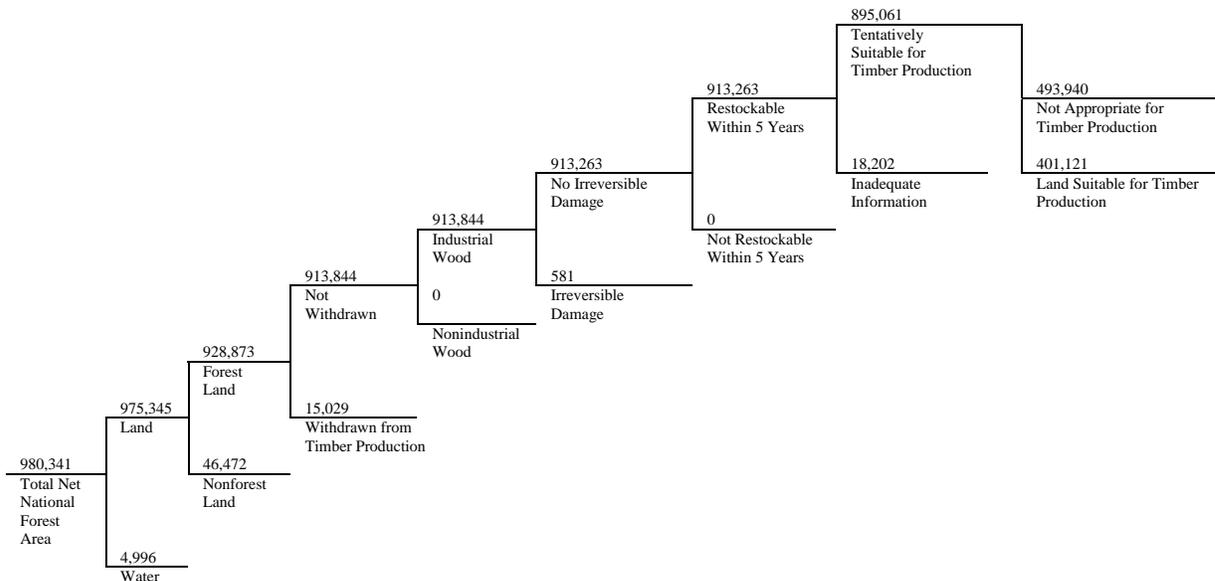


Appendix H - Land Suited for Timber Management

Land Classification Summary

National Forest System Land and Resource Management Planning Rules and Regulations (36 CFR, Part 219) of the National Forest Management Act require that the total net area of each National Forest be classified by its land management planning use status. Figure H-1, the flow diagram below, presents the successive categories of forest land for the Huron-Manistee National Forests' Land and Resource Management Plan. The following category descriptions and definitions were used to identify forest land that is suitable for timber production.

Figure H-1. Huron-Manistee National Forests' Land Suitability Classification - Acres.



Water:

Rivers and streams 120 feet or more in width and lakes, reservoirs and ponds more than one acre in size are classified as not suited for timber production.

Land:

The area of dry land and land temporarily or partly covered by water, such as marshes, swamps and river floodplains; rivers and streams less than 120 feet in width; and lakes, reservoirs and ponds less than one acre in size.

Non-forest Land:

Land never having or incapable of having 10 percent or more of its area occupied by forest trees, and land capable of supporting such cover, but currently developed for non-forest uses. Such land includes wildlife openings, roads, special land uses and administrative sites.

Forest Land:

Land having or capable of having at least 10 percent of the area occupied by forest trees of any size and not currently developed for non-forest uses.

Forest Land Withdrawn From Timber Production:

Land designated by Congress, the Secretary of Agriculture, or the Chief of the Forest Service for purposes that preclude timber production. Experimental forests are included if their objectives preclude regularly scheduled timber production. Withdrawn land is classified as not suited for timber production. It includes the Nordhouse Dunes Wilderness. It does not include candidate Research Natural Areas or study Wild and Scenic Rivers. Establishment of Research Natural Areas will be in compliance with 1982 Forest Planning Code of Federal Regulation - 36 CFR 219.25. Forest Plan Standards and Guidelines will protect the Research Natural Area attributes of each candidate area pending its establishment.

Forest Land Not Producing Industrial Wood:

Land producing tree species that are not currently used commercially or not expected to be used commercially within the next 10 years. Such land is classified as not suitable for timber production.

Forest Land Physically Not Suited:

Forest land where technology is unavailable to ensure timber production without irreversible resource damage to soils, productivity or watershed conditions. Forests' managers cannot ensure that this land will be adequately restocked within five years. Such land is classified as unsuitable for timber production.

Inadequate Information:

Forest land about which managers lack adequate information, based on current research and experience, to project responses to timber management practices. Such land has been categorized as not suited in the model and is unsuitable for timber production.

Forest Land Tentatively Suitable for Timber Production:

Forest land acres tentatively identified as appropriate for timber production are calculated by taking the Forests' land total and subtracting land: 1) withdrawn from timber production, 2) not

producing crops of industrial wood, 3) not physically suited, and 4) for which information is inadequate.

Forest Land Not Appropriate for Timber Production:

Forest land acres inappropriate for timber production were determined by reviewing tentatively suitable forest land and summarizing the acres that were: administratively removed to meet other resource and management objectives, such as threatened or endangered species habitat, recreation, or fire and fuels treatment; and areas that were not cost efficient in meeting the Forest Plan objectives over the planning horizon (includes acres with positive present net worth, but with costs in excess of projected scheduled outputs).

Forest Land Suitable for Timber Production:

Land that will be used for timber production. Table H-1 summarizes the acreages identified for each of the above categories.

Table H-1. Timber Resource Land Suitability.

Classification	Net Forest Acres
1. Water	4,996
2. Nonforest Land	46,472
3. Forest Land	928,873
4. Forest Land Withdrawn from Timber Production	15,029
5. Forest Land Not Producing Industrial Wood	0
6. Forest Land Physically Not Suited:	
▪ Irreversible Damage Likely to Occur	581
▪ Not Restockable Within 5 Years	0
7. Forest Land - Inadequate Information	18,202
8. Forest Land - Tentatively Suitable for Timber Production (Item 3 Minus Items 4, 5, 6, and 7)	895,061
9. Forest Land - Not Appropriate for Timber Production	493,940
10. Unsuitable Forest Land (Items 4, 5, 6, 7, and 9)	527,752
11. Total Forest Land Suitable for Timber Production (Item 3 Minus Item 10)	401,121
12. Total Net National Forest Area (Items 1, 2, and 3)(From Land Status Records)	980,341

Table H-2 summarizes timber production by timber suitability. Additional information used to determine suitability is available for review in the Forests' Planning Records.

Table H-2. Timber Productivity Classification. ^{1/}

Productivity Class ¹ (cubic feet/acre/year)	All National Forest System Lands	Percent	Tentatively Suitable Lands	Percent
Less than 20	10,645	1%		
20-49	306,774	34%	300,495	34%
50 - 84	471,381	53%	463,420	53%
85 - 119	107,739	12%	103,999	12%
120 +	9,145	1%	8,841	1%
Totals	895,038		876,754	

^{1/} Productivity for lands about which data are available.

Table H-3 displays an estimate of the present and the future age class distribution on all National Forest System lands, tentatively suitable and unsuitable acres.

Table H-3. Age Class Distribution Acres on all National Forest System Lands for Lands Where Data are Available.

Age Class	Present Forest	Future Forest ^{1/}
0 - 9	33,614	55,970
10 - 19	55,902	64,881
20 - 29	75,746	59,532
30 - 39	85,763	53,725
40 - 49	65,991	17,242
50 - 59	52,045	31,928
60 - 69	136,006	14,907
70 - 79	134,295	14,093
80 - 89	134,684	38,555
90 - 99	70,700	0
100+	60,529	480,239
Totals	905,275	831,072

^{1/} The Projected Future Forest is defined at decade 15 or 150 years (year 2153).

Timber Management on Unsuitable Forest Land:

The following timber management activities may be carried out on unsuitable forest land:

1. Salvage or sanitation harvesting of trees or stands that are substantially damaged by fire, windthrow, or other catastrophe, or which are in imminent danger from an insect or disease attack.
2. Cutting of individual trees or stands to test logging systems, to conduct experiments, or to gather information about tree growth, insect or disease organisms, or determine the effect of harvesting on other resources.

3. Cutting of trees to promote the safety of forest users, such as hazard-tree removal in campgrounds and picnic areas, administrative sites, and along roads open to the public.
4. Harvesting to meet habitat objectives for animal or plant species that are endangered or threatened.
5. Harvesting to meet forage production objectives for livestock.
6. Harvesting to improve the visual resource by opening scenic vistas or by improving visual variety.
7. Harvesting of firewood and Christmas trees.
8. Harvesting to provide access for activities such as road construction.