

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

Huron-Manistee N.F.'s

Truene

REPLY TO: 1920 Land and Resource Planning

June 17, 1980

SUBJECT: Mack Lake Fire Rehabilitation

TO: Management Team



At our June 9 and 10 meeting we discussed several approaches to planning the alternative objectives in the future management of the Mack Lake Fire Area. It was the consensus that a project ID Team should be appointed to take on this task.

I have decided that a Forest team is necessary to start things rolling immediately. We need to set up some of the monitoring studies now. Horace LaBumbard will be acting as the team leader with Bill Irvine, Tom Striker, Jim McCumber, and Dave Cleland as members.

I realize that this is an additional impact to all of the people involved, but it is necessary if we are going to redeem our responsibilities. The team will have to evaluate this impact and determine what trade-offs are necessary to accomplish this task. Some of you and your staff will be asked for assistance and assigned some specific tasks.

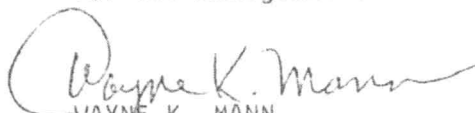
The charge to the team is to prepare an Environmental Assessment to determine the Management Objectives for the future. This will require the evaluation of several alternative land allocation mixes. Some thoughts raised at our recent meeting include:

1. What must (can) be done to reduce the future fire hazard in the area.
2. How will we manage the Critical Habitat for Kirtland's Warbler.
3. Future water supplies for wildlife and fire protection.
4. Aesthetics around Mack Lake, both on a short and long term basis.
5. Range potential - hay cropping and/or forage.
6. Total vegetative diversity.
7. Land adjustment.
8. Research Natural Area.
9. Transportation needs and public safety.
10. Corner monumentation.
11. Establishment of fuel breaks.

Monitoring efforts must be started soon in several areas. Some of these include:

1. Seed germination and establishment.
2. Precipitation.
3. Water quality.
4. Natural regeneration of all types.
5. Insect and/or disease buildup.
6. Soil nutrients.
7. Wildlife populations.

We anticipate the formation of a group of individuals to provide input to the Forest in the development of long range objectives for the management of this area. Details still must be worked out.


WAYNE K. MANN
Forest Supervisor



Irvine

Reply to: 1920 Land and Resource Planning

Date: December 8, 1980

Subject: Mack Lake Fire Rehabilitation Plan

To: Management Team

On November 21, 1980, Jim McCumber, Bill Irvine, Dave Cleland, Tom Striker, Ven Bosman, and Horace LaBumbard met in Cadillac to discuss the current status of the Mack Lake Fire Rehabilitation Team efforts and to plan future work activities.

Current Status

1. Salvage Sale - Ven is working with Dow Corning and a timber producer to evaluate various stand conditions to determine economic operability. Several sample one-acre plots will be harvested to gain needed information.
2. Soils Inventory - Dave has completed efforts for this fall and has covered 30-40% of the area. About 5 sections of additional survey work would be needed to satisfy our minimum requirements. Dave has gathered much valuable information which has to be assembled and analyzed.
3. Wildlife - Breeding bird surveys and deer track counts were set up on transects. Surveys will be continued.
4. Regeneration Survey - Plots were established and monitored throughout the summer. Natural regeneration of jack pine, oak and aspen is present throughout much of the area.

Future Work Areas

Specific areas of work were discussed and assignments made to individuals to coordinate these efforts. Some target dates were established.

- I. Determination of location of major fuel breaks
 - A. Tom Striker and Bill Irvine - 3/1/81
 - B. Items for Consideration
 1. Involvement of other disciplines
 2. Soils
 3. Current Critical Habitat
 4. Protection areas and priorities



II. Development of Interim Report

A. It was decided that a formal, written interim report showing the status of our efforts should be prepared as of January 1, 1981. The report must be completed as of that date.

B. Major Topics and Individual Responsible

1. Soil monitoring and survey - Dave Cleland
2. Regeneration - Jim McCumber
3. Wildlife Monitoring - Bill Irvine
4. Salvage Sales - Horace LaBumbard
5. Mack Lake:

Mike Solomon will be asked to prepare a section on the lake itself, covering his monitoring, the State of Michigan study, past history, etc.

III. Salvage Sale Operations for Energy

A. Ven Bosman and Horace LaBumbard will coordinate this work

B. Items for Consideration:

1. Land line location needs
2. Transportation needs
3. Assistance by detail
4. Contracts, etc.

IV. Aesthetics or Greenbelt Improvements - Ven Bosman and Horace LaBumbard

V. Additional Salvage through marketing of conventional products. There is the possibility of salvage in the aspen and other hardwood types. A point of concern is salvage of the oak types for fuelwood under free use and/or commercial sales.

VI. Intensive Regeneration Surveys

A. Jim McCumber will prepare instructions and coordinate efforts.

B. Items to consider:

1. Regeneration survey requirements under the National Forest Management Act

2. Hardwood surveys could be made in the spring of '81 by detailers
 3. Survey for jack pine regeneration should probably be delayed until 10/81
 4. This survey could pick up information on salvage possibilities
- VII. A. It was decided a standard map at 4" per mile would be used. A photo mosaic with a series of overlays would be used. Map and overlays needed by January 1, 1981.
- B. Overlays needed:
1. Pre-fire stand condition map showing stand numbers and type, size, density
 2. Current Critical Habitat for KW
 3. Current vegetation map showing areas where there was no crown fire.
 4. Ownership on mosaic base map
 5. Soil types
 6. Project progress map: aerial seeding, salvage sales, etc.

It was agreed that Ven would coordinate any publicity associated with harvesting of sample plots mentioned earlier. He would also see that tree data was taken prior to harvesting operations.

It was decided that a public meeting was needed to inform interested individuals of the progress the Forest Service has made in gathering information for future planning in the area. The meeting is scheduled for January 14 at the Community Center in Mio. Tom Striker and Ven Bosman will prepare notices for the media and a draft letter which will be sent to key individuals. The basic information to be presented at the meeting will come from the Interim Report discussed earlier. Ven Bosman will moderate the meeting (unless a change is decided upon later) with some members of the Revegetation Team serving as panel members and presenting major topics.

Tentative topics for presentation are:

1. Objective of the Revegetation Plan - LaBumbard
2. Fire history - LaBumbard
3. Integrated Pest Management (Insect and Disease Problems) - La Bumbard

