Prickett Dam Tract
Management Implementation Report
May 2, 2003

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INTRODUCTION
The Prickett Dam Tract is N ½ of the SE ¼ and SW ½ if the SE ¼, Section 9, T50N, R35W. It is on the west side of Pricket Dam Road in Houghton County. The tract has four forest types: lowlands hardwoods, hemlock, aspen, and northern hardwoods. In the past semester, the FERM team has accomplished much work, which we will describe in the following paragraphs.
UNIT 1a
Unit 1a is a 4.7 acre northern hardwood stand located in the northeast corner of the tract. The goal of the management plan was to slowly convert the unit to aspen. A 150 foot buffer was placed from the southern boundary to be clear cut with leave trees. To the north of this buffer, a selective harvest would leave a residual of 80 sq. ft./acre.

The implementation of Unit 1a was done this April by the FERM team. The selection harvest left a residual basal area of approximately 75 sq. ft. This area was separated for the clear-cut with leave trees with a red paint boundary. In the clear-cut some leave trees were selected to be left standing, these leave trees were painted in green. The tallies were done and there was a total of 1200 board feet of Hard maple and 1300 board feet of soft maple and 9.8 cords of top wood. We have not finish calculating the pulpwood for this stand yet.

UNIT 1b
The lower northern hardwood stand, Unit 1b, is roughly 7 acres in area. The prescription was to do a crop tree release, leaving trees at a residual of 60 sq. ft./acre. The FERM team was able to mark Unit 1b in April 2003.

The saw timber of this stand was 500 board feet of hard maple and 3200 board feet of soft maple there was also about 1700 board feet of yellow birch and 1500 board feet of white birch. The top wood of this stand was about 19 cords and like 1a we do not have the pulpwood done yet.

UNITS 2 & 3
These units include the lowland hardwoods and aspen that are on the eastern and western borders of the hemlock stand (See map). The hardwood areas, due to their poor timber quality, will be clearcut with the aspen. We are hoping that some of the adjacent aspen may recruit into the hardwood areas and establish. The areas that don’t come back to aspen will likely come back to pulp quality hardwoods and will need to be reassessed when a harvest is next planned for the area to see if it is in fact merchantable. The site should be revisited in 2-4 years after the winter cut to check on the aspen regeneration and also to check on the regeneration within the hardwood areas.

UNIT 4
Unit 4 is unique because of the large amount of hemlock within the unit. The management unit is over 53 acres and is found in the center of the Prickett Dam Tract. The area is to become a study on hemlock regeneration. Guidelines for the study plots are available in the Prickett Dam Management Report and on the FERM website.

The FERM team went out with Scott Noble and Chris Webster to practice setting up the plots. However, time constraints and soil moisture make this coming summer a good time to locate and set up spots for the proposed regeneration gaps (see Report pg M-16). After this is done, trees need to be marked for harvest to create the gaps and additional poor quality hardwoods need to be marked to improve the stand. After harvest enclosures need to be built in some of the gaps.