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<sup>1</sup> Name of Appendix H corrected 10/16/2008 by Administrative Correction # 1

## 6 – Vegetation

### Goal 6.1 – Meet Habitat Needs

Provide forest vegetation characteristics, from understory layers to the tree canopy, that meet the habitat needs of desired native and non-native plant and animal species. (See Wildlife Habitat Objectives 4.1a through 4.1g.)<sup>1</sup>

**Objective 6.1a** - Use all available silvicultural treatments, including pre-commercial and commercial thinning, regeneration harvesting, prescribed fire, shelterwood harvests, site preparation, and improvement cutting to promote the maintenance and restoration of the oak-hickory ecosystem.

**Objective 6.1b** - Use commercial timber sales and stewardship contracts to accomplish wildlife habitat objectives.

### Goal 6.2 – Improve Fire Regime Condition Class

Reintroduce fire into fire-adapted ecosystems to conserve biodiversity and promote ecosystem structure and function closer to the historic range of variability.

**Objective 6.2a** – Use prescribed fire to conserve fire-adapted plant and animal biodiversity and to maintain and restore mixed oak and native pine ecosystems.

**Objective 6.2b** – Use prescribed fire and mechanical treatments to modify current fuel composition, and fire frequency, severity and pattern.

**Objective 6.2c** – Use prescribed fire and mechanical treatments to maintain a current fire regime condition class that represents the historic range of variability.

### Goal 6.3 – Special Forest Products

Provide opportunities for the collection and use of special forest products. Manage removal of special forest products and monitor this use to sustain viable populations and future yields. Increase public awareness of special forest product harvesting impacts on populations and their ecosystems.

### Standards/Guidelines for Vegetation

#### Timber Management

**SFW-VEG-1:** Employ silvicultural methods for regeneration harvests that will result in adequate restocking within 5 years of a harvest.

**GFW-VEG-2:** Locate even-aged, final regeneration harvests in time and space so that temporary openings are at least 500 feet apart. Regenerated stands following even-aged timber regeneration harvest, such as clearcuts, two-aged cuts, and shelterwood harvests, will no longer be considered openings when trees in the new stand have reached a height of 20 feet.

<sup>1</sup> Reference to Wildlife Objectives corrected 10/16/2008 by Administrative Correction # 1

## 17 – Facilities and Transportation System

### Goal 17.1 – Buildings and Structures

Provide safe, efficient facilities and related structures that meet the needs of Forest visitors.

**Objective 17.1a** – Conduct detailed inspections of facilities every five years, more often if needed.

**Objective 17.1b** – Decommission facilities that are no longer needed.

### Goal 17.2 – Safety and Effectiveness of Dams

Maintain dams as safe and effective water storage facilities.

**Objective 17.2a** – Maintain dams to standard.

**Objective 17.2b** – Inspect high hazard dams annually.

**Objective 17.2c** – Decommissioned or appropriately dispose of dams no longer needed.

### Goal 17.3 – Transportation System

In cooperation with local, State, and Federal government agencies, provide a safe, efficient transportation system for moving people, equipment, and forest products.

**Objective 17.3a** – Reduce sedimentation and improve passage for aquatic and semi-aquatic organisms at Forest development road stream crossings and Forest Service recreation trail stream crossings.

**Objective 17.3b** – Decommission temporary and system roads when they are no longer needed for administration of the Forest or its resources.

**Objective 17.3c** – Maintain all roads in a condition that protects the government's investment. If funds do not allow for regular preventive maintenance, close roads or restrict traffic to protect resources or investment.<sup>1</sup>

**Objective 17.3d** – Maintain at Maintenance Level 3, or higher, roads intended for passenger vehicles.<sup>1</sup>

**Objective 17.3e** – Maintain at Maintenance Level 2 roads intended for high clearance vehicles.<sup>1</sup>

**Objective 17.3f** – Maintain at Maintenance Level 1 roads that are closed to public travel.<sup>1</sup>

**Objective 17.3g** – Remove hazard trees along Forest development roads from September 15 to April 15.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Numbering corrected 10/16/2008 by Administrative Correction # 1

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## River Corridors Management Area (RC)

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### Purpose

This management area emphasizes retaining, restoring, and enhancing the inherent ecological processes and functions associated with riverine systems. Management will protect or enhance the scenic quality of these areas to provide high-quality recreation opportunities. This management area includes linear-shaped corridors along Symmes Creek, the Hocking River, the Little Muskingum River, and the Ohio River.

### Desired Future Condition

National Forest System land along streams and rivers is predominantly forested; however, some floodplain wetlands or herbaceous-shrub communities may occur. Forest communities along streams and rivers are diverse and productive and generally contain multiple canopy layers with diverse habitat structure. A mixture of typical wet floodplain and mesic species dominate forested bottomlands, and typical upland and xeric species dominate the steeper slopes and ridge tops. The understory layer is highly variable. Vegetative conditions are maintained over time using both even-aged and uneven-aged techniques.

The long-term desired habitat composition is:

- 1-4% - Aquatic and wetland habitat
- 3-6% - Herbaceous or herbaceous/shrub habitat
- 75-80% - All-aged, multi-layered hardwood or hardwood/pine forest
- 12-20% - Even-aged hardwood forest
  - 8% - Early successional forest (<10 years) <sup>1</sup>
  - 8% - Early forest (10-19 years)
  - 32% - Mid-successional forest (20-59 years)
  - 32% - Late-successional forest (60-120 years)
  - 20% - Older, Overmature forest (>120 years)
- 1-10% - Even-aged pine forest
  - 12% - Early successional forest (<10 years)
  - 12% - Early forest (10-19 years)
  - 24% - Mid-successional forest (20-39 years)
  - 24% - Late-successional forest (40-59 years)
  - 28% - Older, overmature forest (>60 years)

The floodplains along the main streams function as storage areas for floodwaters, sources of organic matter for the streams and rivers, and habitat for riparian wildlife species. Aquatic communities are maintained or are returning to their historic compositions and distributions. Aquatic

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<sup>1</sup> Bullet indent corrected 10/16/2008 by Administrative Correction # 1

Goal	Objective	Monitoring Questions	Monitoring Frequency	Evaluation Frequency	Precision/Reliability
7.4 – Re-establish populations of native vegetation (e.g., American chestnut, American elm), as disease resistant varieties become available.		How many acres of native vegetation (eg American Chestnut, American Elm) as disease – resistant varieties have been re-established?	Annually	Every 5 years	B
8.1 – Safely implement the fire and fuels program of the Wayne National Forest. Promote State and Federal interagency cooperation in wildland fire and fuels management.	8.1b – Safely extinguish wildland fires using ground and/or air resources.	Number of wildfires suppressed with no reportable accidents/injuries or damage to private property. Number of acres of private property burned from fires with ignition on Forest Service land.	Every Wildfire	Annually	B
	8.1c – Reduce hazardous fuels within communities at risk in cooperation with local, State, and Federal agencies.	Number of acres in WUI treated for hazardous fuels reduction. Number of prescribed burns conducted in cooperation with local, state or other federal agencies.	Annually	Annually	B
	8.1e – Provide training to local volunteer fire departments in wildland fire suppression.	How many local volunteer fire departments were trained in wildland fire suppression?	Annually	Annually	B
10.1 – Provide a supply of mineral commodities for current and future generations, while protecting the long-term health and biological diversity of ecosystems. Facilitate the orderly exploration, development, and production of mineral and energy resources on land open to these activities.	10.1a – Coordinate with the Bureau of Land Management to offer leases of federally owned minerals.	Are expressions of interest and lease offers processed in a timely manner? <sup>1</sup>	Annually	Every 5 Years	B
	10.1b – Process plans of operation/applications for permit to drill on Federal leases in a timely manner.	How many plans of operation/applications for permit to drill on Federal leases were processed in a timely manner?	Annually	Every 5 years	B
10.2 – While respecting privately held mineral rights, negotiate operating terms and conditions and mitigation measures to protect other Forest resources.	10.2a – Process plans of operation (and applications for major modifications) for privately owned minerals (reserved and outstanding rights) within 60 days.	How many applications were processed within 60 days?	Annually	Every 5 years	B
	10.2b – Restore lands disturbed by minerals exploration and production when the minerals activity is completed.	How many mineral activities were adequately restored upon completion?	Annually	Every 5 years	B

<sup>1</sup> Monitoring question corrected 10/16/2008 by Administrative Correction # 1

**heritage resources** - The physical remains of sites, structures, networks, or objects used by humans in the past. They can be historic, prehistoric, archaeological, or architectural in nature. Generally a synonym of cultural resources, although heritage resources may be more broadly inclusive. (See cultural resources.)

**Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record (HABS/HAER)** - Federal programs to document and record important architectural, engineering and industrial sites throughout the United States. A complete set of HABS/HAER documentation on a given site consists of measured drawings, large-format photographs, and a detailed written history that becomes a lasting archival record which is housed at the Library of Congress in perpetuity.

**historic range of variability** - The natural fluctuation of components of healthy ecosystems over time. The range of conditions and processes which are likely to have occurred prior to settlement by people of European descent.

## I

**integrated pest management (IPM)** - The planned use of a variety of preventive, suppressive, or regulatory tactics and strategies that are ecologically and economically efficient and socially acceptable, to maintain destructive pests at tolerable levels.

**Interdisciplinary Team (IDT)** - A team of individuals with skills from different disciplines that focuses on the same task or project.

**interior forest habitat** - High canopy forest conditions suitable to meet the requirements of area-sensitive species that are adversely impacted by forest edge, including microclimate change (warmer, windier), increased predation, increased brood parasitism, and increased competition.

**intermediate thinning** - An intermediate treatment involving the removal of trees from a stand sometime between the establishment of the stand and the regeneration cut(s). See intermediate treatments.

**intermediate treatments** – An inclusive term for any treatment designed to enhance growth, quality, vigor, and composition of the stand between establishment of the stand and the regeneration cut(s). (See intermediate cutting. Types of intermediate treatments include thinning, release, and improvement cuttings.)<sup>1</sup>

**intermittent stream** - A stream that normally flows in response to a seasonally fluctuating water table in a well-defined channel (flowing 10-90 percent of an average year). The channel will exhibit signs of annual scour, sediment transport and other stream channel characteristics, absent perennial flows. Intermittent streams typically flow during times of elevated water table levels and may be dry during significant periods of the year, depending on precipitation cycles. Intermittent streams do not maintain fish populations or aquatic insects that have larvae with multi-year life cycles. Contrast with ephemeral stream and perennial stream.

<sup>1</sup> Definition added 10/16/2008 by Administrative Correction # 1