

Additions/Changes or Deletions made from the 2003 manual

General

- Subplot Data now Chapter 8, Tree Data now Chapter 9, Understory Data now Chapter 10, and Accounting now Chapter 11
- Regional (RMRS) variables and procedures are indicated by shading of the text - In previous years the National Core variables were shaded.
- New Cover
- Added: all Core “item” numbers

Chapter 1 - Introduction

- Updated some "Everyday Considerations" and “Field Organization”

Chapter 2 – Finding the Location Center

None

Chapter 3 – Defining the Condition Class and Condition Class Description

- Combined chapters 3 (Defining the condition class) and chapter 8 (Condition Class Description Items)
- Changed: The Secondary Habitat Type code will now be the same as the Primary code unless a secondary code is needed. Last year 9999999 was used which is now a valid code
- Added: Forest Type 709 Cottonwood/Willow
- Changed: the stocking rules where a plot is stocked (forested) with any combination of 40 seeds /Saps/Trees.
- Changed: CONDITION STATUS was changed to CONDITION CLASS STATUS
- Rearranged: Section 2 CONDITION CLASS. Several of the sub-sections were rearranged for clarity and in some cases renumbered.
- Changed: Step 1: Delineate the plot area by CONDITION CLASS STATUS. Changed “5. Denied access area, 6. Area too hazardous to visit, and 7. Area that is not in the sample, e.g., in Canada or Mexico” to “5. Nonsampled”. Also, added text addressing an additional attribute, PRESENT NONFOREST Land Use, used at remeasurement.
- Added: Figures 8,9, and 10
- Modified: Figure 14
- Modified: CONDITION CLASS STATUS
- Added: CONDITION NONSAMPLED REASON
- Changed: DENIED ACCESS. Changed “DENIED ACCESS” to code 02 “denied access area” in PLOT NONSAMPLED REASON.
- Moved and Changed: HAZARDOUS. Changed “HAZARDOUS” to code 03 “Hazardous situation” in PLOT NONSAMPLED REASON.
- Moved and Changed: NOT IN THE SAMPLE. Changed “NOT IN THE SAMPLE” to code 01 “Outside U.S. boundary” in PLOT NONSAMPLED REASON.
- Added: Figures 18-23
- Changed: FOREST TYPE. Added additional text to address forest type if STAND SIZE CLASS is nonstocked. Addressed MQO in the same situation.

- Changed: STAND SIZE CLASS. Modified some text and deleted some text from the description under Values.
- Changed: STAND SIZE CLASS. Changed variable description from “Record the code that best describes the predominant size class of all live trees in the condition class that are not overtopped.” to “Record the code that best describes the predominant size class of all live trees in the condition class.”
- Changed: STAND SIZE CLASS. Clarified (b) of code 0 from “for forest types where stocking standards are not available, less than 5 percent crown cover of trees of any size” to “for several western woodland species where stocking standards are not available, less than 5 percent crown cover of trees of any size”.
- Changed: STAND SIZE CLASS. Clarified code 6 from “Cover trees (non-tallied)” to “Cover trees (trees not on species list, used for plots classified as nonforest)”
- Changed: DISTURBANCE 1. Changed code 10 from “Insects” to “Insect damage”. Added code “11 insect damage to understory vegetation” and code “12 insect damage to trees, including seedlings and saplings”. Changed code 20 from “Disease” to “Disease damage”. Added code “21 disease damage to understory vegetation” and code “22 disease damage to trees, including seedlings and saplings”. Added code “55 earth movement/avalanches”. Clarified code 80.
- Clarified: TREATMENT 1. Clarified Code 30, code 40, and code 50.
- Deleted: PAST NONFOREST / INACCESSIBLE LAND USE
- Changed: PRESENT NONFOREST LAND USE. Listed the codes: 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 20, 30, 31, 32, 33, and 40. Deleted code 90 series.
- Deleted: NONFOREST YEAR
- Clarified: BOUNDARY CHANGE. Added additional text to code 0.
- Clarified: CORNER DISTANCE. Added text to Values for microplot and annular plot.
- Deleted: Forest Type Code 999

Chapter 4 – Field Procedure Overview

None

Chapter 5 – Field Location Layout and Tree Sampling Procedures

Changed: Wording on qualifying saplings: Only tally live saplings are tallied.

Chapter 6 – Field Location Reference

- Added: clarification to Noxious Weed procedures – chapter 6 **and** 10
- Added: Detail on what exactly is collected on the separate Reference File (Option 0).

Chapter 7 – Field Location Description (Plot Identification Items)

- Changed: Manual version from V 1.7 to V 2.0
- Added: PLOT NONSAMPLED REASON"
- Deleted: RANGE DATA
- Changed: Denied Access/Hazardous” was changed to “NONSAMPLED”
- Changed: PLOT NUMBER. When collected changed from “All plots” to “SAMPLE KIND = 1 or SAMPLE KIND = 2”.

- Added: PLOT STATUS
- Changed: SAMPLE KIND. Code definitions clarified.
- Added: PREVIOUS PLOT NUMBER
- Changed: YEAR. Values: changed from “Beginning with 1998, constant for a given year” to “> 2003”
- Deleted: TRAILS OR ROADS
- Deleted: ROAD ACCESS
- Deleted: PUBLIC USE RESTRICTIONS
- Deleted: RECREATION USE 1
- Deleted: RECREATION USE 2
- Deleted: RECREATION USE 3
- Changed: QA STATUS. Clarified code 7 as “Hot check (production plot)”.
- Changed: 1.14.3 GPS UNIT. Changed code 3 from “Trimble GeoExplorer or Pathfinder Pro” to “Other brands capable of producing files that can be post-processed”. changed code 4 from “Recreational GPS (Garmin, Magellan, etc.)” to “Other brands not capable of field-averaging or post processing”.
- Added: Regional (RMRS) SAMPLE KIND

Chapter 8 – Subplot Data

- Changed: 3.2 SUBPLOT/ANNULAR PLOT STATUS. Codes changed from “0 No accessible forest land condition class” and “1 At least one accessible forest land condition class” to “1 Sampled – at least one accessible forest land condition present on subplot” and “2 Sampled – no accessible forest land condition present on subplot” and “3 Nonsampled”.
- Added: SUBPLOT NONSAMPLED REASON
- Clarified: SUBPLOT SLOPE. Changed When collected from “All subplots with an accessible forest land condition class (CONDITION STATUS = 1)” to “All subplots with at least one accessible forest land condition present on subplot (SUBPLOT/ANNULAR PLOT STATUS = 1)”.
- Clarified: SUBPLOT ASPECT. Changed When collected from “All subplots with an accessible forest land condition class (CONDITION STATUS = 1)” to “All subplots with at least one accessible forest land condition present on subplot (SUBPLOT/ANNULAR PLOT STATUS = 1)”.
- Clarified: SNOW/WATER DEPTH. Changed When collected from “All subplots with an accessible forest land condition class (CONDITION STATUS = 1)” to “All subplots with at least one accessible forest land condition present on subplot (SUBPLOT/ANNULAR PLOT STATUS = 1)”.

Chapter 9 – Tree Data

- Deleted: HEIGHT TO CROWN no longer collected
- Clarified: Recording > 20 stems on woodland trees
- Changed: Tally only LIVE Saplings
- Clarified: TREE AND SAPLING DATA. The When collected stated as “All live and dead tally trees > 1.0 in DBH/DRC” was changed to “All live tally trees > 1.0 in DBH/DRC and standing dead tally trees > 5.0 in DBH/DRC”.
- Changed: CONDITION CLASS NUMBER. Changed When collected from “All live and standing dead tally trees > 1.0 in DBH/DRC” to “All trees”.
- Added: PREVIOUS TREE STATUS

- Changed: PRESENT TREE STATUS. Changed name from “TREE STATUS” to “PRESENT TREE STATUS”. And clarified codes 0, 2, and 3. Deleted code 4 “Missing – tree was tallied in previous inventory but now is missing due to natural causes such as landslide, fire, etc. (remeasurement plots only).” Added text for remeasurement plots.
- Changed: RECONCILE. Changed name from “NEW TREE RECONCILE” to “RECONCILE”. Clarified code 2 and added codes 5-8.
- Added: STANDING DEAD. Also added some new figures.
- Deleted: LEAN ANGLE
- Changed: MORTALITY (CORE OPTIONAL). Clarified text.
- Changed: SPECIES. Changed Field width from “3” to “4”.
- Modified: DIAMETER. Modified the Tolerance values.
- Clarified: DIAMETER AT BREAST HEIGHT. Added an example of how to measure DBH on a tree with a curved bole (pistol butt tree).
- Clarified: TOTAL LENGTH. Clarified to what point the tree is measured for TOTAL LENGTH.
- Clarified: ACTUAL LENGTH. Clarified how ACTUAL LENGTH is measured and clarified when collected.
- Clarified: UNCOMPACTED LIVE CROWN RATIO. Clarified method text.
- Clarified: COMPACTED CROWN RATIO. Clarified method text.
- **Added: Figure 40 (Figure number needs to change after formatting chapter 9).**
- Changed: CAUSE OF DEATH. Added text to code 70. Changed text of code 80 from “Human-caused (cultural, logging, accidental, etc.)” to “Silvicultural or landclearing activity (death caused by harvesting or other silvicultural activity, including girdling, chaining, etc., or to landclearing activity). Deleted code 90 “Physical (hit by falling tree)”. Also, changed When collected from “All TREE STATUS = 1 at time 1 and TREE STATUS = 2 or 3 at time 2” to “CORE: SAMPLE KIND = 2 plots: all PAST TREE STATUS = 1 and PRESENT TREE STATUS = 2 or 3; or PRESENT TREE STATUS = 2 and RECONCILE = 1, 2, or 3; CORE OPTIONAL: SAMPLE KIND = 1 plots; all MORTALITY = 1”.
- Clarified: MORTALITY YEAR. Changed When collected from “All TREE STATUS = 1 at time 1 and TREE STATUS = 2 or 3 and time 2” to “Plots where SAMPLE KIND = 2: all PREVIOUS PAST TREE STATUS = 1 and PRESENT TREE STATUS = 2 or 3; or PRESENT TREE STATUS = 2 and RECONCILE = 1, 2, or 3”.
- Changed: LENGTH TO DIAMETER MEASUREMENT POINT (CORE OPTIONAL). Change the following text from “If the diameter is not measured at 4.5 ftfeet, record the actual length from the ground, to the nearest 0.1 inch, at which the diameter was measured for each tally tree, 1.0 inch DBH and larger” to “If the diameter is not measured at 4.5 ftfeet, record the actual length from the ground, to the nearest 0.1 foot, at which the diameter was measured for each tally tree, 1.0 inch DBH and larger.”.
- Deleted: UTILIZATION CLASS.
- Clarified: ROUGH CULL (CORE OPTIONAL). Clarified the text about how to collect.
- Changed: TREE NOTES. Changed When collected from “ All live and dead tally trees > 1.0 in DBH/DRC” to “All trees”.
- Changed: SEEDLING DATA. Changed introductory text from “are coded as 6. Species are coded in order from most abundant to least abundant when SEEDLING COUNT is coded as 6. are coded as 6. Species are coded in order from most abundant to least abundant when SEEDLING COUNT is coded as 6. are coded as 6. Species are coded in order from most abundant to least abundant when SEEDLING COUNT is coded as 6. Counts beyond 5 are coded as 6. Species are coded in order from most abundant to least abundant when SEEDLING COUNT is coded as 6.” to “Counts beyond five estimated.”

- Changed: SPECIES (in Seedling Data) field width from “3 digits” to “4 digits”.
- Changed: CONDITION CLASS NUMBER (Seedling Data. Changed name from “CONDITION CLASS” to “CONDITION CLASS NUMBER”.
- Changed: SEEDLING COUNT. Text modified, field width changed from “1 digit” to “3 digits”, MGO changed from “95” to 90”, and values changed from “1 to 5 – exact count. 6 – More than 5 individuals by species by condition class” to “001 through 999”.
- Changed: SITE TREE LENGTH. Changed Values from “001 to 999” to “005 to 999”.
- Clarified: “center microplot” to “formerly centered microplot” in “When Collected” for many variables
- Clarified: DRC procedures for deciduous woodland oak and bigtooth maple
- Changed: “Height” to “length” in ACTUAL and TOTAL TREE LENGTH sections.

Chapter 10 – Understory Vegetation description

- Added clarification to Noxious Weed procedures - Chapters 6 and 10

Chapter 11 – Accounting Procedures

- Changed: Do not collect information on microplot ingrowth.
Changed: NEW TREE RECONCILE to RECONCILE
- Added: Code “0” to Reconcile “Tree not measured”
- Delete: STUMP DIAMETER
- Delete: “Hard” or “Soft” dead from CURRENT TREE STATUS
- Deleted: POINT HISTORY
- Added: All Site Tree Data Variables
- Added: MONTH
- Added: DAY
- Added: YEAR
- Added: POINTS ACCOUNTED
- Added: NON ACCOUNTED REASON
- Added: MICROPLOTS ACCOUNTED
- Added: LAND USE
- Added: CO-LOCATED

Appendices

- Deleted: Appendix A.7 Tree-Check Form
- Deleted: Appendix B Map, Photo, and Traversing Tables
- Deleted: Appendix F Variable Name Abbreviations
- Deleted: Appendix C.2 Square foot basal area values for certain diameters
- Deleted: Appendix C.5 Circular Defect Deduction Table
- Combined: Appendix C.6 and C.7 into Defect Chart and Guidelines
- Deleted: Appendix E Item Coding Guides from manual and will provide as handout
- Changed and Updated all appropriate field forms to reflect any changes
- Added: Appendix G – Site Tree Selection Criteria and codes

P3

- Changed: DAMAGE SEVERITY 1 (CORE OPTIONAL). Changed the tolerance from “No errors” to “+ 1 valid class unless otherwise defined by the DAMAGE TYPE”.

- Clarified: DAMAGE LOCATION 2. Added “(CORE OPTIONAL)” to name.
- Clarified: DAMAGE TYPE 2. Added “(CORE OPTIONAL)” to name.
- Clarified: DAMAGE SEVERITY 2. Added “(CORE OPTIONAL)” to name.