

Finger Lakes National Forest Forest Plan Revision

Timber, Vegetation and
Ecosystem Management
August 7, 2003

Agenda

- Welcome/Introductions/Announcements (7:00-7:10)
- Overview of Plan Revision (7:10-7:20)
- Timber, Vegetation, and Ecosystem Management (7:20-7:40)
- Clarifying Questions (7:40-8:00)
- Small Group Work (8:00-8:50)
- Conclusion/Walk around (8:50-9:00)

Announcements

- Meeting notes
- Past issues
- Missed previous meetings?
- Public input meetings – No Decisions

NEXT PUBLIC PLANNING MEETINGS

- **Thursday, September 4th 7:00-9:00pm**
Hector Fire Hall
Meeting Topic
Conservation of Biological Diversity
- **Thursday, October 2nd 7:00-9:00pm**
Hector Fire Hall
Meeting Topic To Be Announced

Goals for this evening:

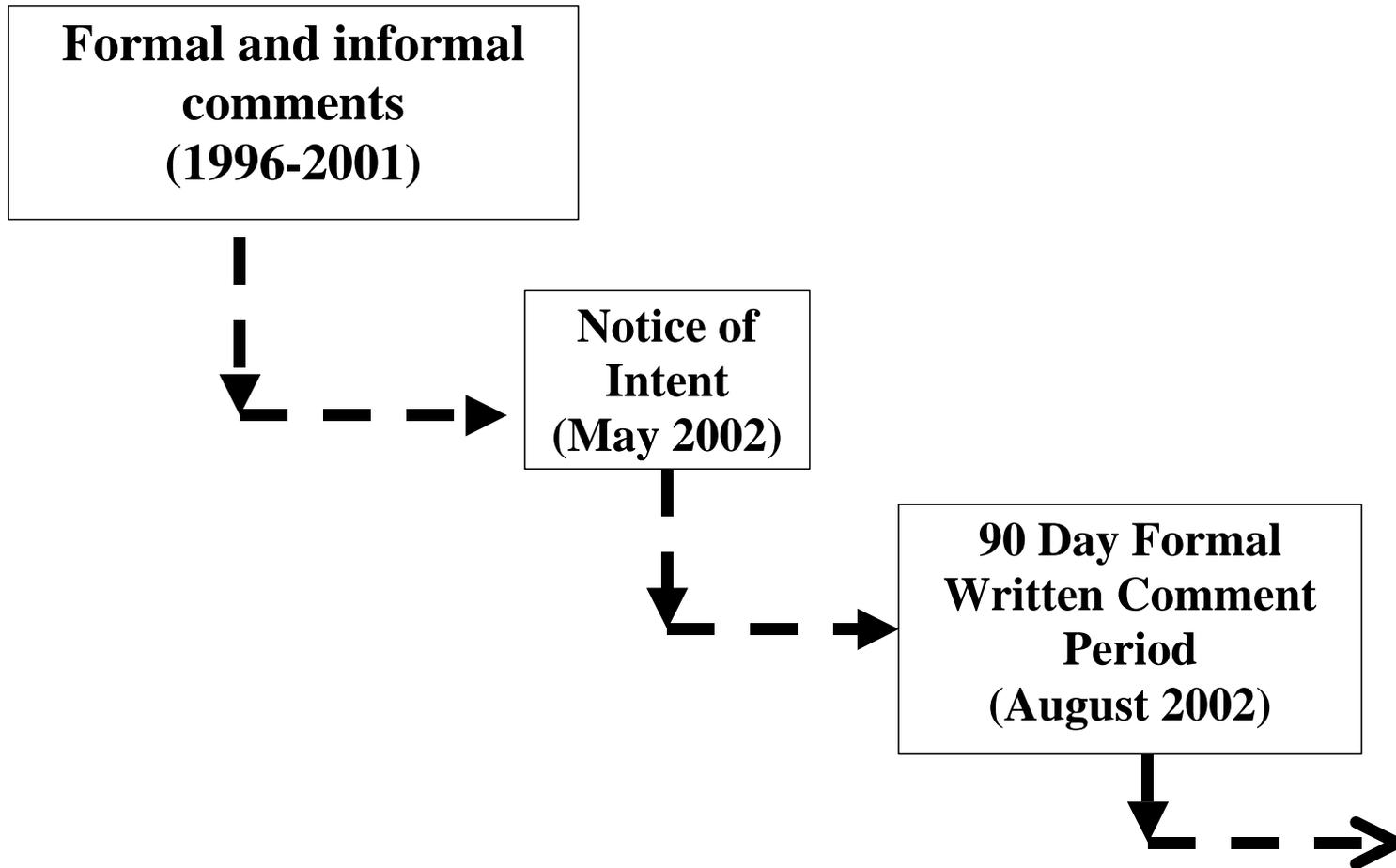
1. Provide information on vegetation, timber and ecosystem management on the FLNF
2. Gather public comments on vegetation, timber and ecosystem management for the revised Forest Plan

Forest Plan Revision

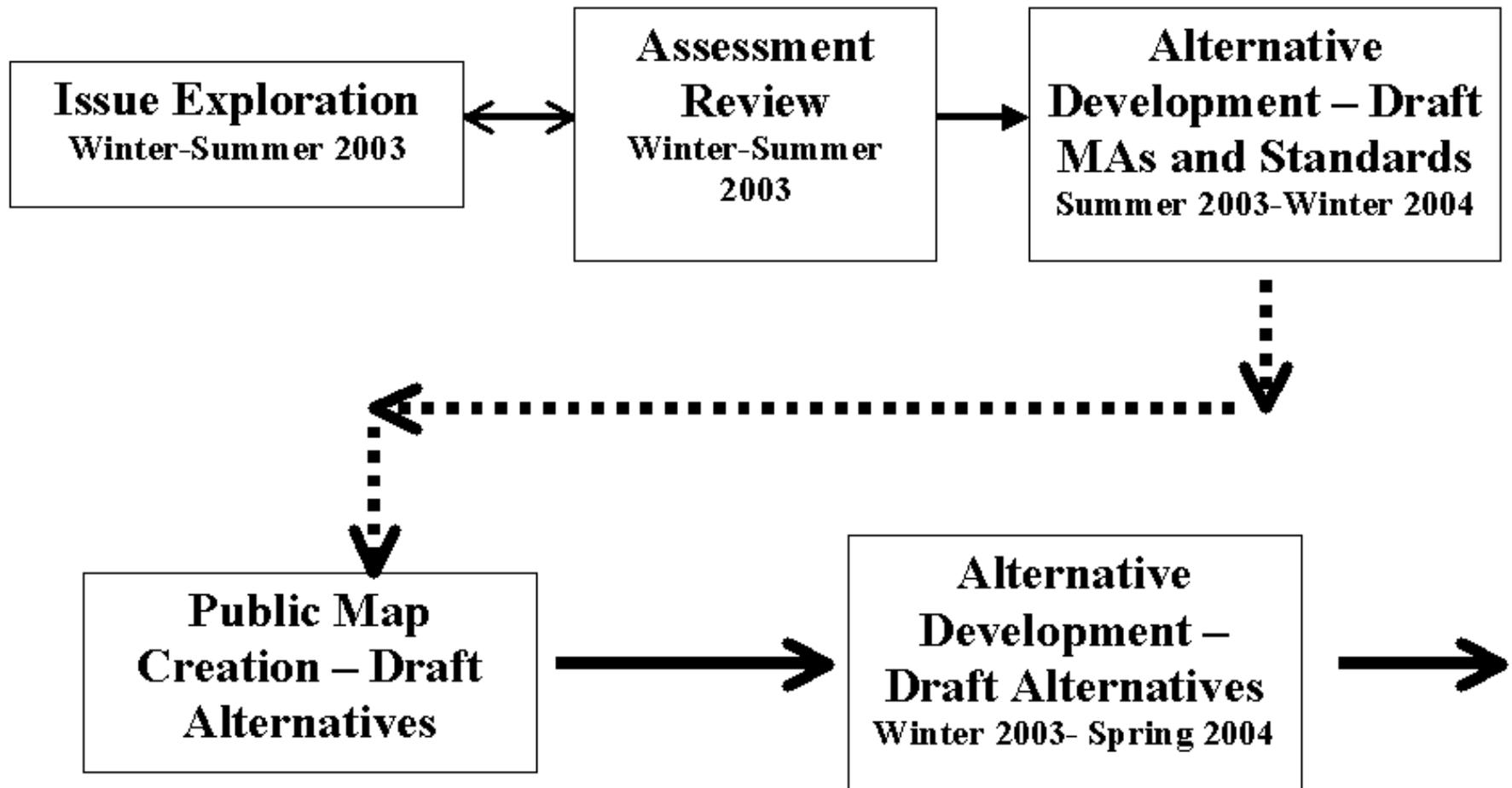
- Why are we revising the plan?
- How can you get involved?
- Where are we in the process?

FLNF Forest Plan Revision Timeline

Where we have been...

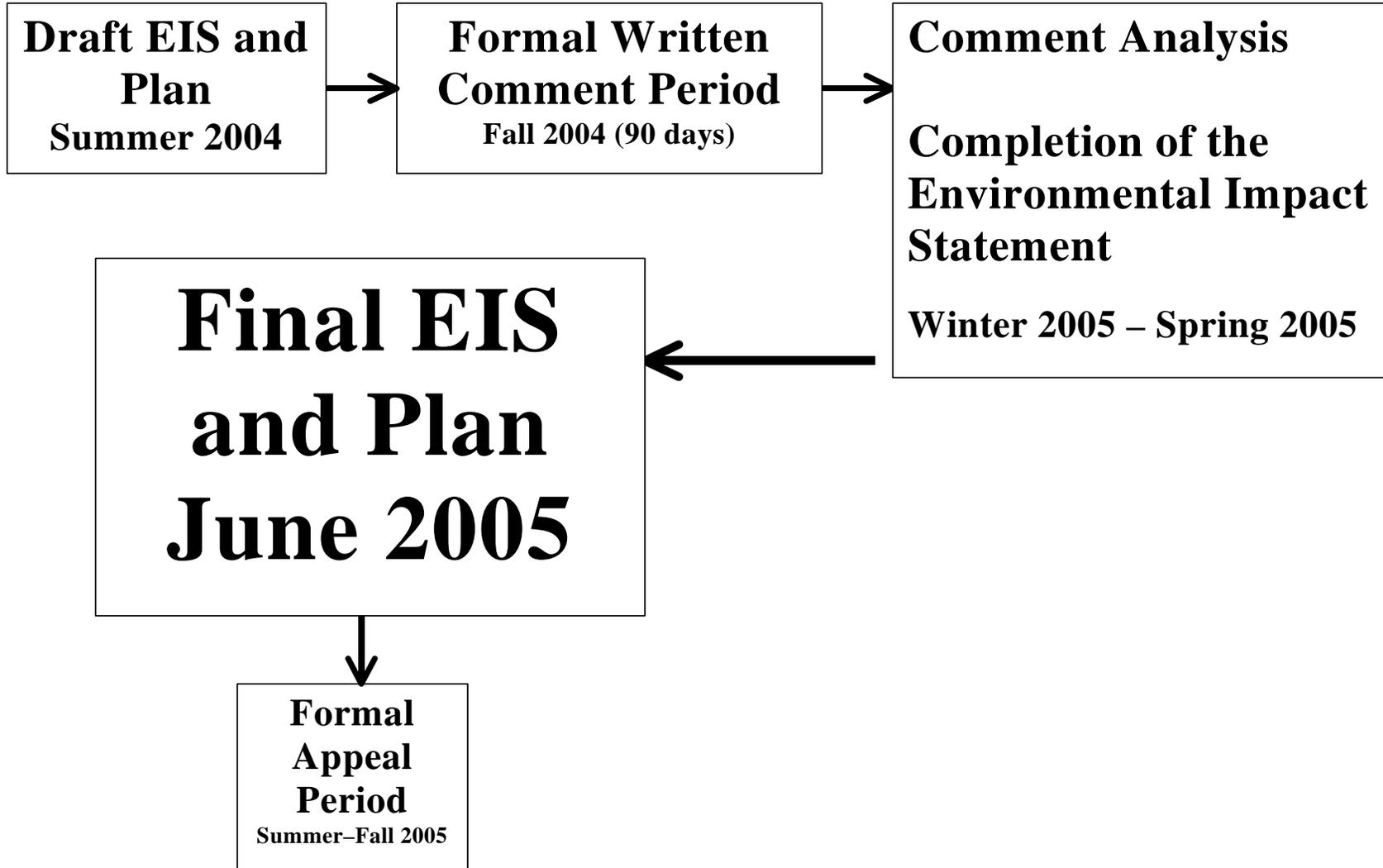


Public Involvement Timeline Winter 2003 - Spring 2004



Formal Public Involvement Timeline

Summer 2004 - June 2005

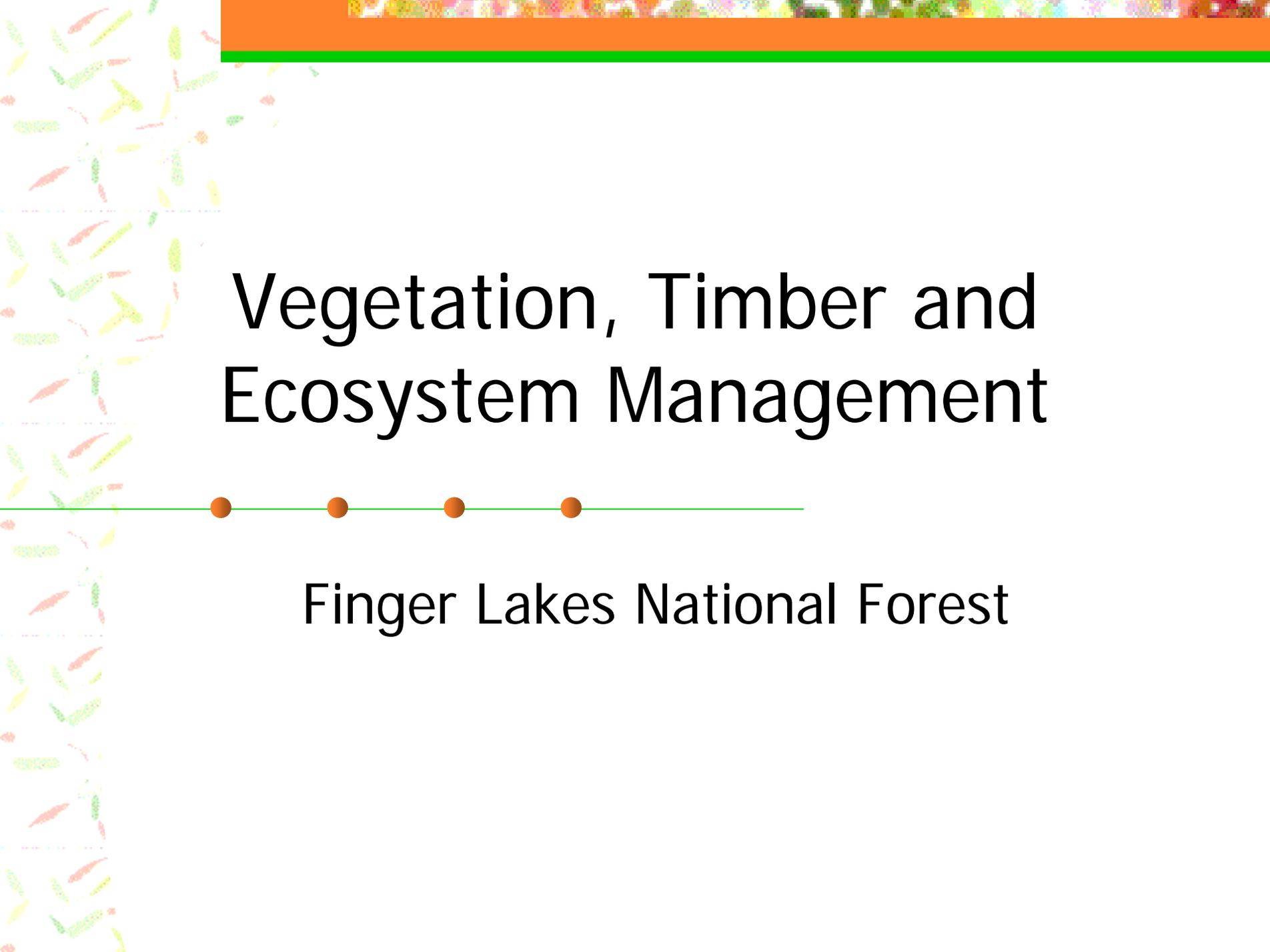


What is in a Forest Plan?

- Goals and Objectives
- Standards and guidelines
- Management Areas
- Land suitable for timber harvesting and upper limits on timber sales
- Monitoring and Evaluation Requirements

Issues are interrelated

- Ecosystem Management
- Timber
- Grazing
- Wildlife
- Recreation



Vegetation, Timber and Ecosystem Management



Finger Lakes National Forest

USDA Forest Service and Timber Harvesting

- Forest Service History
- Multiple Use and Sustained Yield Act
- Ecosystem Health
- Multiple benefits to people

Ecosystem Management

“An approach to the management of natural resources that strives to maintain or restore the sustainability of ecosystems and to provide present and future generations a continuous flow of multiple benefits in a manner that is harmonious with ecosystem sustainability.”

David Unger, Ass. Deputy Chief of the US Forest Service, 1996

FLNF and Habitat Diversity

- Why do we manage for different habitats?
- Grassland and Pasture
- Shrubland
- Forest land

FLNF History

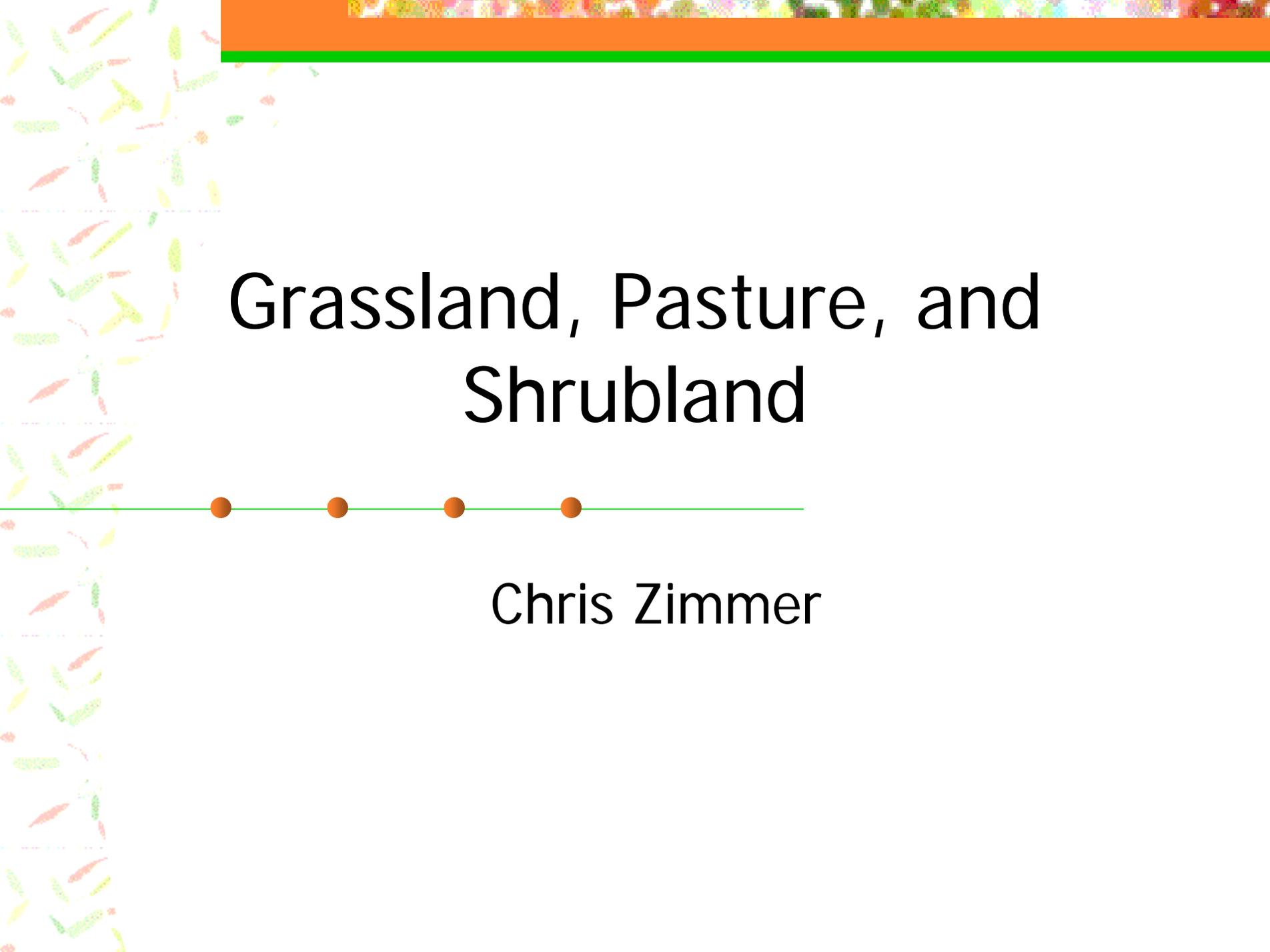
- Historic Land use
 - Military lots
 - Land Clearing
 - Farm abandonment
- Government Involvement
 - Soil Conservation
 - USDA Forest Service

FLNF Forest Plan

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- Current Forest Plan focus
 - Revised Forest Plan focus

FLNF Forest Plan

- Vegetative diversity
- Wildlife Habitat
- Vistas
- Improve Forest Health
- High quality saw timber
- Goods and Services



Grassland, Pasture, and Shrubland



Chris Zimmer

Grassland and Shrubland (approximate)

- Total National Forest: 16,439 acres
- Grassland: 648 acres (4%)
- Pasture: 5,946 acres (36%)
- Shrubland: 1,626 acres (10%)

Grassland and Shrubland Management

- Why we do this
- Tools used
- Wildlife
- Plants
- Invasive species

15 Year Summary of Grass and Shrub Management

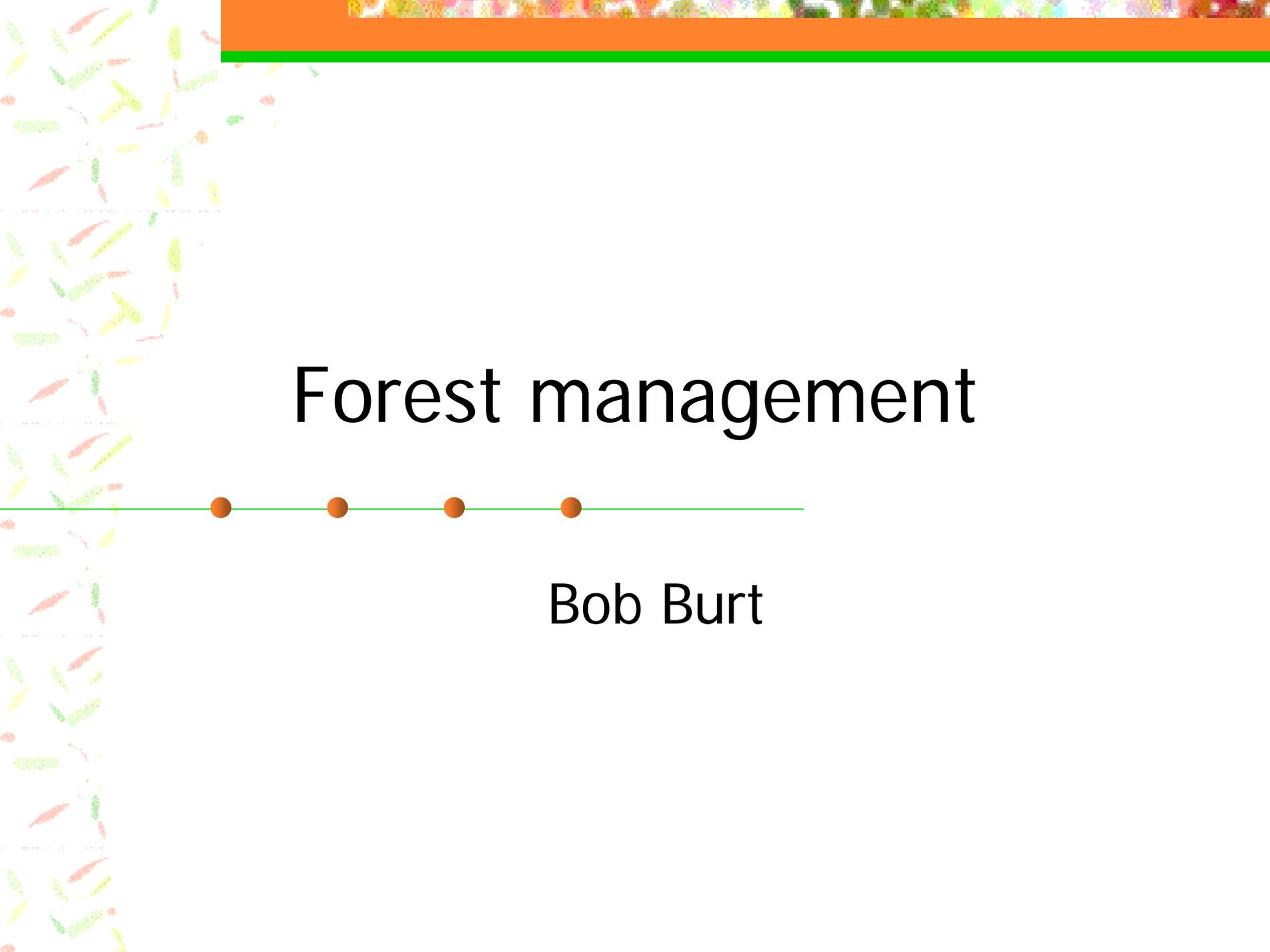
- How much?
- Who has done it?
- How does this fit with the Forest Plan

FLNF Pasture



FLNF Shrubland





Forest management

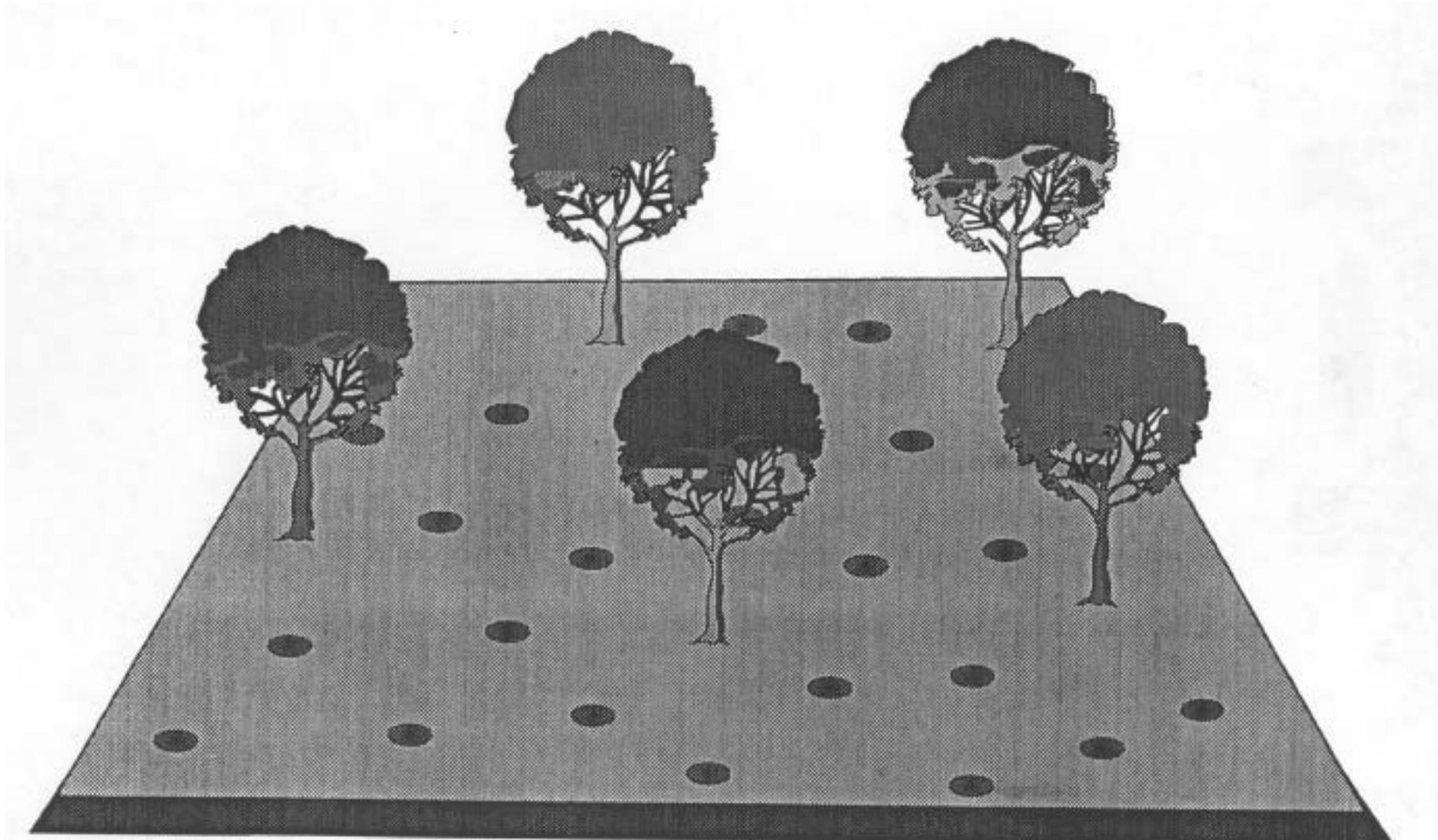


Bob Burt

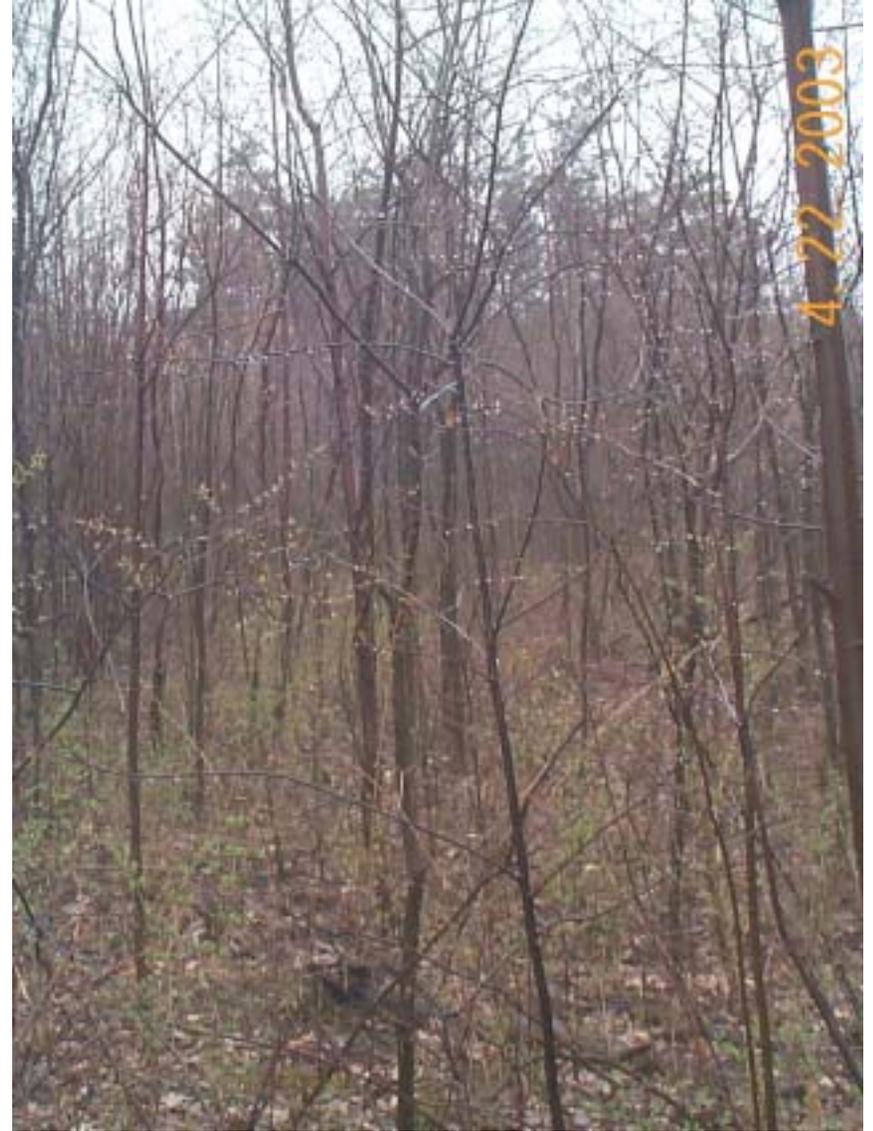
Even-aged Timber Management

- Why we do this
- Types of harvesting
- Forest Types
- Wildlife
- Plants

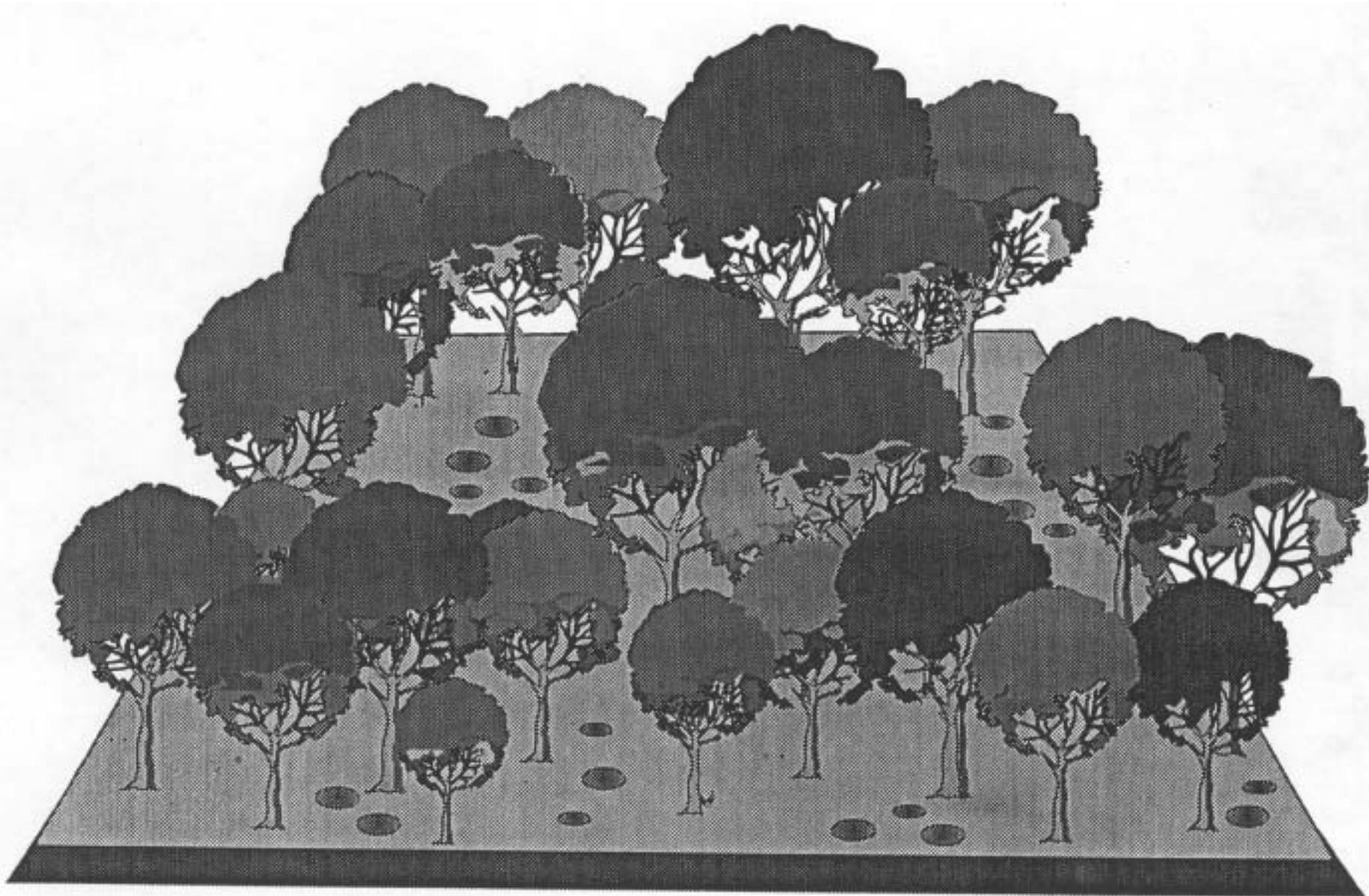
Clearcutting - Drawing



Clearcutting



Shelterwood - Drawing



Delayed Shelterwood



Delayed Shelterwood



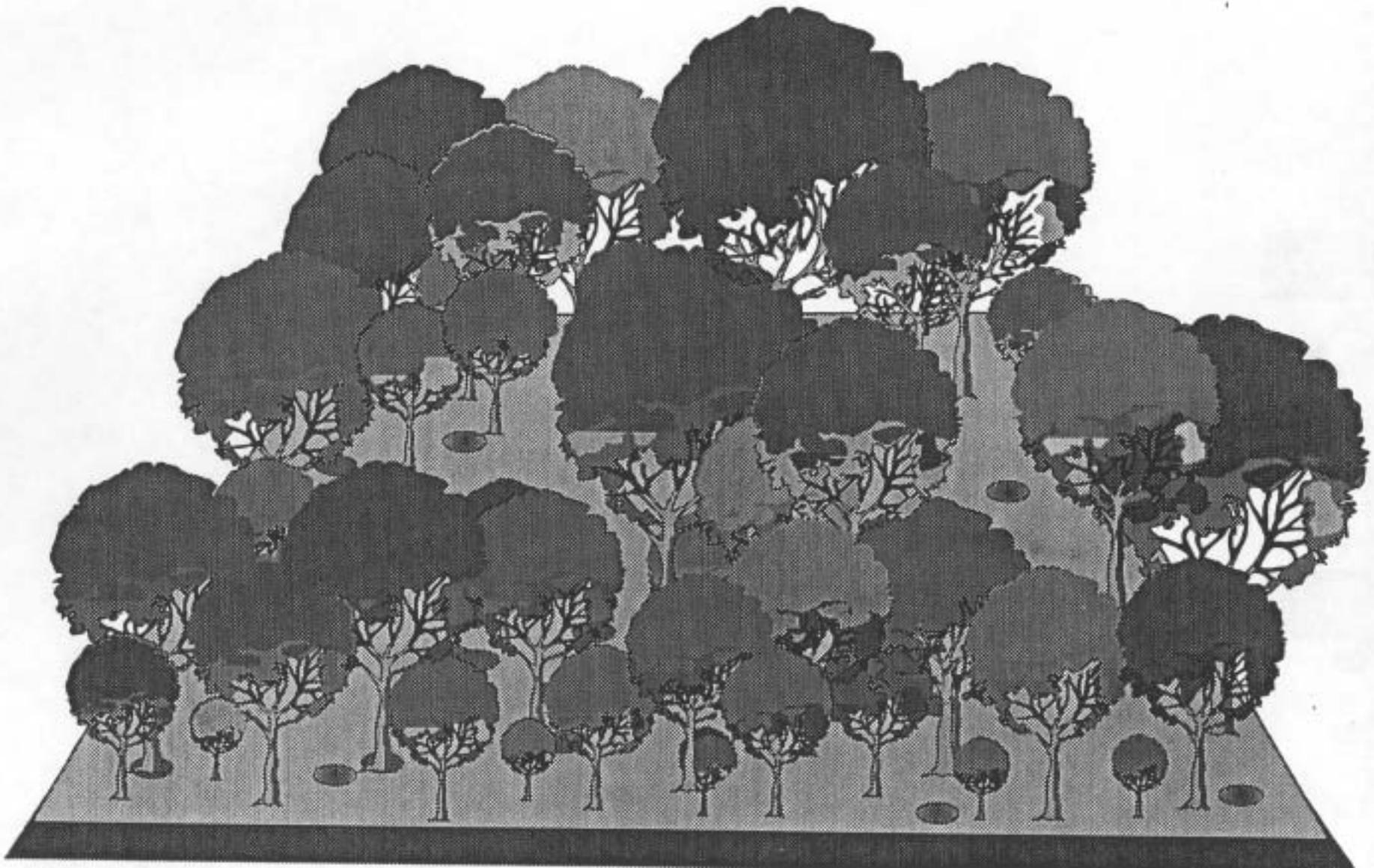
Red Pine Plantation



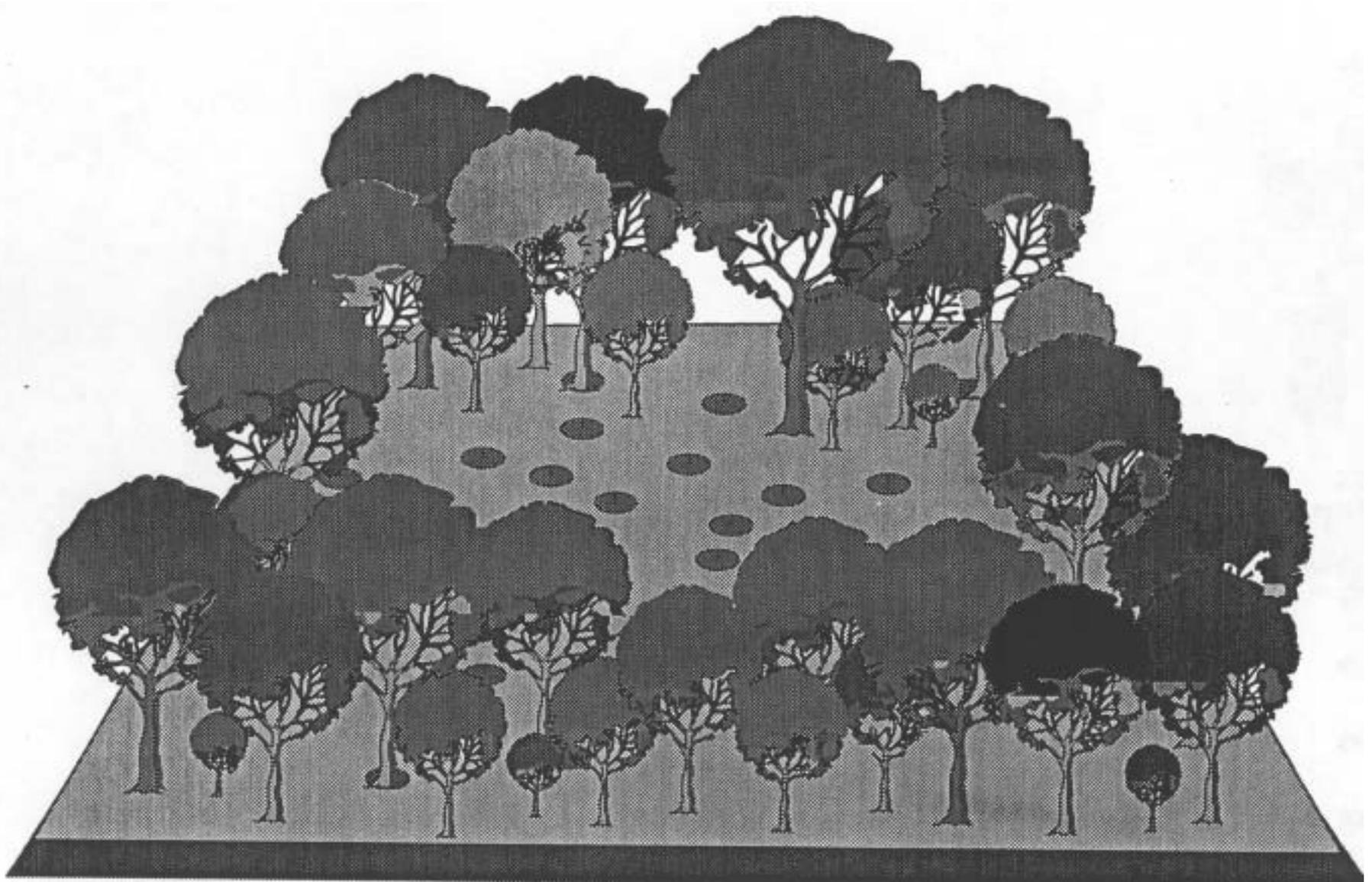
Uneven-aged Timber Management

- Why we do this
- Types of harvesting
- Forest types
- Wildlife

Single Tree Selection - Drawing



Group Selection - Drawing



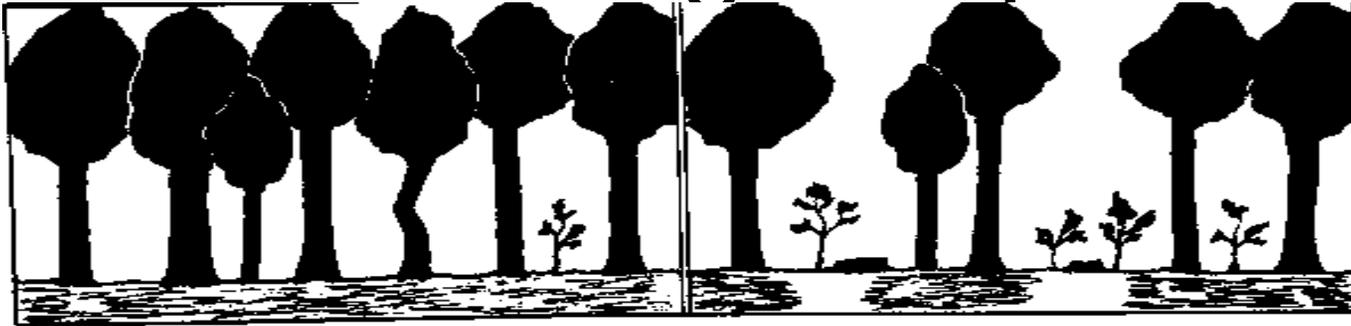
Unevenaged Management



Unevenaged Management

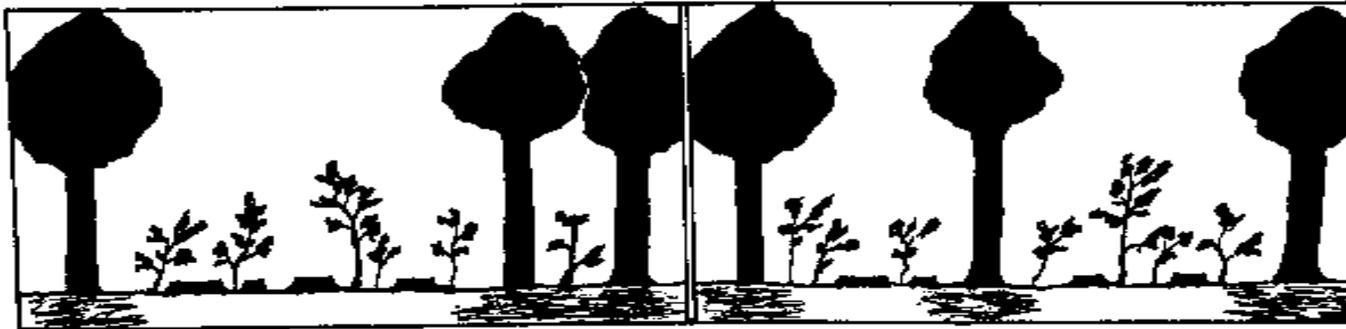


Timber drawing comparison



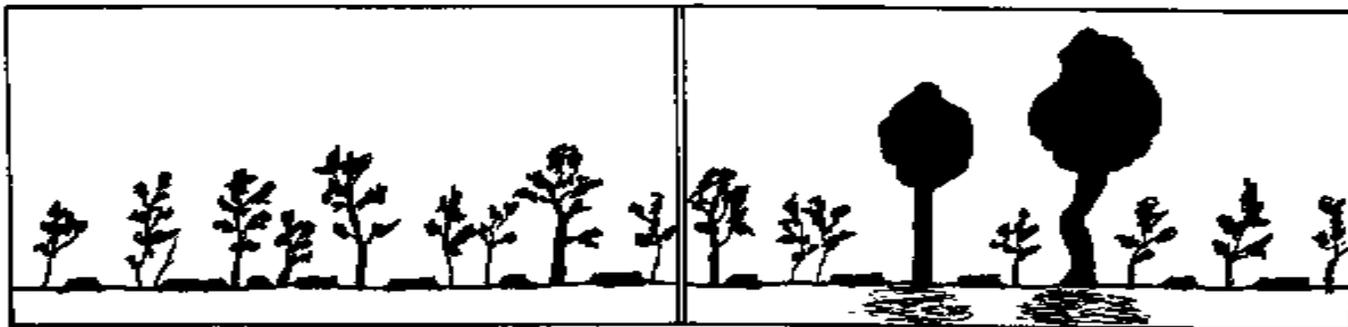
Uncut forest stand

After single tree selection harvest cut



After group selection harvest cut

After shelterwood harvest cut



After clear cut

**After commercial clear cut
(often termed "high-grading")**

Timber Harvesting Comparison

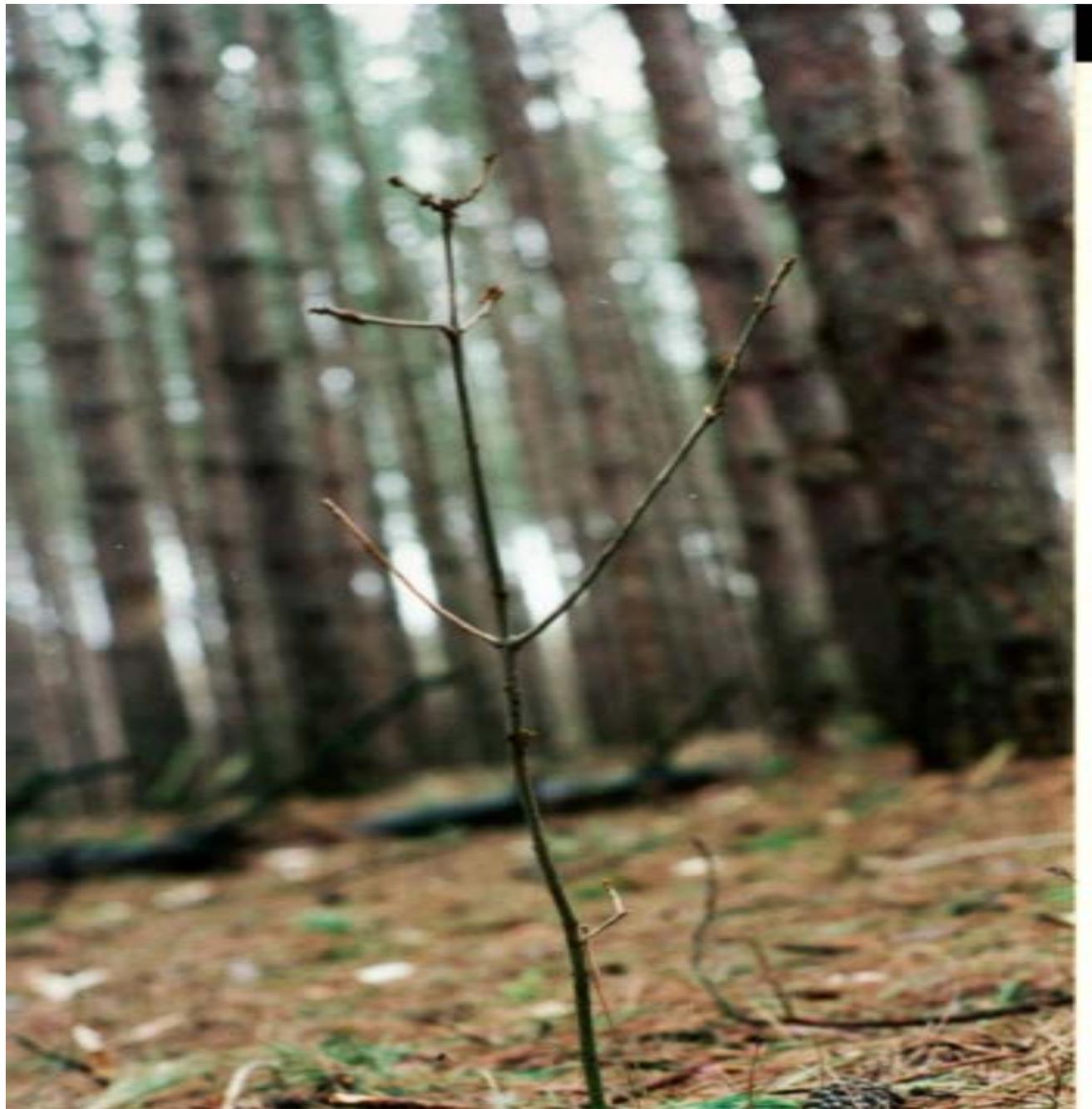
Even-age

- Favors Oak, ash, hickory, aspen
- Enter stand once every 50-150 years

Uneven-age

- Favors Maple, hemlock, beech
- Enter stand once every 5-10 years

Deer Damage



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Wildlife



15 Year Summary of Timber Harvesting

- Objectives for harvests
- Types of harvests
- How much?
- Who has done it?
- How does this fit with Forest Plan

Lands Suitable for Timber Harvest

- Total National Forest: 16,439 acres
- Forest areas: 8,934 acres (54%)
- Suitable for Timber: 5,652 acres (34%)
- Newly Acquired (MA 9.2) land: 1,295 acres
- Timber harvesting in 15 years 879 (5%) acres

Reminders

- Reflective Listening
- Everyone's view is valid
- No Decisions are being made tonight

Questions

1. What is your view or “desired future condition” for the Vegetation on the FLNF?
 - Forest communities: oak, maple, aspen, hemlock, etc. Mixes?
 - Tree size, age
 - Forest attributes: dark, quiet, open, park-like
 - Pasture, grassland, and shrubland

Questions

- What types of tools would you like to see used in vegetation management?
 - Even-aged, uneven-aged management
 - Demonstration Forestry
 - Others???
- Is this different from what is happening now?
- How does that fit with Question 1?

Next steps for Forest Plan revision

- Public input on issues
- Resource Assessments
- Forest Service staff input

- Forest Service will then use this information to draft alternatives for the revised Plan

CONTACT INFORMATION

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- Or visit our website:
[www.fs.fed.us/r9/gmfl/nepa_planning/
plan_revision.htm](http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/gmfl/nepa_planning/plan_revision.htm)



THANK YOU!