

Monongahela National Forest

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| <p style="text-align: center;">Administrative Correction 18 August 22, 2011 Clarification for Road Density Guidelines 3016, 4135, and 6147</p> |
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Under the 2000 Planning Rule (36 CFR 219.31), the following administrative corrections and additions may be made at any time, are not plan amendments or revisions, and do not require public notice or the preparation of an environmental document under Forest Service NEPA procedures:

- (1) Corrections and updates of data and maps;
- (2) Updates to activity lists and schedules as required by § 219.30(d)(1)-(6);
- (3) Corrections of typographical errors or other non-substantive changes; and
- (4) Changes in monitoring methods other than those required in a monitoring strategy.

CORRECTIONS

Forest Plan Chapter III, page III-8

Guideline 3016: New road construction should not cause road density within the prescription area unit to exceed 1.0 per square mile for collector roads, or 4.0 miles per square mile for any combination of collector and local roads.

Change to: Construction of new classified roads should not cause road density within the prescription area unit to exceed 1.0 per square mile for collector roads, or 4.0 miles per square mile for any combination of collector and local roads.

Forest Plan Chapter III, page III-16

Guideline 4135, part a): New road construction should not cause road density within the prescription area unit to exceed 1.0 mile per square mile for collector roads, or 2.5 miles per square mile for any combination of collector and local roads.

Change to: Construction of **new classified roads** should not cause road density within the prescription area unit to exceed 1.0 mile per square mile for collector roads, or 4.0 miles per square mile for any combination of collector and local roads.

Forest Plan Chapter III, page III-33*

Guideline 6147, part a): New road construction should not cause road density within the prescription area unit to exceed 1.0 mile per square mile for collector roads, or 2.5 miles per square mile for any combination of collector and local roads.

Change to: Construction of **new classified roads** should not cause road density within the prescription area unit to exceed 1.0 mile per square mile for collector roads, or 2.5 miles per square mile for any combination of collector and local roads.

**Note:* This guideline was on page III-39 of the 2006 Forest Plan. However, because of Forest Plan correction #10, which eliminated the need for the 6 pages of Management Prescription 5.1 in Chapter III, this correction is now occurring on page III-33 the Plan.

Rationale for Change: The intent of the corrected guidelines is the same as the originals. These corrections clarify that only new construction of classified roads will count toward additional road density mileage within prescription area units. The Forest does not construct unclassified roads or “woods” roads. The Forest does on occasion construct temporary roads, but by definition these roads would be rehabilitated or obliterated after the project, they would only have temporary or short-term effects, and they would not be part of the long-term road transportation system.

This clarification would not result in a substantive change in the plan components. The changes are not substantive because they are simple clarifications. No substantive changes in Forest Plan outputs, services, and expectations are anticipated from this correction. No significant changes in management prescriptions or management direction are proposed.

Corrected pages III-8, III-16, and III-33 are attached.

| Management Direction for 3.0 – Vegetation Diversity Emphasis | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------------|---|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|-----|-----|----------|-----|-----|------------|-----|-----|
| Type | Number | Direction Description | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Guideline | 3008 | guidelines as to when mature trees should be harvested under the uneven-aged silvicultural system. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Forest Type</th> <th>Low Quality Site</th> <th>High Quality Site</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Hardwoods</td> <td>22”</td> <td>28”</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Conifers</td> <td>16”</td> <td>22”</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Oak - Pine</td> <td>20”</td> <td>24”</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | Forest Type | Low Quality Site | High Quality Site | Hardwoods | 22” | 28” | Conifers | 16” | 22” | Oak - Pine | 20” | 24” |
| | | Forest Type | Low Quality Site | High Quality Site | | | | | | | | | | |
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| Oak - Pine | 20” | 24” | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 2470 - Silvicultural Systems | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Guideline | 3009 | Use even-aged management when shade-intolerant vegetation is the species objective or when needed for accomplishing diversity objectives. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | <p>a) Clearcutting with reserve trees is the normal regeneration cutting method to achieve these objectives. Significant exceptions include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Shelterwood may be used when needed for regeneration of a particular species, or visual resource management objectives. 2) Deferred rotation (two-age) cutting may be used to retain large trees well into the next rotation. <p>b) Thinning is a normal practice, particularly on better quality sites.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Guideline | 3010 | Uneven-aged management should be used when shade-tolerant vegetation is the objective, or when needed to meet scenic integrity objectives. Group selection cuts should be limited to two acres or less. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2470 - Timber Stand Improvement and Reforestation | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Guideline | 3011 | Healthy trees should be retained in and around developed recreation areas. Timber stand improvement should favor long-lived trees with healthy crowns, flowering trees, vegetation for screening or other objectives of a site-specific vegetation management plan. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2630 – Wildlife Habitat | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Goal | 3012 | Maintain natural areas of standing water as wildlife watering sources. Create artificial water sources as needed in conjunction with other resource activities. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Objective | 3013 | Create up to 1,000 acres of wildlife openings over the next 10 years. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Guideline | 3014 | Conifer species may be planted or controlled where needed to enhance vegetative diversity for wildlife. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7100 - Transportation System Planning | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Goal | 3015 | Provide a road system adequate to manage the area for intensive timber operations. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Guideline | 3016 | Construction of new classified roads should not cause road density within the prescription area unit to exceed 1.0 mile per square mile for collector roads, or 4.0 miles per square mile for any combination of collector and local roads. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7730 – Transportation System Operation | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Guideline | 3017 | Public motorized vehicle access and use is compatible with this Management Prescription. | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| Management Direction for 4.1 - Spruce and Spruce-Hardwood Ecosystem Management | | |
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| Type | Number | Direction Description |
| Guideline | 4125 | Use 1/3 acre leave clumps around scattered residual overstory spruce trees and snags in even-age regeneration units to reduce windthrow potential. Leave clumps at the rate of one clump for each 5 to 8 acres regenerated. Channel buffers may be counted toward this requirement where their configuration allows them to serve both purposes. |
| Guideline | 4126 | TSI and site preparation work should favor spruce trees, shrubs beneficial to wildlife, vegetation for screening, and other objectives of a site-specific silvicultural prescription. |
| Guideline | 4127 | Cut all non-merchantable stems > 1" dbh during site preparation for natural regeneration activities except for leave clump trees, marked cull trees and snags, spruce and hemlock trees or other desirable advance regeneration, and shrubs beneficial to wildlife. |
| Guideline | 4128 | Vines in regeneration areas may be controlled when they threaten adequate stocking of desirable species in the new stand. Vines may be controlled with hand tools and/or herbicide. |
| 2430 - Other Than Commercial Sales | | |
| Standard | 4129 | Moss collection is prohibited except for research or scientific purposes. |
| Guideline | 4130 | Personal use or marked firewood sales may be cut anytime during the year along Forest roads open to the public. |
| 2630 – Wildlife Habitat | | |
| Guideline | 4131 | Maintain natural areas of standing water as wildlife watering sources. Artificial areas of standing water may be created in conjunction with other resource activities as the opportunity arises. |
| Guideline | 4132 | Roads intended for intermittent use should be revegetated between uses and typically managed as wildlife habitat. |
| 2700 – Special Uses | | |
| <i>See TEP Species Standard TE07 for restrictions on special use authorizations within WVNFS suitable habitat.</i> | | |
| 2800 – Minerals | | |
| <i>See TEP Species Standard TE66 for restrictions on federal gas development within WVNFS suitable habitat.</i> | | |
| 5100 – Fire | | |
| Guideline | 4133 | Prescribed fire use should be avoided in spruce restoration areas. |
| 7100 - Transportation System Planning | | |
| Objective | 4134 | Reduce open road density to 0.5 miles or below over the next 10 years in order to reduce impacts to soil and water resources and wildlife species of concern. |
| Guideline | 4135 | Road densities and impacts should be minimized to reduce disturbance in the area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Construction or new classified roads should not cause road density within the prescription area unit to exceed 1.0 mile per square mile for collector roads, or 2.5 miles per square mile for any combination of collector and local roads. b) New collector roads should generally be gated and maintained for recurring administrative use. c) New local roads should generally be closed between projects by physical barricades. Use should be intermittent. Public motorized use should generally not occur from April 15 to August 1 to reduce disturbance to wildlife. |

| Management Direction for 6.1 – Wildlife Habitat Emphasis | | |
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| Type | Number | Direction Description |
| Guideline | 6145 | During turkey and deer hunting season, motorized access to federal gas wells and pipelines should be avoided before 11 a.m. and after 3 p.m., except during construction phases or in out-of-the-ordinary maintenance situations. |
| 5100 – Fire | | |
| Objective | 6146 | Within oak ecosystems that can be restored, enhanced, or maintained, conduct an annual average of 1,000 to 1,500 acres of prescribed fire to help control species composition and stimulate oak regeneration. |
| 7100 - Transportation System Planning | | |
| Guideline | 6147 | Road densities and impacts should be minimized to reduce disturbance in the area. a) Construction or new classified roads should not cause road density within the prescription area unit to exceed 1.0 mile per square mile for collector roads, or 2.5 miles per square mile for any combination of collector and local roads. b) New collector roads should generally be gated and maintained for recurring administrative use. c) New local roads should generally be closed between projects by physical barricades. Use should be intermittent. Public motorized use should generally not occur from April 15 to August 1 to reduce disturbance to wildlife. See also Guideline 6119 and Standard 6125. |



Black Bear near Cranberry Glades