

| Title: <b>Habitat Man</b> | agement Planning for S | State-Owned Lands | Policy Number: |  |
|---------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|----------------|--|
| Managed by the V          | WRD-L-001              |                   |                |  |
| Effective Date:           | Revision Date:         | Authority:        | Page:          |  |
| 03/01/2018                |                        | Division Director | Page 1 of 17   |  |

### **Purpose:**

The Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Wildlife Resources Division (WRD) is responsible for the management of DNR-owned properties that include Public Fishing Areas (PFA) and Wildlife Management Areas (WMA). This document provides a conceptual framework for managing the diverse species and ecosystems found on such lands. Long-term strategic planning focuses only on DNR-owned properties managed by WRD.

The development of a Strategic Plan is a critical part of the planning process for management of DNR-owned properties. This document will establish goals for the area to reflect the overall vision. The plan will provide direction for operational managers and project desired future habitat conditions. Where appropriate, descriptions, locations and desired future habitat conditions should be represented in a GIS format. Specific locations of highly sensitive areas (e.g. caves, archeological sites, and certain sensitive species information) should not normally be included in the Strategic Plan itself, but should be included in GIS data layers for the property. These data layers will be updated periodically as new information becomes available.

The goals and objectives established for each area will provide direction for management activities. Primary goals will be approved by the Director for each site and will take precedence. It is important to note that management approaches will vary with individual sites and may require multiple techniques on the same site. Other uses may be appropriate and compatible but should not conflict with primary goals.

#### **Definitions:**

Public Fishing Area – Any DNR-owned property managed for public fishing opportunities by the Fisheries Management Section (FM).

Wildlife Management Area – Any DNR-owned property managed for wildlife objectives by either the Game Management Section (GM) or the Nongame Conservation Section (NC), including those designated as Natural Areas.

Lead Section – The WRD section assigned with primary responsibility by the Director to complete the strategic planning process for a DNR-owned property or set of properties. The assigned Section shall appoint a lead author for all applicable lands.

| Title: <b>Habitat Man</b>                  | Policy Number: |                   |              |
|--|----------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Managed by the Wildlife Resources Division |                |                   | WRD-L-001    |
| Effective Date:                            | Revision Date: | Authority:        | Page:        |
| 03/01/2018                                 |                | Division Director | Page 2 of 17 |

Lead Author – Representative assigned the responsibility of developing the Strategic Plan, convening the review committee, and shepherding the plan through the approval process.

Review Committee – A committee comprised of representatives from GM, NC, FM and Forest Management Unit convened by the Lead Author for the purpose of reviewing the Strategic Plan during development.

Heritage Preserve Designation (HPD) – A WMA, PFA or Natural Area may be designated as a Heritage Preserve by executive order.

### **Policy:**

## A. <u>Primary Goals for Lands</u>

Primary goals will be used to guide management efforts on all DNR-owned properties managed by WRD. The specific objectives for each site will vary depending on species diversity, natural communities, and ecological types. Also, the type and amount of public use may influence the objectives for an area.

Primary goals to be considered when planning:

- 1. Conserve, manage, restore and enhance wildlife and natural communities including rare, unusual, threatened, or endangered plants and animals, and other species of concern.
- 2. Provide a variety of hunting opportunities and enhance game populations through science-based principles.
- 3. Provide a variety of fishing opportunities and enhance sportfish populations through science-based principles.
- 4. Protect unique features, and significant historical and archeological sites.
- 5. Promote opportunities for research, education, and compatible recreational use.

# B. <u>Plan Development and Approval Process</u>

For lands with existing Strategic Plans incurring a significant change in acreage or management goals, updates will be conducted by the lead section. In most cases, writing initial Strategic Plans is a higher priority than revising existing plans for completion. If an addition was purchased for a specific or unique resource, an amendment will be written by the section responsible for that particular resource. Other acquisitions of additional acreages will be assessed by the Review Committee and a recommendation whether a Plan is revision is needed will be made to the Director within 45 days of acquisition. Development of Plan amendments and other modifications may be assigned

| Title: <b>Habitat Man</b> | Policy Number:          |                   |              |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Managed by the            | Wildlife Resources Divi | sion              | WRD-L-001    |
| Effective Date:           | Revision Date:          | Authority:        | Page:        |
| 03/01/2018                |                         | Division Director | Page 3 of 17 |

to other authors possessing specific expertise at the discretion of the Director. The assigned Section shall appoint a lead author for all applicable lands.

Where appropriate, multiple areas may be combined into landscape level Strategic Plans (e.g. Lower Altamaha River Corridor). The initiation of landscape level Strategic Plans must be approved by the appropriate section chief(s).

For developing new Strategic Plans, the lead author should allow up to 6 months for the evaluation period to include data gathering, site visits, and informal discussions with other sections and stakeholders. The lead author should present an outline of the plan to his/her supervisor and begin forming a draft document after the evaluation is completed. For review, the lead author will form a committee to ensure all sections (including the Forest Management Unit) have input. Within 45 days from conclusion of the evaluation period, a draft document should be completed and provided to the review committee.

The review committee will have up to 45 days to review, discuss and edit the draft plan, at which point all edits are compiled by lead author to consider for inclusion in plan. The review committee shall discuss the draft at the end of the 45 day period.

Following the initial committee review and subsequent edits, a second draft will be provided to the committee for a second 45 day review period. Any additional edits will be considered and the document will be revised by the lead author with his/her supervisor and forwarded to all section chiefs for a final 45 day review period. Depending upon edits, the plan should be finalized through the lead author and submitted through the appropriate section Chief to the Director for final approval and signature.

The Strategic Plan should be completed within 1 year of land acquisition and subsequent assignment to WRD by the Department. This timeline ensures compliance with many funding source requirements and commencement of land management practices.

# Time Line for Plan Completion:



| Title: <b>Habitat Management Planning for State-Owned Lands</b> Policy Number: |                         |                   |              |  |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------|--|
| Managed by the   | Wildlife Resources Divi | sion              | WRD-L-001    |  |
| Effective Date:  | Revision Date:          | Authority:        | Page:        |  |
| 03/01/2018   |                         | Division Director | Page 4 of 17 |  |

## C. <u>Prioritization of Existing Areas without Strategic Plans</u>

Highest priority properties for new Strategic Plans are those that meet more than one of the below priority characteristics. The list is not all inclusive of priority levels but is intended to provide guidance to managers.

- 1. Area with proposed or ongoing management activities such as timber harvest, reforestation, extensive habitat changes, etc.;
- 2. Area with rare, threatened or endangered species requiring significant habitat restoration or enhancement;
- 3. Area receiving high public use/pressure affecting land management or development;
- 4. Area encompassing a large land base with complex management requirements;
- 5. Area purchased with funding that requires development of a management plan.

# C. <u>Strategic Plan Framework</u>

All known natural resources on the area will be considered during plan development, and general management goals defined. The Strategic Plan should contain the following sections.

- 1. Introduction: Should contain a management plan overview and purpose.
- 2. Site Description and Area Significance: Should contain general location, site description, site history (including HPD and other use restrictions), and general purpose of the area.
- 3. Resource Description-May contain the following sections:
  - a. Soils: Brief description of soil types, featuring any highly erodible soils or notable special soil types. A soil map may be appropriate.
  - b. Wildlife: Sections may focus on game species (including big game and small game), nongame species, threatened/endangered/protected species, invasive species, etc.
  - c. Aquatic: Sportfish, nongame fish, and other notable aquatic resources such as mussels, amphibians, lakes, ponds and streams, managed impoundments, etc.
  - d. Vegetative: Rare or unusual natural communities and habitats, forest types, protected plants, and habitat types.

| Title: <b>Habitat Mar</b>                  | agement Planning for S | State-Owned Lands | Policy Number: |  |
|--|------------------------|-------------------|----------------|--|
| Managed by the Wildlife Resources Division |                        |                   | WRD-L-001      |  |
| Effective Date:                            | Revision Date:         | Authority:        | Page:          |  |
| 03/01/2018                                 |                        | Division Director | Page 5 of 17   |  |

- 4. Historical and Archeological Sites: Description of known historical and archeological features.
- 5. Public Use and Recreation: Hunting, fishing, and other appropriate and compatible uses as defined in Attachment 1. Examples include, but are not limited to: hunting dog training, shooting ranges, wildlife viewing, camping, and hiking.
- 6. Long-term Goals: List the long-term goals for the area. These should have their basis in the primary goals for all Strategic Plans (See Section III above), as well as any stipulations in the HPD. Long-term goals should include desired future conditions such as timber types, habitat types, and natural community composition.

The Strategic Plan should be viewed as a blueprint for an area. It should not be used as a barrier to change or as justification for management practices that are ineffective. The plan can be utilized to provide information to the public and users of the area who may have questions concerning management goals.

## D. <u>10-year Plan Development</u>

Based on the long-term goals from the Strategic Plan, a 10-year Plan will be developed. The 10-year Plan will contain operational objectives that are time-limited, measurable, and formed using tasks in annual work plan. Objectives requiring project proposals will be indicated in 10-year Plan. Proposals for projects will be subject to the requirements of the Georgia Environmental Policy Act (GEPA), as well as any appropriate WRD policy.

The initial 10-year Plan will be developed concurrently with the Strategic Plan and other applicable WRD Plans and initiatives. Subsequent 10-year Plans will be initiated at the end of year 9 of the current plan and completed by the end of year 10. Each section should develop a template to be used in writing 10-year Plans for lands under their purview. Staff (regardless of section or program) directly involved in management or research activities on a DNR-owned property shall provide input into the 10-year Plan objectives. The 10-year Plan will be reviewed and approved by the region supervisor or program manager, with final review and approval by the appropriate Section Chief.

At the 5-year midpoint, a review of progress toward the 10-year objectives will be compiled. The format will follow the structure of the 10-year Plan. In addition, objectives should be reviewed and revised to include any changes, additions or deletions. The 5-year review will be submitted to the region supervisor or program manager. At the completion of each 10-year Plan, a summary report of accomplishments will be completed by the lead author and submitted to the Operations Program Manager or Assistant Chief. The format of the 10-year summary report will likewise follow the

| Title: <b>Habitat Mar</b>                  | nagement Planning for S | Policy Number:    |              |  |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------|--|
| Managed by the Wildlife Resources Division |                         |                   | WRD-L-001    |  |
| Effective Date:                            | Revision Date:          | Authority:        | Page:        |  |
| 03/01/2018                                 |                         | Division Director | Page 6 of 17 |  |

structure of the 10-year Plan and 5-year review. Further guidance on the details of the 10-year Plan and the 5-year review may be found in Attachment 2.

# E. <u>Annual Work Plan and Status Report Framework</u>

Based on the 10-year Plan objectives and Wildlife and Sportfish Restoration grant requirements, Annual Work Plans (AWP) will be developed each fiscal year. The AWP will contain operational tasks that are time-limited as well as measurable performance goals. Each section should develop a template to be used in writing AWP for lands under their purview. Staff (regardless of section or program) directly involved in management or research activities on a DNR-owned property shall provide details of planned tasks for inclusion in the AWP. The AWP will be approved by the region supervisor or program manager. An Annual Status Report of planning accomplishments and monitoring should be submitted by each region supervisor or program manager to the appropriate Section Chief by September 1 and delivered to the Director by October 1. Additional details and guidance on the AWP and annual status report is also found in Attachment 2.

# **Attachments**

Attachment 1 – Determining Appropriate and Compatible Use Attachment 2 – Additional Details Regarding 10-year Plan, 5-year Review, Annual Work plan and Annual Status report



# **Determining Appropriate and Compatible Use**

In setting long term goals, an essential step is determining what uses are appropriate and compatible for a given DNR managed property. In addition to primary uses such as hunting, fishing, and trapping, certain natural resources-dependent uses as well as other recreational uses may prove to be both appropriate and compatible with the goals of an area.

An appropriate use is a proposed or existing use on DNR managed lands that meets at least one of the following three conditions:

- 1. Is a natural resources-dependent recreational use as defined herein;
- 2. Contributes to maintaining the essential character and fulfilling the property purpose as described in the Strategic Plan (SP) for such property; or
- 3. Is determined to be appropriate if the use meets all the following criteria:
  - a. It is a natural resources-dependent recreational use of a property;
  - b. The DNR has legal jurisdiction over the use of the property or legal authority to allow the use;
  - c. The use complies with all applicable laws and regulations (federal, state and local);
  - d. The use does not create an unreasonable level of risk to visitors or DNR staff, or the use does not require DNR staff to take safety precautions not customary in the DNR's standard operations to assure public safety or other DNR staff;
  - e. The use was evaluated under previous administrative review, was deemed appropriate, and conditions have not changed that would warrant further review (if applicable); and
  - f. The use contributes to the public's understanding and appreciation of the property's natural or cultural resources, or the use is beneficial to the property's natural or cultural resources.

If a planned use is determined to be appropriate, the following questions will help to determine if the use is also compatible.

- 1. Will the use materially interfere with or detract from the fulfillment of the DNR's mission?
- 2. Is the use consistent with the SP or other documents? If the proposed use, either itself or in combination with other uses or activities, conflicts with the SP, the use is generally not compatible.
- 3. Is the use manageable within available resources? If a proposed use diverts resources or management efforts away from the proper and reasonable management of a property or priority natural resources-dependent recreational use, the use is generally not compatible.

- 4. Will the use be manageable in the future in the context of existing resources? If the use would lead to recurring requests for the same or similar activities that will be difficult to manage in the future, then the use is generally not compatible. If the use can be managed so that impacts to natural and cultural resources are minimal or inconsequential, or if clearly defined limits can be established, then the use may be compatible.
- 5. Can the use be accommodated without impairing priority natural resourcesdependent use or reducing the potential to provide quality outdoor recreational use in the future?
- 6. If a use is not compatible as initially proposed, can it be modified with stipulations that avoid or minimize potential adverse impacts thereby making the use compatible?



# Additional Details Regarding 10-year Plan, 5-year Review, Annual Work Plan and Annual Status report

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this document is to establish uniformity in how information and data is presented and reported within the division with respect to management planning. It establishes templates required by the Habitat Management Planning Policy for developing 10-year Plans and Annual Work Plans on properties managed by the division. The templates provide a standard format across sections for performing 5-year Reviews, 10-year Summary and Annual Status Reports as they relate to the long-term management goals.

#### 10-year Plan

The 10-year Plan creates a link between the overarching long-term property goals and annual tasks performed by identifying a management path utilizing objectives. The 10-year Plan should contain the following sections:

- 1. Introduction: Contains a management overview for a property's resources from all collaborating WRD sections and/or programs.
- 2. Objectives: A concise list of objectives listed under each long-term goal. Numeric formatting will be used to identify to which goal an objective applies. (e.g., 4.1 = long-term goal number four, objective one).

The objectives are derived from long-term goals contained in the Strategic Plan. Objectives are concrete and measurable to allow evaluation of progress toward meeting goals. An objective is a concise statement of what we want to achieve, how much we want to achieve, when and where we want to achieve it, and who is responsible for the work. Often multiple objectives are needed to meet a single goal.

#### **SMART Sheet**

The SMART Sheet is an excel file containing 4 workbooks that centrally store the long-term goals and plans (e.g., 10-year Plan, Annual Work Plan, 5-year Review) for a DNR-owned or otherwise managed property. It contains a concise list of long-term goals (or goals), objectives, and tasks. All lands (DNR-owned or otherwise managed) should have a SMART Sheet. The section or program with primary management responsibility should complete the SMART Sheet by July 1 of each year and will oversee task completion. Objectives or tasks assigned to another section or program should be indicated in red (e.g., Nongame Conservation, Fisheries Management, Forest Management, Private Lands, etc.). If a plan exists, goals and objectives in the SMART Sheet, are taken from the Strategic Plan (formally known as 50-year Plan) and 10-year Plan. The SMART sheet facilitates progress towards a property's objectives and long-term goals through identifying specific tasks and scheduled review(s).

## **Annual Work Plans**

The Annual Work Plan (AWP) is included in the SMART Sheet and contains tasks. Task(s) will be listed under each objective from the 10-year Plan. Numeric formatting will be used to identify to which goal and objective each task applies. (e.g., 4.1.3 = long-term goal number four, objective one, task three).

Tasks are derived from objectives. Tasks are management actions that are set to achieve specific objectives. Often multiple tasks are needed to meet an objective. Units planned are indicated by each task (e.g., prescribed burning, fish stocking). Units planned are not required for task with no reporting requirement (e.g., GIS data Collection). The units completed and % complete columns are for reporting purposes and may be hidden until needed.

Annual Work Plans used on properties that do not require a Strategic Plan (e.g., properties not owned and managed in its entirety by the division), need only use the SMART Sheet.

## **Guidelines for Developing Objectives**

Objectives should be **SMART**:

Specific: Avoid ambiguity by wording objectives clearly. A clearly worded objective is easy to understand and the meaning is difficult to misinterpret. Specificity results by including WHO will do the action, WHAT they will do, WHEN and WHERE they will do it, and WHY they will do it.

<u>Measurable</u>: Objectives should contain a measurable element that you can readily monitor to determine success or failure. Otherwise, you cannot tell if the strategies employed are appropriate, when an objective is met, or if it should be modified.

<u>A</u>chievable: Objectives, no matter how measurable or clearly written, must be achievable. If you cannot resolve constraints on achieving an objective, then you must discard or rewrite it.

Results-oriented: Objectives should specify an end result.

<u>Time-fixed</u>: Objectives should indicate the time period during, which you will achieve them, so as not to be open-ended.

## 5-year Reviews

At the 5-year midpoint, objectives will be reviewed. No plan objectives previously approved by the section chief shall be removed from 10-year Plan. Indicate objectives that need to be modified or deleted by striking through. Added objectives shall be indicated as such by <u>underlining</u>. Additions, deletions or changes should be briefly explained in comments.

## Reporting

At the end of the 10-year planning period, a summary report of accomplishments will be completed. The summary report will utilize the same format as the 5-year Review. No

comments are required for successfully completed objectives other than indicated as complete. Uncompleted and partially completed objectives should be briefly explained.

# **Transitioning to the New Templates**

The SMART Sheet will provide means for transition to the new template beginning July 1, 2017. Though properties may not have a completed Strategic Plan and 10-year Plan. The SMART Sheet will assist managers with the development of goals and objectives that should be utilized in the development of the Strategic and 10-year Plans. It is dynamic in nature to allow managers to move forward with annual task planning. The AWP tab in the SMART Sheet allows users to add columns to the right of annual task (e.g., man-hours, budget, resource needs, etc.) for additional section, program, or region needs.

XXX WMA 10-year Plan

|            | AAA WMA 10-year Fian   |
|------------|--|
| Goal       | 1. Management of WMA infrastructure and associated resources to project a positive public image, preserve and protect area resources.  |
|            | 1.1 Maintain 14.1 miles of WMA boundary.   |
| es         | 1.2 Maintain check station, shop, 1 mile of fence and 7 other buildings located on WMA.  |
| it.        | 1.3 Maintain 24.4 miles of WMA roads.  |
| Objectives | 1.4 Maintain equipment located on WMA by cleaning and serving as needed.   |
| Ob         | 1.5 Maintain 2.1 miles of trails used for hunter access and other recreational users.  |
| Goal       | 2. Manage game and nongame wildlife, including rare, unusual, threatened, and endangered plants and animals, and other species by conserving, restoring and enhancing pine savanna ecosystems and other native habitats. |
|            | 2.1 Maintain two-year burn rotation in 1482 acres of coniferous forest habitats.   |
|            | 2.2 Thin 889 acres of coniferous forest habitat with basal areas per acre that exceed 70 square feet per acre (Table x)  |
|            | 2.3 Maintain 19.7 miles of firebreaks and existing infrastructure to create spatially arranged burn units less than 50 acres in size.  |
|            | 2.4 Control invasive plant species in 2374 acres of coniferous and broadleaf forest habitats.  |
| es         | 2.5 Manage understory in 1482 acres of coniferous forest habitats to maintain 1/3 each grasses, herbaceous and small woody vegetation.   |
| Objectives | 2.6 Increase brood field habitat to 200 acres.   |
| ]ec        | 2.7 Install four RCW recruitment clusters in appropriate habitat and maintain 660-foot   |
| Op         | radius around clusters. Nongame Conservation   |
| Goal       | 3. Provide outdoor recreational opportunities including hunting, fishing, and other non-consumptive uses as appropriate to resource protection.  |
|            | 3.1 Survey Lake Alexander to access potential fishing opportunities. Fisheries Management  |
| Objecti    | 3.2 Explore a proposal for improved access for kayak/canoe portages on the Ochlocknee River.   |
|            |  |

|            | 3.3 Maintain 14.2 miles of administrative roads to provide access for hunter and other recreational users. |  |  |
|------------|--|--|--|
|            | 3.4 Plant 20 acre dove field and 14 acres of season food plots annually.                                   |  |  |
| Goal       | 4. Protect unique features, and significant historical and archeological sites.                            |  |  |
|            | 4.1 Protect and maintain historic cemetery.  |  |  |
| itiv       | 4.2 Access to determine older structures are historical sites and remove if appropriate.                   |  |  |
| Objectives | 4.3 Preserve and protect seepage slopes on property.   |  |  |
| 16         |  |  |  |

# Excerpt XXX PFA 10-year Plan

|            | Excerpt XXX PFA 10-year Plan   |
|------------|--|
| Goal       | 1. Provide a variety of fishing opportunities and enhance sportfish populations through science-based principles.                          |
|            | 1.1 Standardized sampling will be conducted on 109-acre lake.  |
| SS         | 1.2 Manage water quality to enhance fish populations.  |
| tive       | 1.3 Create fish habitat as needed (e.g., PVC units, Christmas trees, pallets).   |
| Objectives | 1.4 Stock fish as necessary.   |
| Op         | 1.5 Manage aquatic vegetation on 109-acre lake.  |
| Goal       | 2. Provide a variety of hunting opportunities and enhance game populations through science-based principles.                               |
|            | 2.1 Plant 25 acre dove field. Game Management  |
|            | 2.2 Manage water level in 16-acre impoundment to produce seasonal waterfowl habitat  |
| es         | 2.3 Maintain 10 miles of administrative roads to provide access for hunter and other   |
| tiv        | recreational users.  |
| Objectives | 2.4  |
| 0          | 2.5  |
| Goal       | 3. Manage game and nongame wildlife, including rare, unusual, threatened, and endangered plants and animals, and other species of concern. |
|            | 3.1 Maintain two-year burn rotation in 500 acres of mixed coniferous and broadleaf forest habitats   |
| es         | 3.1  |
| Objectives | 3.3  |
| jec        | 3.4  |
| <b>O</b>   | 3.5  |
| Goal       | 4. Wetland mitigation enhancement activities will accelerate natural selection processes in a manner that is favorable for area wildlife.  |

|             | 4.1 Vegetation enhancement treatment of 40 acres of wetland                              |  |  |
|-------------|--|--|--|
|             | 4.2 Augment the hydrology of site by the introduction of a minimum maintenance flow into |  |  |
| the wetland |  |  |  |
| ective      | 4.3 Preserve 80 acres along the 1 mile creek corridor                                    |  |  |
| jec         | 4.4 Long-term monitoring and maintenance   |  |  |
| qo          | 4.5  |  |  |

**Excerpt: XXX WMA Annual Work Plan** 

| Objective | 2.1 Maintain two-year burn rotation in 1482 acres of coniferous forest habitats.  | Units |
|-----------|---|-------|
| 100       | 2.1.1 Burn young longleaf stands identified in attached burn plans between January 10 and February 28. (ACRES)                        | 20.6  |
| Tasks     | 2.1.2 Burn older upland pine stands identified on attached maps between March 1 and April 30. (ACRES)                                 | 769.6 |
| Objective | 2.2 Thin 889 acres of coniferous forest habitat with basal areas per acre that exceed 70 square feet per acre                         |       |
|           | 2.2.1 Complete and submit project proposal for pine stands identified on attached maps. Forest Management                             |       |
| 10        | 2.2.2 Mark leave trees in stands approved for thinning. Forest Management (ACRES)   | 383   |
| Tasks     | 2.2.3 Install new 36-inch culvert in crossing identified on attached map. (STRUCTURE)   | 1     |
| Objective | 2.3 Maintain 19.7 miles of firebreaks and existing infrastructure to create spatially arranged burn units less than 50 acres in size. |       |
| 10        | 2.3.1 Harrow firebreaks in January around burn units on this fiscal year's burn schedule. (MILES)                                     | 12    |
| Tasks     | 2.3.2 Rake administrative roads around burn units on this year's burn schedule the day before planned burns.                          | 14.2  |
| Objective | 2.4 Control invasive plant species in 2374 acres of coniferous and broadleaf forest habitats.   |       |
|           | 2.4.1 Broadcast stands identified on attached maps in February with 3 quarts of Accord XRT per acre to control climbing fern. (ACRES) | 65    |
| Tasks     | 2.4.2 Spot treat patches of climbing fern in stands identified on attached maps. (ACRES)  | 200   |
| Ta        | 2.4.3 GPS spots as they are treated and submit points to biologist for inclusion in   | 200   |

|           | GIS management database. (ACRES)   |    |
|-----------|--|----|
| Objective | 2.5 Manage understory in 1482 acres of coniferous forest habitats to maintain 1/3 each grasses, herbaceous and small woody vegetation.                       |    |
|           | 2.5.1 Spray stands identified on attached maps in January with 3 quarts of Garlon XRT per acre to control gallberry and fetterbush. (ACRES)                  | 57 |
| 76        | 2.5.2 Treat areas identified on attached maps in October. Apply 28 ounce imazapyr (2lb active), 2 ounces metsulfuron and 64 pounces CWC 90 per acre. (ACRES) | 44 |
| Tasks     | 2.5.3 Spray stands identified on attached maps in May with 3 quarts of Garlon XRT per acre to control gallberry and fetterbush. (ACRES)                      | 84 |

**Excerpt XXX PFA Annual Work Plan** 

| Excerpt XXX PFA Annual Work Plan   |   |    |  |  |
|--|---|----|--|--|
| 1.1 Standardized sampling will be conducted on 109-acre lake.                  |   |    |  |  |
|  | 1.1.1 Four boat-mounted electrofishing samples will be collected in the Spring. (MINUTES)   | 60 |  |  |
| ks   | 1.1.2 Four 15' shoreline seine samples will be conducted in the summer (SEIN HAULS)   | 4  |  |  |
| Tasks  |   |    |  |  |
| 1.2 Manage water quality to enhance fish populations.                          |   |    |  |  |
|  | 1.2.1 Monitor dissolved oxygen profiles weekly through the growing season; March-October  |    |  |  |
|  | 1.2.2 Lime 109-acre lake in winter (TONS per ACRE)  | 2  |  |  |
|  | 1.2.3 Monitor lake visibility by using a secchi disk weekly   |    |  |  |
| sks  | 1.2.4 Fertilize lake using the product label to maintain phytoplankton bloom (INCHES VISIBILITY) during the growing season; March-October | 18 |  |  |
| Tasks  |   |    |  |  |
| 1.3 Create fish habitat as needed (e.g., PVC units, Christmas trees, pallets). |   |    |  |  |
|  | 1.3.1 Twenty-four structures will be added during winter months. (STRUCTURES)   | 24 |  |  |
|  | 1.3.2 Identify fish attractor locations with GPS coordinates for updating lake fish attractor map   |    |  |  |
| Tasks  |   |    |  |  |
|  |   |    |  |  |
| 1.4 Stock fish as necessary.   |   |    |  |  |
|  |   |    |  |  |

|   | 1.4.1 Stock threadfin shad in spring. (# of FISH)                                 |   |  |  |  |
|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| Tacke   | 1.4.2 Stock hybrid bass in spring (FISH per ACRE)                                 | 5 |  |  |  |
| L   |   |   |  |  |  |
| 1.5 Manage aquatic vegetation on 109-acre lake. |   |   |  |  |  |
| Tasks   | 1.5.1 Winter drawdown will be conducted from November 1st – February 15th. (FEET) | 3 |  |  |  |
|   | 1.5.2 Spray undesirable aquatic vegetation as needed using approved aquatic       |   |  |  |  |
|   | herbicides; follow herbicide labels.  |   |  |  |  |
|   | 1.5.3 Stock grass carp (FISH per ACRE)  | 5 |  |  |  |

| Excerpt: XXX WMA Ten Year Plan 5-year Review   |  |          |   |
|--|--|----------|---|
|  |  |          | ding rare, unusual, threatened, and endangered plants and |
|  |  | g, res   | storing and enhancing pine savanna ecosystems and other   |
| nati   | ve habitats.                           |          |   |
|  | 2.1 Maintain two-year burn             |          |   |
|  | rotation in 1482 acres of              |          |   |
|  | coniferous forest habitats.            |          |   |
|  | 2.2 Thin 889 acres of coniferous       |          |   |
|  | forest habitat with basal areas per    |          |   |
|  | acre that exceed 70 square feet        |          |   |
|  | per acre (Table x)                     |          |   |
|  | 2.3 Maintain 19.7 <u>29.7</u> miles of |          |   |
|  | firebreaks and existing                |          |   |
|  | infrastructure to create spatially     |          |   |
|  | arranged burn units less than 50       |          |   |
|  | acres in size.                         |          | 10 miles of new firebreaks created                        |
|  | 2.4 Control invasive plant species     |          |   |
|  | in 2374 acres of coniferous and        |          |   |
|  | broadleaf forest habitats.             | _        |   |
|  | 2.5 Manage understory in 1482          |          |   |
|  | 1282 acres of coniferous forest        |          |   |
|  | habitats to maintain 1/3 each          |          |   |
|  | grasses, herbaceous and small          |          |   |
| -  | woody vegetation.                      |          | 200 acres of coniferous habitat converted to brood fields |
|  | 2.6 Increase brood field habitat to    |          |   |
| -  | 200 acres.                             | 1        |   |
|  | 2.7 Install four <u>three</u> RCW      |          |   |
| <b>10</b>  | recruitment clusters in                | Ŋ        |   |
| ve   | appropriate habitat and maintain       | ent      |   |
| Objectives   | 660-foot radius around clusters.       | Comments | Not enough suitable habitat for four clusters             |
| bje  | 2.8 Reestablish longleaf pine in       |          |   |
| Ō  | old field planted loblolly stands.     | <u> </u> |   |
| 3. Provide outdoor recreational opportunities including hunting, fishing, and other non-consumptive uses |  |          |   |

3. Provide outdoor recreational opportunities including hunting, fishing, and other non-consumptive uses as appropriate to resource protection.

|            | 3.1 Survey Lake Alexander to access potential fishing |          |   |
|------------|---|----------|---|
|            | opportunities.  | Comments |   |
|            | 3.2 Explore a proposal for                            |          |   |
|            | improved access for kayak/canoe                       |          |   |
|            | portages on the Ochlocknee                            |          | Environmental restrictions prevent establishment of |
|            | River.  |          | portages  |
|            | 3.3 Maintain 14.2 miles of                            |          |   |
|            | administrative roads to provide                       |          |   |
| Objectives | access for hunter and other                           |          |   |
|            | recreational users.                                   |          |   |
|            | 3.4 Manage food plots and dove                        | ne       |   |
|            | fields to improve hunt                                | mr       |   |
|            | opportunity and success rates.                        | Co       |   |

| Excerpt: XXX WMA Ten Year Plan 5-year Review   |   |   |  |  |
|--|---|---|--|--|
|  |   | ding rare, unusual, threatened, and endangered plants and |  |  |
|  | animals, and other species by conserving, restoring and enhancing pine savanna ecosystems and other |   |  |  |
| native habitats.   | O,  |   |  |  |
| 2.1 Maintain two-year burn   |   |   |  |  |
| rotation in 1482 acres of  |   |   |  |  |
| coniferous forest habitats.  |   |   |  |  |
| 2.2 Thin 889 acres of coniferous   |   |   |  |  |
| forest habitat with basal areas per  |   |   |  |  |
| acre that exceed 70 square feet  |   |   |  |  |
| per acre (Table x)   |   |   |  |  |
| 2.3 Maintain 19.7 <u>29.7</u> miles of   |   |   |  |  |
| firebreaks and existing  |   |   |  |  |
| infrastructure to create spatially   |   |   |  |  |
| arranged burn units less than 50   |   |   |  |  |
| acres in size.   |   | 10 miles of new firebreaks created                        |  |  |
| 2.4 Control invasive plant species   |   |   |  |  |
| in 2374 acres of coniferous and  |   |   |  |  |
| broadleaf forest habitats.   |   |   |  |  |
| 2.5 Manage understory in 1482  |   |   |  |  |
| 1282 acres of coniferous forest  |   |   |  |  |
| habitats to maintain 1/3 each  |   |   |  |  |
| grasses, herbaceous and small  |   |   |  |  |
| woody vegetation.  |   | 200 acres of coniferous habitat converted to brood fields |  |  |
| 2.6 Increase brood field habitat to  |   |   |  |  |
| 200 acres.   | 70  |   |  |  |
| 2.7 Install four three RCW recruitment clusters in appropriate habitat and maintain 660-foot radius around clusters. | Comments  |   |  |  |
| ्रम्   recruitment clusters in   | <br>me  |   |  |  |
| .폴 appropriate habitat and maintain  | l III   |   |  |  |
| 660-foot radius around clusters.   | ට   | Not enough suitable habitat for four clusters             |  |  |

|            | 2.8 Reestablish longleaf pine in old field planted loblolly stands.   |          |  |  |
|------------|---|----------|--|--|
|            | 3. Provide outdoor recreational opportunities including hunting, fishing, and other non-consumptive uses as appropriate to resource protection. |          |  |  |
|            | 3.1 Survey Lake Alexander to access potential fishing opportunities.  |          |  |  |
| Objectives | 3.2 Explore a proposal for improved access for kayak/canoe portages on the Ochlocknee River.  | Comments | Environmental restrictions prevent establishment of portages |  |
|            | 3.3 Maintain 14.2 miles of administrative roads to provide access for hunter and other recreational users.                                      |          |  |  |
|            | 3.4 Manage food plots and dove fields to improve hunt opportunity and success rates.  |          |  |  |