

Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) Woodland Management Planning Template

Easement Name: _____

Easement Number: _____

Prepared By: _____

Date Prepared: _____

Stand: _____ of _____

NOTE TO PLANNER: Make sure you have ready access to the following reference documents while using this template. The following documents may be found at <http://www.ia.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/WRPwoodlandmgmt.html>.

- ◆ *Map of Iowa, divided into 9 Woodland Wildlife Target Areas*
- ◆ *Listing of WRP Woodland Target Species, by Area*
- ◆ *Woodland Ecological Community Associations*
- ◆ *2005 Iowa Woodland Suitability Recommendations*
- ◆ *Topographic Map*
- ◆ *Soils Map*
- ◆ *Iowa NRCS Biology Technical Note 22 - Indiana Bat Habitat Requirements*
- ◆ *WRP Goals and Emphasis (CPM 514.01b & c)*
- ◆ *Plant Community Query, Version 1*

Visit your local USDA Service Center to obtain the following photos. For Service Center contact information go to <http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app>.

- ◆ *Aerial photo with delineation of Easement boundary and Management Area ¹.*
- ◆ *Aerial photo of 0.75 mile radius from the edges of the Management Area (Context Area) ².*

Where is the easement area? Township, Range, Section _____

Brief history of the easement (previous land use, easement date, etc.)

Overview description of the woodland and other areas on the easement (Complete for each Management Area)

1. Location information (slope, aspect, landscape position)

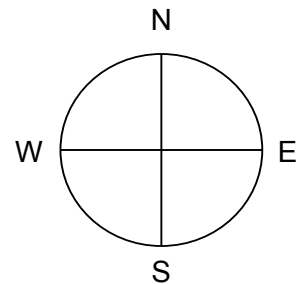
Landscape position: Check as many as apply.

- Floodplain or 1st Bottom
- 2nd Bottom
- Bench
- Upland

Slope:

- 0 - 2%
- >2 - 5%
- >5 - 9%
- >9 - 14%
- >14%

Aspect:



¹ Management Area: That portion of the woodland that will receive the same treatment (i.e. stand). An easement might include more than one Management Area.

² Context Area: The area within 0.75 mile of the edges of the Management Area.

2. Which Woodland Wildlife Target Area(s) is the easement in? Check as many as apply.

- 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

3. a. How many acres of woodland are in this Management Area? _____

b. How many acres of woodland are within the easement? _____

4. What's in this Management Area now (tree and shrub species, size, structure)?

% Canopy Cover _____ Basal Area _____ sq feet/acre

Structure	Species in order of prevalence (note as dominant, co-dominant or associated ³)	Size class (trees only)	Age class (trees only)	% Ground Cover (total)
		Seedling Sapling Small is < 10" DBH Medium is 11-19" DBH Large is ≥ 20" DBH	Young Middle-Aged Mature Very Old Decadent	
Overstory				
Mid-story				
Shrubs				
Herbaceous (include vines)				
Woody Regeneration				

5. a. Describe the Context Area. (List approximate acres of upland forest, bottomland forest, and of each other land use. For forested portions, provide any other information that can be readily attained.)

³ Dominant: A plant specie(s) which predominates in a community because of its size, abundance or coverage (>25%).
 Co-dominant: One of the most characteristic and prevalent species in a biotic community, but its abundance or coverage (10- 24%) is not as great as that of a dominant species.
 Associated: Species in a specific geographic area characterizing a community amongst dominant and co-dominant species (<10% cover)

5. b. Are there any invasive species on or adjacent to the Management Area? If yes, list.

5. c. Are there any significant forest health issues in the Management Area?

6. Are there other easements, public areas, or woodlands with management plans within this context area? (Include review of any DNR Forest Management Plans.) If so, which type and number of acres of each type and possible management implications:

7. a. How many contiguous acres of woodland area (including this management area) are in the Context Area? NOTE: *Breaks in contiguity include any public roads, rivers, streams or non-woodland land uses. Narrow breaks such as a fence line, field drainage ditch, or other breaks in canopy <20 feet wide do not break continuity. Pathways under bridges should be evaluated by a biologist to determine whether or not they maintain habitat contiguity for herptiles and mammals.*

7. b. List the breaks in habitat contiguity within the Context Area and their approximate widths:

Break Type	Width

8. What shrub and tree species could the site support?

9. What are the resulting plant communities appropriate for the site? (Use Plant Community Query at <ftp://ftp-fc.sc.egov.usda.gov/IA/technical/PlantCommunityQuery.mdb>)

10. For which wildlife species should this Woodland Management Area be managed? (From Woodland Target Species Table, paying particular attention to T, E, and S species.)

11. What are those species' habitat needs that are appropriate to the Management Area?

12. What management prescriptions/tree and shrub species are needed to meet those needs?

1-5 years:

5-10 years:

10-20 years: