



Update on Basal Area Stocking Standards from the Uneven-age Working Group

Overview- Issues Identified

- ▶ Shade intolerant reproduction
- ▶ Fire resilience
- ▶ Technical issues

1. Alternative Rx:

- ▶ Potential solution to several problems
- ▶ General experience has been that such creative “non-standard” approaches are met with skepticism by reviewing agencies, which in turn leads to extended review times

2. Group Selection

- ▶ Larger Groups.
- ▶ Third Generation Entries.
- ▶ Increase Area of Group Openings to something higher than 20%.

3. Transition

- ▶ Eliminate the upper limit of stocking.
- ▶ Reduce Site I stocking level from current 85 to 50 sq. ft. BA/ac.
- ▶ Remove the requirement for Selection regeneration method after two subsequent Transition entries.

4. Southern Sub District Rules

- ▶ Allow more harvesting than 50% of trees between 12 and 18 inches
- ▶ Other possible changes for flexibility

5. Technical Issues

- ▶ Allow for basal area credit hardwoods as well as snags (like current oak silviculture standard). Allow for lower snag standards (smaller sizes allowed).
- ▶ Allow for more flexibility in group B justification-like current oak standards.
- ▶ Rules do not reflect heterogeneity in many stands.
- ▶ More flexibility for plan submitters on the “8 18” rule to allow for better spacing

Next steps: weekly meetings to further outline these issues

FIN

