

White Paper for Selection of Project Sample Group

1. Phase One Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) member reviewed the 1997 FEIS effects section and guidelines to be implemented as standards and generated list a questions that needed to be answered for their particular analysis.
2. Questions generated from IDT members were categorized by resource and consolidated into one document
(*.../nepa/phase_1_amend_info/psg/psg_info/idt_questions_psg/questionsforpsg.doc*).
3. *Questionsforpsg.doc* was reviewed by a subset of the IDT consisting of Brad Phillips, Tom Silvey, and Ellen Jungck. Questions were reviewed to determine what particular items were needed from sample group sales. The following items were generated for what the sales needed to contain:
 - Locations of sensitive plants in the northern and central Hills
 - Locations of Frest snail colonies.
 - Perennial or intermittent streams and associated riparian areas in the northern and southern Hills.
 - Locations of marten occurances.
 - Location of high potential marten habitat, or associated spruce cover types in the northern and central Hills.
 - Caves which serve as maternity or hibernacula roosts.
 - Located within one mile of a mountain pine beetle infestation.
 - Compactable and unstable soils in high elevations (limestone plateau) vs. low elevation (not on the limestone plateau).
 - Hardwood and meadow restoration activities within marten/goshawk habitat or within sensitive plant/Frest habitats.
 - Active or historic goshawk nest stands or existing 1997 revision alternate/replacement nest stand designations in the northern and southern Hills.
 - Eligible paleo or heritage sites.
 - Late successional designations/enhancement treatments within late successional designations within marten occupancy sites or high potential marten habitat.
 - Existing snag densities in high and low elevation areas.
 - Significant amount of prescribed burning or fuels activities.
 - Presence of leopard frogs.
4. Monte Williams, Fix-It Team Operations Chief, and Lois Poppert IDT Leader, reviewed the initial categories. They suggested to further categorize items generated by location in the forest (northern, central, or southern Hills, or high and low elevation), as these themes seemed to be surfacing throughout all the items.
5. A matrix table was then generated by Brad, Tom, and Ellen
(*...nepa/phase_1_amend_info/psg/psg_info/idt_questions_psg/samplegroupsel.xls*), which contained species information needed by section of the forest (northern, southern, central Hills, or by low or high elevation).

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\white_paper_for_project_sample_group_selection.doc

6. The matrix table, a series of associated habitat/occurrence maps, and a map of Category II and III sales was presented to a meeting of district rangers and district representatives on May 3, 2000. Those present at the meeting were:
- Tom Silvey
 - Ellen Jungck
 - Monte Williams
 - Lois Poppert
 - Dave Peiper
 - Bob Thompson
 - Pam Brown
 - Kelly Honors
 - Rob Reeck
 - Lisa Heiser
 - Tom Rath
 - Sylvia Arbelbide
 - Paul Ruder

The rangers and district representatives were asked to assist in the sample group selection based on the information presented. The “sticky tab” method of selection was used. Post-it notes with all the attributes needed (e.g. goshawk, northern Hills) were created. If a sale met the matrix value for a particular attribute, the post-it note was placed on that sale. The sales with the greatest collection of “sticky tabs” were considered primary candidates for the sample group. If some sales contained only one or two “sticky tabs,” the attribute was reassessed and assigned to a sale that contained several “sticky tabs,” if that particular sale contained the attribute in question.

7. The sample group selection resulted in four sales: Cub, Hanna, Nest, and Bullock. The following attributes and reassessed attributes were assigned to each of these sales:
- Cub
 - Goshawk (northern Hills)
 - Riparian (northern Hills)
 - Sensitive Plants (northern Hills)
 - Amphibians (anywhere in forest)
 - Recreation (anywhere in forest)
 - Heritage (anywhere in forest)
 - Hanna
 - Marten (northern Hills)
 - Snails (northern Hills)
 - Vegetation (anywhere in forest)

- Nest
 - Marten (central Hills)
 - Snails (central Hills)
 - Soils (high elevation)
 - Snags (high elevation)
- Bullock
 - Goshawk (southern Hills)
 - Riparian (southern Hills)
 - Sensitive Plants (central Hills)
 - Soils (low elevation)
 - Fire (anywhere in forest)
 - Insect and Disease (anywhere in forest)
 - Snags (low elevation)

The following were the reassessed/reassigned attributes:

- Goshawk (southern Hills)
- Riparian (southern Hills)
- Insect and Disease (anywhere in forest)
- Bats (low and high elevation)

Bats (low and high elevation)-will be assigned to specific caves that meet the matrix criteria, since the affected area (500 foot buffer) is relatively small and can be analyzed on a site specific basis.

Sample group sales will be analyzed on all attributes, not just those attributes that the sale was selected for.