

Oak Point LIC Meeting
Dec 2, 2012

I. Blowdown Restoration Project Goals

In response to the damage caused by July 2, 2012 windstorm, the Forest has identified a number of activities that include salvaging wood products, reducing hazardous fuels, applying prescribed fire, regenerating sites, and maintaining areas of interest for Tribal uses.

A. What we are planning within the Ten Section area

- 1013 acres of harvest
 - 303 of coppice/clearcut harvest -- heavily damaged areas with most of the trees down
 - 710 acres of selection -- remove green trees that are damaged
- 1531 acres of fuels treatments
 - 967 acres of prescribed burning
 - 564 acres of pile and burning or mechanical treatments
- 11 acres of aspen converted to jack pine
- Acres of landscape burning (see Map 3)

Burn Unit	Burn Unit Acres	Acres in Ten Section
BD-3	463	103
PB-2	926	43
PB-3	354	276
PB-4	600	219
Total		641

- Burning would occur in late fall and take a couple of weeks for the whole complex to be burned. Some smoke lingering in the area for several days.
- Anticipate 3 burns. *over a 10 yr period*

B. What we have heard from meetings with IDRM (Levi Brown, Rich Robinson, Steve Mortenson, and Keith Karnes)

For the Pike Bay and Norway Beach area:

- Retain some large debris on site. Leave areas where we do nothing. Norway Beach is an example.
- Large boles create diversity and provide microsites for mushrooms, etc. Could take some of the heavy concentrations of fuels but desire leaving scattered larger diameter trees. Could FS require that some of the larger trees be left on the ground?
- Keep standing snags
- Want a different result/look with variability and diversity

- Do not want sites to convert to aspen as a result of our treatments
- Burning would result in a good response from plants and shrubs. Salvage, ground disturbance, and piling resulted in “clean” stands with no large diameter material left. Tribal concern is that it will take a lot longer to get back traditional plants.

In the northern portion of Tem Section (Map 3: Around BD- 3)

- Want more jack pine on the landscape and the plant communities that go with jack pine.
- Given the amount of recent harvesting in the area, why do we need to harvest in some of the remaining older stands? Older stands are limited on this landscape. Let the aspen and jack pine fall out and convert to hardwoods. Wildlife and other values benefit from leaving stands like these.
- DRM confirmed they would like us to retain standing red pine; do not want to clearcut what remains in order to establish jack pine.
- Blueberries
 - Can't seed in blueberry. Can't order seedlings from our nurseries.

Consider employment opportunities for tribal members.

II. Past or Ongoing Activities

A. Safety

- Remove down and hazard trees around facilities, along high use roads, trails, and recreation sites. Resulted in trees being removed in Norway Beach and South Pike Bay Campgrounds, Birches picnic area, around numerous recreation residences, and along the Migizi Trail. This work is not done yet.

B. Salvage of merchantable timber

- Areas identified generally focus on pockets of the heaviest concentrations of down and damaged trees (at least 40% of stand had blowdown). Identified areas south of Pike Bay and East of Moss Lake. (South Pike Pine Plantation). Also an area east of Cass Lake (Cass Lake East).

III. Contacts

Walker District Ranger, Carolyn Upton, phone: 218-547-6002, ext. 103; cupton@fs.fed.us
 Project Leader, Sharon Klinkhammer, phone: 335-8660; sklinkhammer@fs.fed.us

Thank You for meeting with us!