annual work schedule under Wildland Fire Opportunities, Response, Prevention and Preparedness section (Part D Section 3.2.4).</p> <p>Revisions are to support the Ministry’s response during escalated wildland fire circumstances and help deliver on the Ministry’s mandate to minimize risk to wildland fire within the forest (i.e., support forest sector resiliency and mitigate effects due to climate change). The revisions are consistent with the Canadian Council of Forest Ministers Wildland Fire Management Working Group Action Plan and specifically include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wildland fire forest fuel risk as a consideration for harvest eligibility criteria. • consideration of opportunities to mitigate wildland fire risk surrounding communities, assets, and resources in the selection of harvest areas. • identification of the potential for wildland fire within the forest landscape urban interface as a management consideration in the preparation of a FMP. 	B / 3.19

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#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
21	Preparing for Stage Two – Proposed Long-Term Management Direction	A / 1.2	Combine consultation stages two and three of the current planning process and renamed new combined stage two as Proposed Management Direction . The combining of these stages is reflective of the movement to the application of forest estate models which will provide for modern spatial analyses in forest management planning through the integration of strategic, tactical, and operational planning components. The consultation opportunity period for stage two will be a 60 day period.	N/A
22	Forest Units	A / 1.2.2.1	Rename section “Landscape Guide Forest Units and Plan Forest Units” and clarify their intended use. Introduce requirement to include landscape guide forest units in a FMP to support the assessment of landscape guide indicators for forest composition, structure, and pattern. Plan forest units will continue to provide for the classification of the forest to support assumptions with forest development through time and in response to treatments.	N/A
23	Forest Landscape Classes	A / 1.2.2.3	Rename section “Forest Landscape Guide Indicator Classifications” and clarify their intended use (i.e., describe the current forest composition, structure, and pattern at the landscape level at plan start).	N/A
24	Other Forest Classifications	A / 1.2.2.4	Add direction for planning teams to consider direction in the Ministry’s approved forest management guides related to the conservation of biodiversity at the landscape, and stand and site scales, and the plan forest units and/or analysis units when identifying other forest classifications.	N/A

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#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
25	Base Model	A / 1.2.4 B / 3.3	<p>Add where information is available, the base model will also include area of concern reserves (i.e., prohibition of operations), to support management decisions.</p> <p>For planning efficiencies and to ensure applicable expertise with reviewing model assumptions, identify that the forest analysis and modeling task team and identified advisors to the task team will review, and confirm, update or revise model assumptions from the current FMP.</p> <p>Remove reference to performance and note that an analysis of past silviculture outcomes (i.e., establishment trends) will support the development of the default silvicultural assumptions for the base model (i.e., post-harvest renewal transition rules).</p> <p>Add clarification that it is the plan author, with assistance from the forest analysis and modeling task team, who will conduct sensitivity analysis.</p>	N/A

Proposed revisions to the Forest Management Planning Manual, Forest Information Manual and Scaling Manual

#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
26	<p>Silviculture Ground Rules Identification of the current forest condition, silvicultural system, future forest condition at maturity (e.g., silvicultural stratum), development information, management standards, regeneration standards, and acceptable alternative harvest, renewal and tending treatments.</p>	A / 1.2.4.4	<p>Remove reference to “performance” as a required element of an SGR, as the analysis of past silviculture outcomes (i.e., establishment trends) will support the development of the default silvicultural assumptions. Add the requirement that SGRs for each silviculture stratum will be developed for the management unit instead of being developed for each forest unit.</p> <p>In addition to the silviculture guides, add that SGRs will also be prepared using the FOSM.</p> <p>Add requirement for silviculture treatments for harvest, renewal and tending activities to be consistent with the applicable SGR.</p>	N/A
27	<p>Silvicultural Options Silvicultural options represent broad options appropriate for the forest as described in the silvicultural ground rules and are used in the base model.</p>	A / 1.2.4.5 B / 4.4	<p>Add new text to clarify that any commercial thinning will be identified and represented in the base model.</p> <p>Update terminology within this section by replacing the term past performance with silviculture outcomes</p> <p>Add that silvicultural options will also specify the limits to which the option can be applied on the management unit considering ecological and economic constraints (e.g., silviculture program budgets).</p>	N/A B / 3.15.1

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#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
28	<p>Forest Sustainability Determination of long-term forest health during plan production</p>	<p>A / 1.2.5 B / 3.7.3</p>	<p>To further support planning teams, provide for consistency in the preparation of a FMP and meet planning documentation requirements reflective of spatially explicit FMPs, revise the FMPM to state that the preliminary determination of sustainability during the preparation of the FMP is conducted during the development of the management direction for the FMP (Part A, Section 1.2.5.3). This preliminary determination will provide an indication that the management direction supports the assessment of objective achievement.</p> <p>Add that the assessment of objective achievement will consider and document the collective achievement of objectives including spatial indicators, the social and economic assessment, and the risks to implementing the proposed management direction.</p> <p>See item #30 below for a description of the proposed replacement of the term “Long-Term Management Direction” with the term “management direction”.</p>	<p>A / 1.2.5 B / 3.9</p>

<p>29</p>	<p>Developing Management Objectives The CFSA requires management objectives in a FMP to be compatible with the sustainability of the Crown forest (section 68 (3)(c)); and indicators of objective achievement to be identified (section 68 (3)(d)).</p>	<p>A / 1.2.5.1 B / 3.5 E / 3.5</p>	<p>Rename section Management Objectives, Indicators, and Timing of Assessment.</p> <p>Remove Figure A-3 and update and incorporate applicable portions within FMPM Section 1.2.5.1 to improve accessibility (i.e., address Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act requirements). Restructure objectives under the four CFSA categories: Social and Economic, Forest Diversity, Silviculture, and Ecological Sustainability and include indicator intent and timing of assessment for all mandatory indicators to support consistent application when preparing a FMP. Revise the CFSA objective indicators to ensure they are both measurable and effective.</p> <p>Add text to clarify that the planning team may develop additional local level objectives to address identified interests (e.g., climate change, forest certification) in the management of the forest. Clarified that local level objectives and associated indicators will be within the scope of the FMPM.</p> <p>Rename management zone section to “Spatial Management Zones” and clarified their purpose.</p> <p>Revise the setting of desired levels section to provide clarity and define scoping investigations.</p> <p>Update harvest eligibility criteria considerations to include new criteria (e.g., basal area, height and crown closure in shelterwood and selection systems, low volume stands, wildland fire forest fuel risk), distinguish between economic and physical operability, and clarify that the plan author, with the assistance of the planning team will develop the criteria.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
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30	<p>Development of the Proposed Long-Term Management Direction</p>	<p>A / 1.2.5.2 B / 3.0 B / 4.0</p>	<p>To further support planning teams and provide for consistency in the preparation of a FMP and meet planning documentation requirements of spatially explicit FMPs (e.g., use of appropriate strategic, tactical, and operational planning terminology), rename and update Part A, Section 1.2.5.2 to Development of the Proposed Management Direction and the Preliminary Determination of Sustainability:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • revise the planning process to reflect the combining of stages Two (i.e., review of LTMD) and Three (i.e., review of proposed operations). The combining of these stages aligns with preparing spatially explicit FMPs. This will enable the integration of the strategic, tactical, and operational planning components resulting in a new Stage Two: Proposed Management Direction for the Forest Management Plan. • clarify that a target for an indicator is to be achieved within the period of the FMP (i.e., short term); • add that projected industrial wood requirements are to be considered when establishing the targets for each indicator. • add that the technical analysis conducted in the development of the strategic planning will be documented in the analysis package to remove duplication of discussion in FMP and analysis package; • update/restructured section and terminology (e.g., removed references to LTMD as well as Figure A-2 on page A-27) • add requirements on how strategic modelling outputs will be documented and who will conduct the strategic planning analysis; • change requirement to complete a spatial assessment of the “projected distribution of harvest over the first four terms” to a tactical planning requirement to identify a spatial harvest schedule (i.e., 40 years of harvest) which provides a 	<p>A / 1.2.5.2 B / 3.0 B / 3.0</p>
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#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
			<p>linkage between strategic planning and operational planning. Tactical planning will provide a foundation for operational planning and balancing the achievement of management objectives through the implementation of the FMP. The spatial harvest schedule will include the identification and portrayal of the proposed harvest areas for the 10-year period of the FMP. Also clarify that areas scheduled for the remaining three FMP periods (identified in the spatial harvest schedule) are preliminary and may be revisited due to factors including new values information, natural disturbances, and results of consultation;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • remove existing available harvest area, preferred and optional harvest area, and spatial assessment sections. The spatial analysis of harvest area will provide for a planned harvest area (i.e., solution) which will be the regulated harvest level; and • add that when completing the required social and economic assessment, a qualitative analysis will be prepared using the information in the social and economic description. Where there is a difference of 10% in the short-term harvest volume from the previous FMP, a quantitative assessment will be required using a social and economic model. 	
31	Preliminary Determination of Sustainability	A / 1.2.5.3	Update section and terminology to reflect a four-stage planning process to support modernization (e.g., requirement for spatially explicit forest analyses)	N/A

<p>32</p>	<p>Primary Road Corridors Planning requirements for new primary road corridors which are required for forest management purposes for a 20-year horizon, including extensions to primary roads.</p> <p>The planning requirements involve the consideration and environmental analysis of a reasonable range of practical alternative one-kilometre-wide corridors.</p>	<p>A / 1.2.6</p>	<p>To reduce footprint on landscape (i.e., limit loss of productive land by anthropogenic disturbances) and enhance the opportunity to use historical road information enable the opportunity to use existing roads and/or roadbeds. Environmental analysis and identification and portrayal of a one-kilometre-wide corridor will continue to be required; however; the requirement to identify alternative corridors will not be required as the road and/or roadbed is already established. (i.e., enabled opportunity to use historical road information).</p> <p>Add that when identifying alternative corridors, the spatial harvest schedule as well as potential road and/or road networks identified by spatial analyses may be considered.</p> <p>Add if a new primary road required for forest management purposes must traverse a railway, the Grade Crossings regulations under the federal Railway Safety Act (1985) will apply. Statement added to support the December 2021 amended safety requirements under the Grade Crossing Regulations (December 17, 2014), pursuant to the Railway Safety Act.</p> <p>Relocate the checkpoint related to support for proposed long term management direction, determination of sustainability and primary road corridors to follow operational planning. New “CHECKPOINT FIVE – REGIONAL DIRECTOR SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSED MANAGEMENT DIRECTION, PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION OF SUSTAINABILITY AND PROPOSED OPERATIONS” will confirm support by the Ministry for the information and products associated with the management direction, the preliminary determination of sustainability and the proposed operations developed in Part A, Section 1.2.1. to 1.2.13</p>	<p>N/A</p>
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Proposed revisions to the Forest Management Planning Manual, Forest Information Manual and Scaling Manual

#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
33	<p>Summary of the Proposed Long-Term Management Direction A summary will be produced to assist in the public review of the LTMD.</p>	A / 1.2.7	Relocate this section to follow section 1.2.13 Expenditures and update section title to reflect new planning process structure and terminology. Add requirements which differentiate between FMP text and information products requirements.	A / 1.2.13
34	<p>Harvest Area The planned harvest areas for the 10-year period will be identified.</p>	A / 1.3.1.1 A / 1.3.3.2 E / 2.0	<p>Rename section “Selection of Planned Harvest Areas” and clarify that harvest areas will be identified for each plan forest unit and that it will be consistent with the spatial harvest schedule for the first four FMP periods (i.e., 40-years). Also clarify that in the selection of planned harvest areas further analysis and modeling may be required to balance the achievement of management objectives.</p> <p>Remove preferred, optional, and available harvest area terms and replace with single term “planned harvest area”.</p> <p>Add additional requirements to allow for potential for commercial thinning and harvesting of low volume stands.</p> <p>Identify that both salvage harvest and harvest of low volume stands will be additional to the planned harvest area.</p>	A / 1.2.7.1
35	<p>Contingency Area Contingency operations will be identified to assist in the completion of harvest areas from the current approved FMP in the new FMP.</p>	A / 1.3.3.2	Add that sufficient contingency area will be selected from term two (i.e., 20–30-year period) of the spatial harvest schedule areas. Add that the planning term will consider harvest eligibility criteria (e.g., maturity of forest stands) as well as availability (e.g., ease of access, non-contentious).	A / 1.2.7.2
36	<p>Renewal and Tending Areas Renewal and tending area will be identified.</p>	A / 1.3.3.3 B / 4.4.1	Updated section with use of modern terminology.	A / 1.2.7.3 B / 3.15

Proposed revisions to the Forest Management Planning Manual, Forest Information Manual and Scaling Manual

#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
37	<p>Bridging Area Bridging operations will be identified to assist in the completion of harvest areas from the current approved FMP in the new FMP.</p>	<p>A / 1.3.4.1 B / 4.3.3 D / 3.2 E / 3.1</p>	<p>Add additional text to clarify that the amount, location, and timing of bridging operations will be determined based on the consideration of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • timeframes to complete planned harvest areas (e.g., adjacency to other harvest areas, selection or shelterwood systems, dynamic caribou habitat schedules); • direction in the FMP for strategic or operational management zones, or large landscape patches; • identified values (i.e., cultural, social, economic, environmental); and • requirements set out in site specific strategies. In specific areas, (i.e., those with use management strategies (e.g., species at risk, remote tourism)), bridging operations should be prioritized for completion. <p>Add a requirement for FMP to identify the estimated volume associated with bridging. Currently bridging volume is not accounted for in available wood reports used by the Ministry.</p> <p>Clarify that bridging areas identified in the AWS will contribute to the three years of the average annual planned harvest area that may be submitted in an AWS.</p> <p>Clarify that salvage operations may be identified in the AWS in addition to the three years of the average annual planned harvest area and bridging area to facilitate the implementation of salvage harvest operations and avoid waste of merchantable wood.</p>	<p>A / 1.2.8.1 B / 3.14.2</p>

Proposed revisions to the Forest Management Planning Manual, Forest Information Manual and Scaling Manual

#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
38	Operational Prescriptions and Conditions for Areas of Concern	A / 1.3.5.1	For bridging areas and second-pass harvest areas, clarify that the planning team will determine if the operational prescriptions and conditions for areas of concern from the current approved FMP will be used or if the operational prescriptions and conditions for areas of concern for the new FMP will be used.	A / 1.2.9.1
39	Prescriptions for Harvest, Renewal, and Tending Areas For harvest, renewal, and tending areas, SGRs will be developed (Part A, Section 1.2.4.4), conditions on regular operations will be identified, and any requirements for planned clearcuts will apply.	A / 1.3.5.2 B / 4.2.2	Add that the application of silviculture treatments for harvest, renewal and tending activities will be consistent with the applicable SGR. In addition to the public review, add and clarify that proposed operational prescriptions or conditions from another planning exercise will be made available for First Nation and Métis community involvement and consultation (Part A, Section 3.0). Revise to state that the FMP text will contain a statement that the prescriptions for harvest, renewal and tending presented in the silvicultural ground rules will also serve as the prescriptions for operations, for any harvest in low volume stands.	A / 1.2.9.2 B / 3.13.3.1
40	Important Ecological Features Conditions applied in areas of harvest, renewal and tending operations to maintain or protect ecological features or to implement other guidelines and standard not addressed by operational prescriptions or conditions for areas of concern	A / 1.3.5.3	Update section title to “Important Ecological Features and Other Standards and Guidelines” to capture of all conditions that may be prescribed.	A / 1.2.9.3

Proposed revisions to the Forest Management Planning Manual, Forest Information Manual and Scaling Manual

<p>41</p>	<p>Roads Planning requirements for new primary, branch, and operational roads.</p>	<p>A / 1.3.6 B / 4.5 D / 3.2</p>	<p>Add that in addition to be being based on public comments, primary and branch roads and their associated use management strategies will be finalized based on the spatial harvest schedule and First Nation and Métis community consultation at stage two). Planning teams will also be required to consider historical roads information when planning new roads.</p> <p>Add that each planned/confirmed primary/branch road corridor will be identified and the use management strategy for the road will be recorded in the FMP in accordance with FIM.</p> <p>To reduce footprint on landscape (i.e., limit loss of productive land by anthropogenetic disturbances) and enhance the opportunity to use historical road information and the opportunity to use existing roads and/or roadbeds, add that the requirement for identifying and rationalizing new primary, branch roads and operational road boundaries will not apply in circumstances where an existing roadbed will be used. The applicable one-kilometre road corridors or operational road boundary will be portrayed in the FMP to support First Nation and Métis community, and public consultation.</p> <p>Add that if a new branch road or operational road and or existing road is required for forest management purposes and must traverse a railway, the Grade Crossings regulations under the federal Railway Safety Act (1985), as amended from time to time, will apply and the rationale for such a crossing will be provided in the FMP text.</p> <p>Revise existing road definition (consistent with roads inventory) as it relates to documentation requirements within the FMP.</p>	<p>A / 1.2.10 B / 3.16</p>
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Proposed revisions to the Forest Management Planning Manual, Forest Information Manual and Scaling Manual

#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
			<p>For bridging areas, add that the planning team will determine whether the road corridor planning and planning of operational roads from the current approved FMP or the road corridor planning and planning of operational roads in the new FMP will apply.</p> <p>Add requirement that roads scheduled to be decommissioned, transferred, or have access controls established will be submitted in the AWS in accordance with FIM.</p>	

<p>42</p>	<p>Use Management Strategies For each road or road network, maintenance, monitoring, access provisions, and future road use intent (i.e., what happens to road after forest operations are completed) are all described in road use management strategies.</p>	<p>A / 1.3.6.7 N/A N/A</p>	<p>Add criteria when a use management strategy will be required (i.e., only for roads to be used during the time of the plan) and further outline specific components of a use management strategy including activities which may occur prior to the transfer of road responsibility, and what the Ministry’s intent is with the road (i.e., maintain or not maintain the road).</p> <p>Add that only roads intended to have their responsibility transferred during the 10-year period of the FMP will be documented in the FMP.</p> <p>Add road decommissioning sections in Part A and Part B which outline requirements for the Ministry and the sustainable forest licensee to determine and agree on the approach for road decommissioning on the management unit (e.g., application of specific conditions or arrangements). Add factors which both the Ministry and sustainable forest licensee are to consider when planning decommissioning activities (e.g., management objectives, identified values, Ministry guides, results of consultation). First Nation and Métis community, and public consultation on this approach will occur through the planning process.</p> <p>Add specific direction which allows operational roads and/or road networks to be deemed decommissioned and/or returned to productive forest following the completion of forest operations without the need to complete a road responsibility transfer. Reporting of operational roads as decommissioned will be met through annual reporting requirements in accordance with FIM. The road transfer processes will focus on primary and branch roads as operational roads are defined as short term roads which normally</p>	<p>1.2.10.7 B / 3.16.7 B / 3.16.8</p>
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Proposed revisions to the Forest Management Planning Manual, Forest Information Manual and Scaling Manual

#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
			<p>receive a renewal treatment (e.g., planting) and are returned to productive land.</p> <p>Add that amendments to transfer primary and/or branch roads or road networks will be categorized as administrative unless other aspects of the use management strategy are also changed, or Ministry District Manager determines that the First Nation and Metis consultation is required.</p>	
43	<p>Wood Storage Yards Requirements for sites separated from the harvest block which maybe used for activities such as slashing, and sorting.</p>	A / 1.3.6.8	Add text to further define harvest location as it relates to wood storage yards that are “geographically separated from the harvest location” to provide clarity to forest practitioners. Geographically separated is intended to be outside the original harvest block.	A / 1.2.10.8
44	<p>Expenditures Requirements related to costs associated with renewal and maintenance operations.</p>	A / 1.3.8 B / 4.6	Add that expenditures will be identified based on the planned harvest areas.	A / 1.2.12 B / 3.17

45	Preparing for Stage Four – Preparation, Submission and Review of the Draft Forest Management Plan	A / 1.4	<p>Stage Four to be renamed Stage Three to reflect the new four-stage planning process. This revision supports modernization of the forest management planning process (e.g., requirement for spatially explicit forest analyses).</p> <p>Remove reference to “Title, Certification and Approval Page” to support modernization (i.e., movement to digital submissions). Designate individuals to sign products in a format prescribed by the FIM.</p> <p>Revise section to refer to consultation with First Nation and Métis communities in addition to the public (i.e., availability, review).</p> <p>The period for the Ministry’s review of the draft FMP and the concurrent consultation period of 60 days remains unchanged to allow for an adequate First nation and Métis community, and public review and input.</p> <p>Add that required alterations will be consistent with the Ministry’s legal obligations, such as the Ministry’s duty to consult and accommodate adverse impacts to asserted or established Aboriginal or treaty rights as well as requirements in the FMPM and/or other relevant policy direction (e.g., Crown land use direction) and other agreements or obligations (e.g., MNR agreements with Indigenous peoples).</p> <p>The determination of sustainability section will occur after Stage Three (draft plan) consultation instead of prior to Stage Three (draft plan).</p>	<p>A / 1.3</p> <p>A / 1.3.8</p>
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Proposed revisions to the Forest Management Planning Manual, Forest Information Manual and Scaling Manual

#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
		A / 1.3.11	Requirements added to address any deviation in planned types, level, and spatial distribution of operations based on the review of the draft FMP. The final determination of sustainability will be submitted with the final FMP for approval by the Ministry's Regional Director at Stage Four.	
46	Preparing for Stage Five – Revision and Approval of the Draft Forest Management Plan	A / 1.5	<p>Stage Five now becomes Stage Four to reflect a four-stage planning process. A four-stage process supports modernization of the forest management planning process (e.g., requirement for spatially explicit forest analyses). See previous item #45 above.</p> <p>Remove reference to “Title, Certification and Approval Page” to support modernization (i.e., movement to digital submissions). Designated individuals will sign products in a format prescribed by the FIM.</p> <p>Revise section to note both First Nation and Métis communities in addition to the public (i.e., availability, review).</p>	A / 1.4
47	N/A	N/A	Add new section After Action Review for the Preparation of the FMP which will ensure opportunities for improvements to future planning exercises are documented for consideration.	A / 1.6

Proposed revisions to the Forest Management Planning Manual, Forest Information Manual and Scaling Manual

#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
48	<p>Public Consultation Stage One – Invitation to Participate Requirements for the initial public notice inviting the public to participate in the development of a FMP.</p>	A / 2.3.3.1	<p>To reduce duplication of requirements, remove reference to the following information to be available at Ministry office(s) and the office of the sustainable forest licensee at time of public notice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of the methodologies used for data collection • Request for the public to provide any additional information relating to values and ecological features • List of sources used to update planning inventory • Provincial level reports (e.g., State of the Forest Reports) • List of MNRF’s forest management guides • Information on how to get involved in forest management planning <p>This information is provided through other means during the planning process (e.g., FMP text, Ontario.ca)</p>	N/A

Proposed revisions to the Forest Management Planning Manual, Forest Information Manual and Scaling Manual

#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
49	<p>Public Consultation Stage Two – Review of Long-Term Management Direction Requirements for the public notice which invites the public to review the proposed LTMD.</p>	A / 2.3.3.2	<p>Revise sections A / 2.3.3.2 and A / 2.3.3.3 to reflect a combined previous Stage Two (Review of LTMD) and Stage Three (Review of Proposed Operations). The combining of these two stages enables the integration of strategic, tactical, and operational planning. This combined stage is entitled Stage Two: Review of Proposed Management Direction for the Forest Management Plan.</p> <p>A summary of public comments to date (i.e., prior to Stage Two) will not be required to be made available until after Stage Two due to the early stage of FMP preparation.</p> <p>Revise the public notice for this new Stage Two to indicate that information will be available for review and comment for a 60-day period after the information forum. This review period has been increased to 60 days from 45 days to allow for an adequate First Nation and Métis community, and public review and input given the amount and complexity of information and anticipated higher public interest at this stage.</p>	A / 2.3.3.2
50	<p>Stage Three – Review of Proposed Operations Requirements for the public notice which invites the public to an information forum to review and comment on planned operations for the 10-year period</p>	A / 2.3.3.3	See item #49 proposed revision and rationale above.	N/A

Proposed revisions to the Forest Management Planning Manual, Forest Information Manual and Scaling Manual

#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
51	<p>Public Consultation Stage Four – Review of Draft Forest Management Plan Requirements for the public notice which invites the public to an information forum to review and comment on the Draft FMP.</p>	A / 2.3.3.4	<p>Revise this stage to Stage Three – Review of Draft Forest Management Plan to support modernization of the planning process and enable the integration of strategic, tactical, and operational planning by using spatially explicit forest analyses.</p> <p>To reflect modern engagement approaches, enable the planning team and LCC to determine if an in-person public information forum is appropriate at this stage considering public and stakeholder participation to date, and whether any issues with the management direction were identified. Information will continue to be provided on the Natural Resources Information Portal to support consultation efforts.</p> <p>The period for the Ministry’s review of the draft FMP and the concurrent consultation period of 60 days remains unchanged to allow for an adequate First Nation and Métis community, and public review and input.</p> <p>Add additional text to clarify the location where the information will be available (e.g., appropriate MNRF office and SFL office) in addition to being available on the Ontario Government website.</p> <p>The requirement to provide both English and French versions of the FMP summary upon request at this stage to be removed to support the Ministry’s digital first approach (i.e., information will be available online through the Natural Resources Information Portal).</p>	A 2.3.3.3

Proposed revisions to the Forest Management Planning Manual, Forest Information Manual and Scaling Manual

#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
52	<p>Public Consultation Stage Five – Inspection of Approved Forest Management Plan Requirements for the public notice which advises the public that the FMP has been approved.</p>	A / 2.3.3.5	This stage to be revised to Stage Four – Inspection of the Ministry Approved Forest Management Plan to support modernization of the planning process and enable the integration of strategic, tactical, and operational planning by using spatially explicit forest analyses.	A / 2.3.3.4
53	<p>Public Consultation Availability of the Approved Forest Management Plan</p>	A / 2.3.3.6	The requirement to provide both English and French versions of the FMP summary upon request at this stage to be removed to support the Ministry’s digital first approach (i.e., information will be available online through the Natural Resources Information Portal).	A / 2.3.3.5
54	<p>Issue Resolution</p>	A / 2.4	Update section terminology including Figure A-4 to reflect a four-stage planning process to support modernization of the planning process (e.g., requirement for spatially explicit forest analyses).	N/A
55	<p>First Nation and Métis Community Involvement and Consultation</p>	A / 3.0 B / 3.4	<p>Update section to reflect a four-stage planning process to support modernization of the planning process (e.g., requirement for spatially explicit forest analyses).</p> <p>Add that the Summary of First Nation and Métis Involvement will include a summary of their participation in the desired forest and benefits meeting.</p>	N/A
56	N/A	N/A	Add new/additional Section 4.0 Small-Scale Community-Based Forest Management Plans in Ontario’s Far North to enable for the implementation of small-scale forestry initiatives in the Far North.	A / 4.0

Proposed revisions to the Forest Management Planning Manual, Forest Information Manual and Scaling Manual

#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
57	Forest Management Plan Content - Introduction	B / Forward C / 1.0 D / 1.0 E / 1.0	Add statement to facilitate the documentation requirements for small-scale community-based forest management plans in the Far North. Remove reference to “Title, Certification and Approval Page” to support modernization (i.e., movement to digital submissions). Designated individuals will sign products in a format prescribed by the FIM	N/A
58	Forest Classification Forest units, analysis units and forest landscape classes on the management unit will be documented as part of the management unit description.	B / 2.1.3	Revise section to further describe and differentiate the various classifications used as part of the management unit description. Include requirement for planning teams to describe landscape guide forest units in the FMP to assess landscape guide indicators.	N/A
59	Forest Resources Inventories and information for Species at Risk, Fish and Wildlife Inventories, and values information will be documented as part of the management unit description.	B / 2.1.4	To support the protection of species at risk, add text to clarify that the publication of information products for species at risk values may be detrimental to their conservation, in which case the information will not normally be publicly available.	N/A

Proposed revisions to the Forest Management Planning Manual, Forest Information Manual and Scaling Manual

#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
60	Development of the Long-Term Management Direction	B / 3.7	<p>Section to be revised and restructured to reflect modernization of the planning process and enable the integration of strategic, tactical, and operational planning (i.e., previous Part B subheading terminology to be revised to Strategic Planning (Section 3.7), Tactical Planning (3.8), and Operation Planning (Section 3.13).</p> <p>For tactical planning, add that FMP text will describe the spatial harvest schedule for the first four FMP periods (i.e., 40 years) for each plan forest unit, and the spatial distribution of harvest over the first four FMP periods (i.e., 40 years). The FMP will discuss the criteria, and tactical strategies (e.g., identification of compartments, access strategies, ecological or social pressures) used for the selection of harvest areas for the first four FMP periods and discuss any associated management implications.</p>	<p>B / 3.7 B / 3.8 B / 3.9 B / 3.10 B / 3.12</p>
61	<p>Silvicultural Ground Rules Silviculture ground rules developed for the applicable forest units – ecosite combinations will be documented in the FMPM.</p>	B / 4.2.2.1	Update terminology in section and add the requirement for FMP text to contain a statement that prescriptions for harvest, renewal and tending presented in the SGR will also serve as the prescriptions for operations in low volume stands.	B / 3.13.3.1

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#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
62	<p>Harvest Areas Requirements for planned harvest operations.</p>	B / 4.3.1	<p>Section to be revised reflect modernization of the planning process. Revisions include that the FMP text will contain a description of the criteria used for the selection of the planned areas for harvest for the 10-year period of the FMP (Part A, Section 1.2.5.2). The text will document how the planned harvest areas reflect the management direction the FMP and discuss the importance of each criterion and its role in selecting the planned areas for harvest.</p> <p>The planned harvest area by plan forest unit for the 10-year period will be selected from the spatial harvest schedule. The planned harvest area by plan forest unit for the 10-year period will be identified and portrayed in accordance with the FIM.</p> <p>Add requirement for the FMP text to describe how any minor deviations between planned harvest areas and actual forest stand boundaries (e.g., due to natural features or other features such as roads, and previous depletions) identified for harvest will be addressed.</p> <p>To align with the new Personal Use Harvest regulation, remove requirement for FMP text to include a statement that locations where fuelwood can be obtained will be identified in the AWS.</p>	B / 3.14.1

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#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
63	Completion of On-going Harvest Operations from Previous Plan Requirements for the planning of bridging and second-pass harvest operations	B / 4.3.3	Add requirement for FMP text to identify and describe the level of harvest area for bridging by plan forest unit, identify and rationalize the timeframe for completion, identify the estimated volume associated with the bridging areas and discuss any implications to identified values, achievement of management objectives, spatial management areas, or large landscape patch direction, and also identify operational prescriptions and conditions, silvicultural ground rules, road corridor planning and operational roads from the current FMP or new FMP will be applied.	B / 3.14.2
64	Harvest Volume Requirements for the identifying harvest volumes in the FMP	B / 4.3.5	Remove term “Available” harvest volume ensuring a single term “planned” harvest area is used.	B / 3.14.3
65	Wood Utilization Requirements related to anticipated wood utilization of the planned harvest volume	B / 4.3.6	Add requirement to discuss sources of reasons for and strategies to address unutilized volumes.	B / 3.14.4
66	Salvage Requirements related to planned salvage operations	B / 4.3.7	Rename section Salvage and Harvest of Low Volume Stands	B / 3.14.5
		B / 4.7.3	Add requirements for the documentation of the harvest of low volume stands to support the utilization of low volume stands and increase the volume/or quality of timber over the long term.	B / 3.18.3
67	Contingency Area and Volume Requirements related to Contingency Areas	B / 4.3.8	Add that the FMP text will identify how the harvest eligibility criteria (e.g., maturity of forest stands) was considered when identifying contingency areas.	B / 3.14.6

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#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
68	<p>Determination of Sustainability Requirements related to how the FMP contain a conclusion on forest sustainability</p>	<p>B / 5.0 E / 3.6</p>	<p>Clarify that the conclusion on forest sustainability will include the spatial assessments on the planned harvest area and clarify the documentation requirements for economic feasibility of the spatial harvest schedule as well as the assessment of landscape pattern objectives.</p> <p>Add that if applicable, where there was a deviation in planned types, levels, and spatial distribution of operations based on the review of the draft FMP, the FMP text will discuss the implications (if any) on objective achievement and the determination of sustainability.</p> <p>Revised enhanced reporting requirement to conclude whether the implementation of the FMP has provided for the sustainability of the forest to be completed for final annual report and not at year six.</p>	<p>B / 4.0 N/A</p>

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#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
69	<p>Forest Management Plan Amendments Process requirements for the MNR district manager to decide if the preparation of a requested amendment should proceed and the appropriate categorization of the amendment.</p>	C / 2.0	<p>Update and revise section to reflect modernization of the planning process (e.g., management direction terminology) including the removal of section 2.3 Amendment to the Long-Term Management Direction and 2.5 Deemed Amendments.</p> <p>Identify that requested amendments related to the completion of operations from the previous FMP (e.g., forwarding of unscaled or stranded timber to roadside), transfer of road responsibility (e.g., only if no change in road use management strategy), and advanced road construction (e.g., minor realignment or adjustments to protect values which were previously consulted on) will be categorized as administrative.</p> <p>Clarify that the MNR district manager will include rationale when providing a decision on amendment categorization.</p>	N/A
70	<p>Contingency Plans Process requirements for the completion of contingency plans due to circumstances affecting FMP implementation.</p>	C / 3.0	Update and revised section to reflect modernization of the planning process (i.e., management direction terminology).	N/A

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#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
71	<p>Forest Management Plan Extensions Requirements for extending the period of the current approved FMP</p>	<p>C / 5.0 C / 6.0 C / 7.6</p>	<p>Update and revise sections to reflect modernization of the planning process (i.e., management direction terminology) including the removal of references to section 6.4 & 7.4 Amendment to the Long-Term Management Direction.</p> <p>Increased flexibility by adding an additional type of extension (i.e., medium term) and providing clarification regarding the period for each of the three types of plan extensions. Also, add requirements for notification and consultation with medium term extensions.</p> <p>For medium and long-term extensions, only require a direct written notice to persons who are known to be directly affected by the planned operations to be implemented during the FMP extension. Direct written notice will be provided to all First Nation and Metis communities that are “in or adjacent” to the Management Unit.</p>	N/A
72	<p>Annual Work Schedule Identifies operations that are scheduled for implementation during the year. An AWS is submitted to the MNR for the management unit before any access, harvest, renewal, and maintenance (i.e., tending and protection) operations may proceed in the year, and is consistent with the FMP.</p>	D / 3.0	<p>Clarify that an AWS period may be less than one year in circumstances where there is a delay in the approval of a FMP, or where a short-term contingency plan or a short or medium term extension is being implemented.</p> <p>Add that the Ministry will have the opportunity to review the AWS for completeness and accuracy. If a review is completed, a list of required modifications, and rationale for those modifications will be prepared and provided to plan author within 30 days of receipt of the AWS. The plan author will consider the required modifications and ensure the AWS is consistent with the FMP.</p>	N/A

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#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
73	Incorrectly Identified Values Requirements to address implementation circumstances arising when a value in an area of operations may be different than the portrayed value identified in the FMP.	D / 3.5.3.4	Clarify that although an amendment will not be required for incorrectly identified values, the necessary documentation for the change will be provided to the Ministry.	N/A
74	Water Crossings – Changes to Crossing Conditions, Locations, or Structures Requirements for unexpected water crossing changes found during implementation	D / 3.5.4.1	Increase flexibility during implementation by not requiring a revision where minor changes (i.e., change in culvert size) to water crossing construction conditions are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consistent with the FMP or the change to the water crossing structure follows a standard included in the FMP, and • the district manager has determined the revision will not impact asserted or established Aboriginal or treaty rights, and whether further consultation with the First Nation and Métis communities or changes are not required. The necessary documentation will still be required to be provided to the Ministry, as per Part D, Section 3.5.5.	N/A
75	Non-Water Crossings Requirements for unexpected crossings of AOC's found during implementation	D / 3.5.4.2	Increase flexibility during implementation by not requiring a revision where the change to the condition on construction of either a road, landing, or forestry aggregate pit is consistent with the FMP and the district manager has determined the revision will not impact asserted or established Aboriginal or treaty rights, and whether further consultation with the First Nation and Métis communities or changes are not required. The necessary documentation will still be required to be provided to the Ministry, as per Part D, Section 3.5.5.	N/A
76	Public Consultation Requirements for AWS public notices	D / 7.2	To align with the new Personal Use Harvest regulation, remove requirement to indicate opportunities for fuelwood on the AWS notice. To support modernization the requirement to indicate opportunities for tree planting jobs on the AWS notice will be removed as information is already publicly available.	N/A

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#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
77	<p>Aerial Herbicide and Insecticide Projects, and Road Maintenance Herbicide Application Public consultation requirements for public notices associated with aerial herbicide or insecticide projects.</p>	D / 7.4	<p>Distinguish between requirements for public notices for aerial herbicide and insecticide projects, and road maintenance herbicide application.</p> <p>To ensure the appropriate stakeholders are contacted during aerial application of herbicide or insecticide projects, change direct written notice requirements from 1 kilometre to a 500-metre distance. Public notice requirements related to posted notices (e.g., Natural Resources Information Portal) and media notices (e.g., social media) and advising First Nation and Métis communities and public remain in place. Analysis has determined ninety percent of tending occurs over 5 kilometres from any private land. Change is being proposed at this time due to availability of personal information and technological advancements in application equipment over the past 20-years.</p>	N/A
78	<p>Submission of Annual Work Schedule First Nation and Métis community consultation requirements associated with annual work schedules.</p>	D / 8.2.1	<p>Add additional text to clarify that the Summary of First Nation and Métis involvement in the AWS will also be provided to the First Nation and Métis communities at the same time it is provided to the MNRF.</p> <p>Add that the district manager will determine (normally within seven days of submission of the summary) if any revisions to, or resubmission of the AWS is required, if in his/her opinion those revisions are required to accommodate impacts to asserted or established Aboriginal or treaty rights; and that the district manager will notify both the sustainable forest licensee and First Nation and Métis communities if a revision to and resubmission of the AWS is required.</p>	N/A

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#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
79	<p>Revisions to AWS First Nation and Métis community consultation requirements associated with revisions to annual work schedules.</p>	D / 8.2.2	<p>Add that First Nation and Métis communities will be provided an opportunity to review and comment on revisions where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MNRF determines that the proposed revision may impact asserted or established Aboriginal or treaty rights based on information provided by First Nation and Métis communities; and • To ensure there are no new First Nation and Métis values that may be affected by the forest operations identified in the revision. <p>Add additional text that if applicable, within seven days of submission of a proposed revision, the district manager will consider the potential impacts to asserted or existing Aboriginal and treaty rights based on information provided by First Nation and Métis communities when and determining how much time First Nation and Métis communities will be provided to review the proposed revision.</p> <p>Add additional text that where applicable, within seven days following the opportunity to review the proposed revision by the First Nation and Métis communities, the district manager will determine if the revision may impact asserted or established Aboriginal or treaty rights, and whether further consultation with the First Nation and Métis communities or changes to the proposed revision are required.</p>	N/A
80	<p>Prescribed Burns First Nation and Métis community consultation requirements associated with prescribed burns.</p>	D / 8.3	<p>Add that First Nation and Métis communities will be provided an opportunity to view the prescribed burn plan before its approval. This requirement was originally in Part D, Section 4.0.</p>	N/A

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#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
81	<p>Annual Reports Requirements for reporting on completed operations.</p>	<p>E / 1.0 E / 2.1.3</p>	<p>Add that the yearly management unit annual reporting requirements will be updated to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • that annual reports will be submitted by the sustainable forest licensee; • any minor deviations between the planned harvest area and actual harvest boundaries; and • a discussion on estimated volumes that were associated with harvested bridging area from the previous FMP. 	N/A

82	<p>Enhanced Management Unit Annual Reports Requirements for the preparation of year five management unit annual reports.</p>	<p>A / 1.1.8.4 E / 3.0 E / 4.0 F / 5.0</p>	<p>Add or revise requirements for the submission of enhanced management unit annual reports including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revise that the submission of the year five enhanced management unit annual report requirements will now be submitted in year six of FMP implementation. This change will allow for more data to be considered for assessing trends and identifying recommendations and conclusions for the development of the next FMP. • Add that the year six annual report will include an assessment, analysis, and review of the implementation of the first six years of the FMP (i.e., operational objectives and trends information). • Add that the assessment of the achievement of management objectives for the long-term harvest level indicators, forest diversity indicators, and forest cover indicators of the FMP will be documented in the final year annual report and will be supported through the modeling and analysis of planned and actual levels of forest operations for the period of the FMP. • Further explain which requirements will be completed for year six annual report (e.g., review of modeling assumptions) versus the final annual report (e.g., analysis of forest disturbances). • Add that the overall achievement of objectives will be documented in the final annual report and will consider information from the year six (i.e., operational objectives and trends information) and the full implementation of the FMP • Add that for the year six and final year annual reports the trends analysis information and the associated analysis and assessment documentation will be submitted as a separate 	N/A
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#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
			<p>information product from annual information to assist with meeting provincial reporting requirements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add “if applicable” regarding annual report including information on the amount of wildlife habitat for the current FMP. • Remove the requirement to complete an analysis of forest disturbance at year six and in its place add a final year annual report requirement to describe document any implications of the area harvested and new natural disturbances on the achievement of the targets and objectives for landscape pattern so that it can be considered for future planning • Update terminology within this section by replacing terms performance and silviculture activities with establishment and silviculture outcomes. • Remove requirement to discuss planned vs. target yields in annual report. Annual report will now be required to discuss planned vs. actual silvicultural strata (i.e., forest unit and yield combination) <p>Remove reference to “Title, Certification and Approval Page” to support modernization (i.e., movement to digital title pages as prescribed in FIM).</p>	
83	Management Unit Specific Direction	F	Revise sections to reflect modernization of planning process and movement to spatially explicit forest estate models (i.e., management direction terminology).	N/A
84	Operational Standards for Forestry Aggregate Pits Forestry aggregate pits will be operated in accordance with the operational standards specified in the approved FMP.	Appendices	Define an inactive forestry aggregate pit as one where equipment has been removed from the site. When forestry aggregate pits are inactive, pit faces must be sloped at the angle of repose.	N/A

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#	Current FMPM Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
85	Glossary of Terms	Glossary	<p>Update the Glossary of Terms to ensure consistency with current terminology (i.e., asset, forest, harvest area) and support modernization of the planning process and movement to spatially explicit forest estate models (i.e., management direction terminology and spatial analyses terminology).</p> <p>Add low volume stand definition to glossary to support the harvesting of low volume stands.</p> <p>Add management standard definition to glossary to support planning and implementation in the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Forest Region.</p> <p>For wood storage yards, add that harvesting location refers to the area outside of the original active harvest block.</p>	N/A

6.2. Forest Information Manual (FIM)

#	Current Forest Information Manual Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
1	N/A	N/A	Add a land acknowledgment at the beginning of the FIM.	Forward
2	Ministry References Identification of ministries that are involved in forest management planning, and insect pest management programs.	All	Update the FIM to reference the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry as “the ministry” throughout.	N/A

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#	Current Forest Information Manual Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
3	First Nation and Métis involvement and consultation Requirements to involve and consult First Nation and Métis communities in forest management planning.	All	Revise the positioning of references to First Nation and Métis involvement and consultation in the FIM.	N/A
4	Transitioning from FI Portal and eFMP website to the Natural Resource Information Portal (NRIP)	Introduction	Decommissioning of FI Portal and eFMP website was completed. Removed this reference <i>“The current information management systems referred to as the Forest Information Portal (FI Portal) and Electronic Forest Management Planning (eFMP) Website are approaching end of life. There may be a transition period where both information management systems will be used for data sharing and exchange among the MNRF, the forest industry, other stakeholders, the public, and First Nation and Métis communities until such time that the FI Portal and eFMP have been decommissioned.”</i>	N/A
5	Long Term Management Direction references	All	Align terminology previously associated with LTMD with FMPM new term management direction.	N/A
6	Planning composite Inventory, Base Model Inventory, Operational Planning Inventory references	Part B Section 5	Remove specific references to inventory products (PCI, BMI, OPI) and replaced with a generic reference to “planning inventory information” to provide flexibility in developing the FIM technical specifications. With the change to spatial analyses there may be a need to combine planning inventory products together or create some additional ones that support effective and efficient exchange of information.	N/A

6.3. Scaling Manual

#	Current Scaling Manual Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
1	N/A	N/A	Add a Land Acknowledgment at the beginning of the Scaling Manual.	Forward

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#	Current Scaling Manual Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
2	Cubic Method - Measuring Procedure	III / A.3	Add instructions for measuring diameters when Cats Eyes are encountered.	N/A
3	Cubic Method - Specifications for Grading Red Pine and White Pine	III / A.7	Add instructions for measuring the diameter of external rot and holes for grading purposes.	N/A
4	Stacked Wood Method	III / C.1	Revise text to exclude grade 1 red pine and grade 1 white pine from the list of species that may be measured using the stacked wood method.	N/A
5	Cube Grade Method - Grading Procedures	III / D.6	Add instructions for measuring the diameter of external rot and holes for grading purposes. Add instructions for measuring dry sound lesions and sap rot for grading purposes.	N/A
6	Crown Forest Sustainability Act (CFSA) References	II III / E.3 V / A V / G V / H V / I	Add references to sections of the CFSA under Part III.1 Permits (“Permit to Remove”) pertaining to the measurement of resources (CFSA Section 41(13)(1) and 41(13)(3)). Add references to sections of the CFSA under Part VII Remedies and Enforcement pertaining to permits (CFSA Section 64(1)(a) and 64(1)(b)). Add text to cover off the measurement and movement of Crown forest resources removed under a Permit to Remove.	N/A

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#	Current Scaling Manual Requirements (2020)	Current Part / Section	Proposed Revision and Rationale	New Part / Section
7	Sampling for Factors	V / K	Revise text to replace “stack measure” with “container measure” as follows: 3. Defect: Determination of a defect factor is required where Crown forest resources are mass or tree length scaled. Defect factors may be applied to container measure if approved by the Ministry’s Supervisor, Wood Measurement Section.	N/A
8	Information Collection and Management	V / L.3	To clarify, add the following text: <i>In the event of fire or other disaster in which harvested Crown forest resources are destroyed or rendered unfit for measurement, the Licensee will provide best available information.</i>	N/A
9	Standing Tree Method	III / F.4	Add text to allow the use of forest resources inventory information to estimate the volume of standing trees when approved by the Ministry's Supervisor, Wood Measurement Section.	N/A
10	Training and Licensing Requirements - Scaler’s Licence	IV / D	Extend the term of a scaler’s licence from 3 years to 5 years. Change the period to renew an expired scaler’s licence from 3 years to 1 year. Extend the requirement to complete a Standard Ministry Scaling Refresher Course from at least once every 3 years to once every 5 years.	N/A