

Changes from the Phase 2 Field Guide version 4.0 to version 5.0

These change pages are intended to highlight significant changes to the field guide and does not contain all of the details or minor changes.

- Section 0 Introduction. Updated “Tree Limiting Dimensions”. Added “board foot merchantable top softwoods - 7.0 in DOB board foot merchantable top hardwoods - 9 in DOB”
- Section 0. Changed the Section Numbers as appropriate
- 0.1.2RM Planning Travel to the Vicinity of the Plot Center and Pinprick Verification: Deleted “and Pinprick Verification” and reference to the pinprick verification procedures. Prefielded plots no longer have photos pre-pinpricked.
- 0.1.3.1RM Establishing PC with the Garmin GPS Receiver. Deleted mention of the use of baseline procedures.
- 0.1.4RM Photo Work. Added this section header to clearly identify these procedures.
- 0.1.5RM Establishing a baseline and scale through 0.1.5.5RM Calculating azimuth and distance: deleted.
- 0.4.2RM MACROPLOT TREE TALLY. Deleted this section
- 0.4.2RM now Subplot Tree Tally – Updated “Qualifying Trees” definition of merchantable bole.
- 1.2.1RM USGS MAP NUMBER. Deleted this variable.
- 1.2.2RM CPN. Deleted this variable.
- 1.4 PLOT STATUS. Added text to code # 3. From “Nonsampled” to “Nonsampled – possibility of forest land”.
- 1.5 NONFOREST SAMPLING STATUS. Added this new variable.
- 1.5.2RM RANGE DATA. Deleted this variable.
- 1.6 NONFOREST PLOT STATUS. Added this new variable.
- 1.8 NONFOREST PLOT NONSAMPLED REASON. Added this new variable.
- 1.9.1RM REGIONAL FIELD GUIDE VERSION. Deleted this variable.
- 1.12 FIELD GUIDE VERSION. Changed *Values* from 4.0 to 5.0.
- 1.13. CURRENT DATE. Updated text to match new variable numbers.
- 1.15 HORIZONTAL DISTANCE TO IMPROVED ROAD. *When collected:* from “All plots with at least one accessible forest land condition class (PLOT STATUS = 1)” to “All plots with either one accessible forest land condition class (PLOT STATUS = 1) or one accessible nonforest land condition class when nonforest is being sampled (PLOT STATUS = 2 and NONFOREST SAMPLING STATUS = 1 and NONFOREST PLOT STATUS = 1).”
- 1.16 WATER ON PLOT. The descriptive text: from “Record the water source that has the greatest impact on the area within the accessible forest land portion of any of the four subplots. The coding hierarchy is listed in order from large permanent water to temporary water. This variable can be used for recreation, wildlife, hydrology, and timber availability studies.” to “Record the water source that has the greatest impact on the area within the accessible forest/nonforest land portion of any of the four subplots. The coding hierarchy is listed in order from large permanent water to temporary water. This variable can be used for recreation, wildlife, hydrology, and timber availability studies.”

When collected: from “All plots with at least one accessible forest land condition class (PLOT STATUS = 1)” to “All plots with either at least one accessible forest land condition class (PLOT STATUS = 1) or one accessible nonforest land condition class when nonforest is being sampled (PLOT STATUS = 2 and NONFOREST SAMPLING STATUS = 1 and NONFOREST PLOT STATUS = 1).”

The definition of code 0 from “None – no water sources within the accessible forest land CONDITION CLASS” to “None – no water sources within the accessible forest/nonforest land CONDITION CLASS”

- 1.17.1RM MACROPLOT RADIUS. Deleted this variable.
- 1.17.2RM MICROPLOT RADIUS. Deleted this variable.
- 1.17.3RM SUBPOT RADIUS. Deleted this variable.
- 1.17.4RM MICROPLOT LOCATION. Deleted this variable.
- 1.18.1RM OWNER CONTACT. Changed variable name to ADDITIONAL OWNER CONTACT
- 1.19 GPS Coordinates. Added text to the end of the description “...even if GPS has been used to locate the plot in the past.”
- 1.19.1 GPS Unit Settings, Datum, and COORDINATE SYATEM. Deleted the second paragraph and added the following to the end of the first paragraph: “Each FIA unit will use the NAD83 Datum to collect coordinates.”
- 1.19.2 Collecting Readings. Added and deleted text.
- 1.19.5 GPS ENTRY METHOD. Added this variable.
- 1.19.6 GPS DATUM. Deleted codes NAD27 and WGS84 because the GPS change proposal states that each FIA unit will use the NAD83 datum to collect coordinates.
- 1.19.8.1 LATITUDE DEGREES. *Tolerance* from “No errors” to “When GPS ENTRY METHOD=0, No errors in data entry; When GPS ENTRY METHOD =1, not applicable.” *MQO* from “At least 99% of the time” to “When GPS ENTRY METHOD=0, at least 99% of the time; When GPS ENTRY METHOD =1, not applicable.”
- 1.19.8.2 LATITUDE MINUTES. *Tolerance* from “No errors” to “When GPS ENTRY METHOD=0, No errors in data entry; When GPS ENTRY METHOD =1, not applicable.” *MQO* from “At least 99% of the time” to “When GPS ENTRY METHOD=0, at least 99% of the time; When GPS ENTRY METHOD =1, not applicable.”
- 1.19.8.3 LATITUDE SECONDS. *Tolerance* from “No errors” to “When GPS ENTRY METHOD=0, No errors in data entry; When GPS ENTRY METHOD =1, not applicable.” *MQO* from “At least 99% of the time” to “When GPS ENTRY METHOD=0, at least 99% of the time; When GPS ENTRY METHOD =1, not applicable.”
- 1.19.9.1 LONGITUDE DEGREES. *Tolerance* from “No errors” to “When GPS ENTRY METHOD=0, No errors in data entry; When GPS ENTRY METHOD =1, not applicable.” *MQO* from “At least 99% of the time” to “When GPS ENTRY METHOD=0, at least 99% of the time; When GPS ENTRY METHOD =1, not applicable.”
- 1.19.9.2 LONGITUDE MINUTES. *Tolerance* from “No errors” to “When GPS ENTRY METHOD=0, No errors in data entry; When GPS ENTRY METHOD =1, not applicable.” *MQO* from “At least 99% of the time” to “When GPS ENTRY METHOD=0, at least 99% of the time; When GPS ENTRY METHOD =1, not applicable.”
- 1.19.9.3 LONGITUDE SECONDS. *Tolerance* from “No errors” to “When GPS ENTRY METHOD=0, No errors in data entry; When GPS ENTRY METHOD =1, not applicable.” *MQO* from “At least 99% of the time” to “When GPS ENTRY METHOD=0, at least 99% of the time; When GPS ENTRY METHOD =1, not applicable.”
- 1.19.10 UTM ZONE. Not used by RM
- 1.19.11 EASTING (X) UTM. Not used by RM
- 1.19.12 NORTHING (Y) UTM. Not used by RM
- 1.19.13 Correction For “Offset” Location. Added the following text: “If the GPS unit is capable of calculating plot center coordinates, then AZIMUTH TO PLOT CENTER and DISTANCE TO PLOT CENTER both equal 00.”
- 1.19.14 AZIMUTH TO PLOT CENTER. The descriptive text: “Record the azimuth from the location where coordinates were collected to actual plot center. If coordinates are collected at plot center record 000.” to “Record the azimuth

from the location where coordinates were collected to actual plot center. If coordinates are collected at plot center or are corrected in the field to plot center, record 000.” *When collected:* from “When GPS UNIT = 2, 3, or 4” to “When GPS UNIT = 1, 2, 3, or 4”

- 1.19.15 DISTANCE TO PLOT CENTER. The descriptive text: “Record the horizontal distance in feet from the location where coordinates were collected to actual plot center. If coordinates are collected at plot center record 000.” to “Record the horizontal distance in feet from the location where coordinates were collected to actual plot center. If coordinates are collected at plot center or are corrected in the field to plot center, record 000.” *When collected:* from “When GPS UNIT = 2, 3, or 4” to “When GPS UNIT = 1, 2, 3, or 4”
- 1.19.16 GPS ELEVATION. Added “No errors” to Tolerance.
- 2.1.1 Step 1: Delineate the plot area by CONDITION CLASS STATUS. Added “-possibility of forest land” to number 5 in the list.
- 2.2 CONDITION CLASS STATUS Definitions. The description of #5 Nonsampled from “See section 2.4.3 CONDITION NONSAMPLED REASON for descriptions of land that qualifies as nonsampled” to “See section 2.4.3 CONDITION NONSAMPLED REASON for descriptions of land that qualifies as nonsampled. In cases where a condition is access-denied or hazardous land use, but obviously contains no forest land, record CONDITION CLASS STATUS = 2, 3 or 4. In cases where a condition is access-denied or hazardous land use and has the possibility of forest, record CONDITION CLASS STATUS = 5.”
- 2.2.1RM CROWN COVER. Deleted the option to calculate crown cover using rectangles and circles. Added procedures for calculating crown cover using ellipses.
- 2.4 Delineating Condition Classes Differing in Condition Class Status. Expanded caption of figure 5. Added figure 6 and corresponding text changes.
- 2.4.2 CONDITION CLASS STATUS. Added this text to the description: “In cases where a condition is denied access or hazardous, but obviously contains no forest land, record CONDITION CLASS STATUS = 2, 3 or 4. In cases where a condition is access-denied or hazardous land use and has the possibility of forest, record CONDITION CLASS STATUS = 5.” Also changed the definition of code 5 from “Nonsampled” to “Nonsampled – possibility of forest land”.
- 2.4.3. CONDITION NONSAMPLED REASON. Code 02: from “Denied access area – Any area within the sampled area of a plot to which access is denied by the legal owner, or to which an owner of the only reasonable route to the plot denies access. There are no minimum area or width requirements for a condition class delineated by denied access. Because a denied-access condition can become accessible in the future, it remains in the sample and is re-examined at the next occasion to determine if access is available. In some regions denied access plots may be replaced; check with the field supervisor regarding regional protocols for plot replacement.” to “Denied access area – Any area within the sampled area of a plot to which access is denied by the legal owner, or to which an owner of the only reasonable route to the plot denies access. There are no minimum area or width requirements for a condition class delineated by denied access. Because a denied-access condition can become accessible in the future, it remains in the sample and is re-examined at the next occasion to determine if access is available.” Code 03: from “Hazardous situation – Any area within the sampled area on plot that cannot be accessed because of a hazard or danger, for example cliffs, quarries, strip mines, illegal substance plantations, temporary high water, etc. Although the hazard is not likely to change over time, a hazardous condition remains in the sample and is re-examined at the next occasion to determine if the hazard is still present. There are no minimum size or width requirements for a condition class delineated by a hazardous condition. In some regions hazardous plots may be replaced; check with the field supervisor regarding regional protocols for plot replacement.” to “Hazardous situation – Any area within the sampled area on plot that cannot be accessed because of a hazard or danger, for example cliffs, quarries, strip mines, illegal substance plantations, temporary high water, etc. Although the hazard is not likely to change over time, a hazardous condition remains in the sample and is re-examined at the next occasion to determine if the hazard is still present. There are no minimum size or width requirements for a condition class delineated by a hazardous condition.” Code 10: from “Other – This code is used whenever a plot or condition class is not sampled due to a reason other than one of the specific reasons listed. A field note is required to describe the situation.” to “Other – This code is used whenever a condition class is not sampled due to a reason other than one of the specific reasons listed. A field note is required to describe the situation.” Code 11: from “Ocean – Plot falls in ocean water below mean high tide line” to “Ocean – Condition falls in ocean below mean high tide line”
- 2.4.4 NONFOREST CONDITION CLASS STATUS. Added this new variable.
- 2.4.5 NONFOREST CONDITION NONSAMPLED REASON. Added this new variable.

- 2.5.4 STAND SIZE CLASS. Corrected the text descriptions to match the numerical descriptions for codes 2, 3, 4, and 5.
- 2.5.10.4RM LIVE CROWN COVER. Deleted this variable.
- 2.5.10.5RM LIVE PLUS MISSING CROWN COVER. Deleted this variable.
- 2.5.10.6RM TOTAL SEEDLINGS. Deleted this variable.
- 2.5.10.8RM TREE FORM: Deleted this variable.
- 2.5.11 DISTURBANCE 1. The descriptive text, and *When collected* from “All accessible forest land condition classes (CONDITION CLASS STATUS = 1)” to “All accessible forest land condition classes (CONDITION CLASS STATUS = 1) or accessible nonforest condition classes when nonforest is being sampled (NONFOREST SAMPLING STATUS = 1 and CONDITION CLASS STATUS = 2 and NONFOREST CONDITION CLASS STATUS = 2)”.
- 2.5.13 DISTURBANCE 2. The text from “If a stand has experienced more than one disturbance, record the second disturbance here. See DISTURBANCE 1 for coding instructions.” to “Record the second disturbance here. See DISTURBANCE 1 for coding instructions.”
- 2.5.15 DISTURBANCE 3. The text from “If a stand has experienced more than two disturbance, record the third disturbance here. See DISTURBANCE 1 for coding instructions.” to “Record the third disturbance here. See DISTURBANCE 1 for coding instructions.”
- 2.5.17 TREATMENT 1. The *When collected* from “All accessible forest land condition classes (CONDITION CLASS STATUS = 1)” to “All accessible forest land condition classes (CONDITION CLASS STATUS = 1) or accessible nonforest condition classes when nonforest is being sampled (NONFOREST SAMPLING STATUS = 1 and CONDITION CLASS STATUS = 2 and NONFOREST CONDITION CLASS STATUS = 2).”
- 2.5.23 PHYSIOGRAPHIC CLASS. The *When collected* from “All accessible forest land condition classes (CONDITION CLASS STATUS = 1)” to “All accessible forest land condition classes (CONDITION CLASS STATUS = 1) or accessible nonforest condition classes when nonforest is being sampled (NONFOREST SAMPLING STATUS = 1 and CONDITION CLASS STATUS = 2 and NONFOREST CONDITION CLASS STATUS = 2)”.
- 2.5.24 PRESENT NONFOREST LAND USE. The text of the description. Changed the *When collected* from “CORE: SAMPLE KIND = 2, previous CONDITION CLASS STATUS = 1, current CONDITION CLASS STATUS = 2; CORE OPTIONAL: current CONDITION CLASS STATUS = 2” to “CORE: SAMPLE KIND = 2, current CONDITION CLASS STATUS = 2; CORE OPTIONAL: SAMPLE KIND = 1, 2, or 3; current CONDITION CLASS STATUS = 2”.

Code 10 from “Agricultural land - Land managed for crops, pasture, or other agricultural use. The area must be at least 1.0 acre in size and 120.0 feet wide. Use the 10 code only for cases not better described by one of the following:” to Agricultural land - Land managed for crops, pasture, or other agricultural use. The area must be at least 1.0 acre in size and 120.0 feet wide (with the exception of windbreak/shelterbelt, which has no minimum width.) Use the 10 code only for cases not better described by one of the following:”.

Added code 16 – Maintained wildlife opening and code 17- Windbreak/Shelterbelt.

Code 31 from “Cultural: business, residential, and other places of intense human activity.” To “Cultural: business (industrial/commercial), residential, and other places of intense human activity.”

Added code 34 – Mining.

Code 40 from “Other - Land parcels greater than 1.0 acre in size and greater than 120.0 feet wide, that do not fall into one of the uses described above. Examples include undeveloped beaches, barren land (rock, sand), marshes, bogs, ice, and snow.” to “Other - Land parcels greater than 1.0 acre in size and greater than 120.0 feet wide, which do not fall into one of the uses described above. Examples include undeveloped beaches, barren land (rock, sand), marshes, bogs, ice, and snow. Use the 40 code only for cases not better described by one of the following:”

Added code 41 – Nonvegetated

Added code 42 – Wetland

Added code 43 – Beach

Added code 45 – Nonforest-Chaparral

- 2.5.25 CANOPY COVER SAMPLE METHOD. Added this new variable.

- 2.5.26 LIVE CANOPY COVER. Added this new variable. Revised figure 17 as of 09/20/2010.
- 2.5.27 LIVE PLUS MISSING CANOPY COVER. Added this new variable.
- 2.5.28 TOTAL STEMS. Added this new variable.
- 3.0.1RM. Subplot Description Introduction. Deleted this.
- 3.2 SUBPLOT/MACROPLOT STATUS. Added this text to the description: "In situations where a subplot/macroplot is denied access or hazardous, but obviously contains no forest land, record SUBPLOT/MACROPLOT STATUS = 2. In cases where a subplot/macroplot is access-denied or hazardous land use and has the possibility of forest, record SUBPLOT/MACROPLOT STATUS = 3." Also change code 3 definition from "Nonsampled" to "Nonsampled – possibility of forest land".
- 3.3 SUBPLOT NONSAMPLED REASON. Code 02: from "Denied access area – Any area within the sampled area of a plot to which access is denied by the legal owner, or to which an owner of the only reasonable route to the plot denies access. There are no minimum area or width requirements for a condition class delineated by denied access. Because a denied-access condition can become accessible in the future, it remains in the sample and is re-examined at the next occasion to determine if access is available. In some regions denied access plots may be replaced; check with the field supervisor regarding regional protocols for plot replacement." to "Denied access area – Any area within the sampled area of a plot to which access is denied by the legal owner, or to which an owner of the only reasonable route to the plot denies access. There are no minimum area or width requirements for a condition class delineated by denied access. Because a denied-access condition can become accessible in the future, it remains in the sample and is re-examined at the next occasion to determine if access is available." Code 03: from "Hazardous situation – Any area within the sampled area on plot that cannot be accessed because of a hazard or danger, for example cliffs, quarries, strip mines, illegal substance plantations, temporary high water, etc. Although the hazard is not likely to change over time, a hazardous condition remains in the sample and is re-examined at the next occasion to determine if the hazard is still present. There are no minimum size or width requirements for a condition class delineated by a hazardous condition. In some regions hazardous plots may be replaced; check with the field supervisor regarding regional protocols for plot replacement." to "Hazardous situation – Any area within the sampled area on plot that cannot be accessed because of a hazard or danger, for example cliffs, quarries, strip mines, illegal substance plantations, temporary high water, etc. Although the hazard is not likely to change over time, a hazardous condition remains in the sample and is re-examined at the next occasion to determine if the hazard is still present. There are no minimum size or width requirements for a condition class delineated by a hazardous condition." Code 10: from "Other – This code is used whenever a plot or condition class is not sampled due to a reason other than one of the specific reasons listed. A field note is required to describe the situation." to "Other – This code is used whenever a condition class is not sampled due to a reason other than one of the specific reasons listed. A field note is required to describe the situation." Code 11: from "Ocean – Plot falls in ocean water below mean high tide line" to "Ocean – Subplot falls in ocean below mean high tide line"
- 3.4 NONFOREST SUBPLOT/MACROPLOT STATUS. Added this new variable.
- 3.5 NONFOREST SUBPLOT/MACROPLOT NONSAMPLED REASON. Added this new variable.
- 3.8 SUBPLOT SLOPE. The *When collected* from "All subplots with at least one accessible forest land condition present on subplot (SUBPLOT/MACROPLOT STATUS = 1)" to "All subplots with at least one accessible forest land condition present on subplot (SUBPLOT/MACROPLOT STATUS = 1) or subplots with an accessible nonforest condition class present when nonforest is being sampled (NONFOREST SAMPLING STATUS = 1 and SUBPLOT/MACROPLOT STATUS = 2 and NONFOREST SUBPLOT/MACROPLOT STATUS = 1)".
- 3.9 SUBPLOT ASPECT. The *When collected* from "All subplots with at least one accessible forest land condition present on subplot (SUBPLOT/MACROPLOT STATUS = 1)" to "All subplots with at least one accessible forest land condition present on subplot (SUBPLOT/MACROPLOT STATUS = 1) or subplots with an accessible nonforest condition class present when nonforest is being sampled (NONFOREST SAMPLING STATUS = 1 and SUBPLOT/MACROPLOT STATUS = 2 and NONFOREST SUBPLOT/MACROPLOT STATUS = 1)".
- 3.10 SNOW/WATER DEPTH. The *When collected* from "All subplots with at least one accessible forest land condition present on subplot (SUBPLOT/MACROPLOT PLOT STATUS = 1)" to "All subplots with at least one accessible forest land condition present on subplot (SUBPLOT/MACROPLOT STATUS = 1) or

SUBPLOT/MACROPLOT STATUS = 2 and NONFOREST SAMPLING STATUS = 1 and NONFOREST SUBPLOT/MACROPLOT STATUS = 1)".

- 5.0 TREE AND SAPLING DATA. The descriptive text: from "The following apply at remeasurement:
 - If at the previous visit a forked tree was recorded as two separate trees but should have been recorded as one tree, delete one tree and correct the diameter for the remaining tree. Give one of the tree data lines a PRESENT TREE STATUS = 0, RECONCILE = 27, and a TREE NOTE. The remaining tree data line receives PRESENT TREE STATUS = 1 or 2 with DIAMETER CHECK = 2, and a TREE NOTE."to "The following apply at remeasurement:
 - If at the previous visit a forked tree was recorded as two separate trees but should have been recorded as one tree, give one of the tree data lines a PRESENT TREE STATUS = 0, RECONCILE = 7 or 8, and a TREE NOTE. The remaining tree data line receives PRESENT TREE STATUS = 1 or 2 with DIAMETER CHECK = 2, and a TREE NOTE."
- 5.2 TREE RECORD NUMBER. Added clarifying text: Missed trees and ingrowth trees (trees that either grew over the 1.0-inch threshold on the microplot or grew onto the subplot) will be assigned the next available tree number. Also added the procedure of assigning the next available tree number to an ingrowth tree previously on old center microplot.
- 5.7.1 RECONCILE. Clarified code 1 from "Ingrowth or reversions - either a new tally tree not qualifying as through growth or a new tree on land that was formerly nonforest and now qualifies as forest land (reversion or encroachment)." to "Ingrowth - either a new tally tree not qualifying as through growth or a new tree on land that was formerly nonforest and now qualifies as forest land (reversion or encroachment)."
- 5.9 DIAMETER. Added text to end of first paragraph: "Macroplot tree diameter thresholds are determined according to regional specifications (see regional field guides for more information)."
- 5.9.1 PREVIOUS DIAMETER AT BREAST HEIGHT. Added clarifying text. "**RM** Change the downloaded PREVIOUS DIAMETER AT BREAST HEIGHT if the previous crew made an obvious data entry error by transposing or adding a number to the DBH (i.e. crew entered 17.1 inches DBH last time when it was most likely 7.1 inches DBH)."
- 5.9.2 DIAMETER AT BREAST HEIGHT (DBH). Deleted the **RM** statement: **RM** – Change the PAST DBH/DRC if it is obviously incorrect (see PAST DBH/DRC).
- 5.9.3 PREVIOUS DIAMETER AT ROOT COLLAR. Added clarifying text. "**RM** Change the downloaded PREVIOUS DIAMETER AT ROOT COLLAR if the previous crew made an obvious data entry error by transposing or adding a number to the DRC (i.e. crew entered 17.1 inches DRC last time when it was most likely 7.1 inches DRC)."
- 5.18 UNCOMPACTED LIVE CROWN RATIO. The phrase "actual tree length" to "ACTUAL LENGTH".
- 7.1.1RM. Site Tree Requirements. Changed this to be a Section header.
- 7.1.2RM. Site Tree Selection. Changed this to be a Section header and add clarification text: "Assign each nontallied site tree selected to the nearest subplot. Nontallied site trees that are referenced to a particular subplot must be recorded with TREE RECORD NUMBER 0. All other tree data is entered normally, but the maximum HORIZONTAL DISTANCE for a nontallied site tree that is referenced to a subplot is 200.0 feet. Nontallied site trees that are not referenced to a subplot can also be entered. If the trees HORIZONTAL DISTANCE is greater than 200 feet, leave the SUBPLOT NUMBER, HORIZONTAL DISTANCE, and AZIMUTH blank and enter all other data for the site tree normally. These non-referenced site trees require a note of where the tree is located which could include AZIMUTH and HORIZONTAL DISTANCE, GPS coordinates or some other description of where the tree maybe located."
- 7.2.3 DIAMETER. Added information to make this variable consistent with 5.9:
Field width: 4 digits (xxx.y)
Tolerance: +/- 0.1 in per 20.0 in increment of measured diameter on all live trees and dead trees with DECAY CLASS = 1, 2
+/- 1.0 in per 20.0 in increment of measured diameter on dead trees with DECAY CLASS = 3, 4, 5
For woodland species: +/- 0.2 in per stem
MQO: At least 95% of the time. For example: a tree with a diameter of 41.0 in would have a tolerance of plus or minus 0.3 in. (Note: the MQO for point of measurement is +/- 0.2 in when the tree is first measured and within 1 ft of the location established by the previous crew when the tree is remeasured.)

Values: 001.0 to 999.9

- 7.2.4.1RM SITE TREE. Deleted the Value “0” and added clarification text.
- 7.2.7 SUBPLOT NUMBER. Added **RM** When Collected: All suitable and unsuitable site trees with a HORIZONTAL DISTANCE of < 200.0 feet.
- 7.2.8 AZIMUTH. Added **RM** When Collected: All suitable and unsuitable site trees with a HORIZONTAL DISTANCE of < 200.0 feet.
- 7.2.9 HORIZONTAL DISTANCE. **RM** When Collected: All suitable and unsuitable site trees with a HORIZONTAL DISTANCE of < 200.0 feet.
- Section 8. Phase 2 (P2) Vegetation Profile (Core optional). Added this new section containing multiple new variables. Section 8 of Version 4.0 (Field Location Reference Form and Plot Monumentation Records) was changed to Section 12.
- Section 9. Invasive Plants. Added this new section containing multiple new variables.
- 10.2.18RM RECONCILE. Added description to Code 7 – Cruiser Error and also added Code 9 – Tree was sampled before, but now the area where the tree was located is nonsampled.
- Section 12. Changed this Section around to correspond more appropriately to MIDAS.
- 12.11RM. Photographing the Plot Location. Added procedures for a Replacement Plot.
- Appendix 1. State and County, Parish, or Borough FIPS Codes. Corrected spelling of Alaska codes 013 and 016
- Appendix 2. FIA Forest Type Codes. Added the following forest type codes and descriptions (new text in red type):

		Tropical and Subtropical Hardwoods Groups	
E		982	Mangrove swamps
E	W	983	Palms
		984	Dry forest
		985	Moist forest
		986	Wet and rain forest
		987	Lower montane rainforest
E		989	Other tropical and subtropical hardwoods

Also, the retired forest type descriptions were deleted: 181, 183, 223, 803, 807, 925, 926, 932, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 981,

- Appendix 3. FIA Tree Species Codes. 57 species on the species code list in version 4.0 were designated with a C, indicating that the species are also commonly found in the Caribbean. Also, 817 new species were added that are to be tallied in the Caribbean. (These codes are at the end of the species code list, after code 0999, and are designated with a C, indicating that the species are commonly found in the Caribbean.)
- Appendix 6. Glossary. Made the definition of seedlings consistent with the text in section 6.
 - Added to the definitions of Merchantable Bole and Merchantable Top to reflect changes made in 2009 to the FORM DEFECT rules.
- Appendix 7. Added an asterisk to each variable name that has both a CORE and CORE OPTIONAL *When collected* and updated the table to match the changes in the rest of the field guide.
- Appendix 9. Invasive Plant List. Added this new appendix.
- Appendix 10. Unknown Plant Specimen Collection. Added this new appendix.

- Appendix A. Deleted old Understory Vegetation Description field form and added P2 Vegetation Structure, P2 Vegetation Species Composition, and Invasives field forms. Updated all other forms to include any new variables and the change from UTM's to LAT/LONG.
- Appendix B.4. Added examples of defect chart use.
- Appendix C. Little's Tree Species list. Deleted.
- Appendix D. Item Coding Guide. Deleted.
- Appendix E. Garmin Operating Instructions: Renamed to Appendix C. Added instructions for the GPSmap 62S. Deleted the Range Calculation procedures (only worked with UTM coordinates).
- Appendix F. Laser 200 Instruction. Renamed to Appendix D.