



USDA Forest Service Forest Health Protection Accomplishments Reporting Guidance Document

Intent

It is the intent of this document to provide state agencies with recommended guidance to report annual accomplishments more accurately and effectively for USFS Forest Health Protection grants. These guidelines are meant to help establish reporting consistency across USFS regions, allowing for easier digestion of accomplishments.

Acres of Cooperative Lands Monitored and Treated

- a. Acres Treated for Pests, Diseases or Invasive Plants
 - i. Treatments including spot treatments shall be recorded as the acres of “managed area.”

Guidance:

- *To establish consistency for projects receiving grant funding, define the entire grant-funded zone as the “project area” and the sector actually monitored or treated during the reporting period as the “managed area.”*
- *When reporting micro-specific areas such as spot treatments, biocontrol releases, trapping, etc., report on the entire acreage of the managed area. (See Appendix A)*
- *Multi-year projects may have the same managed acreage for each year or may be adjusted if project or managed area within the project is changed.*

- ii. Bio-control treatments shall be recorded as acres managed within the project area.

Guidance:

- *Initial release area is credited to managed acres.*
- *Within the area surveyed to verify establishment following release, acres where introduced biocontrol agents are established can be reported as managed acres.*

- b. Acres Surveyed or Monitored

- i. Total area of the state surveyed for forest damage or monitoring.

Guidance:

- *The total area recorded using Digital Mobile Sketch Mapper (DMSM) during aerial or ground survey can be used under this metric and is part of the Forest Service report (submitted in conjunction with the Forest Health Assessment and Applied Sciences team report, usually mid-November) that details recorded forest damage.*
- *If a state does not use a DMSM to record damaged areas, use data from the method used.*



- *The area of damage recorded can be used if there is no record of area surveyed (though it may underestimate the total area surveyed for damage.)*
 - *The same area may be counted multiple times if there are overlapping surveys for different target organisms or using different modes of survey (e.g., ground, aerial, remote sensing, etc.).*
- ii. Post-release surveys to determine if biocontrol has established may be credited to survey regardless of establishment.
- iii. Acres credited for a trapping program are based on that part of the managed area for which the forest health staff are responsible.

Guidance:

- *For trapping programs contributed to by other agencies or groups, acreage credited to the forest health program staff will not equal the entire acreage of the trapping program. (See Appendix B)*
 - *If states provide forest health services through more than forest health staff, credit the work done by other staff either in acres (and contacts) and explain how it is calculated (methodology section). One way of getting an estimate is to use the proportion of support other program staff receive to do forest health work. (See Appendix C)*
- iv. For traps placed in isolated, high-risk locations, acreage reported will be at the state's discretion. Use of the area of lure attraction is appropriate if known or generally accepted. (See Appendix B)
- c. Reporting Period
- *Acres treated and surveyed report will be due to region USFS FHP program directors in conjunction with spatial forest health survey data submitted to the Forest Health Assessment and Applied Sciences Team. The reporting period is October 1-September 30 (federal fiscal year).*

Outreach and Education Activities Related to FHP: Base credits on the number of people reached (contacts). Report combined counts of direct contacts and estimated audiences (indirect contacts) reached.

Guidance:

- ***Direct contacts*** include activities where the number of persons reached is known, including person-to-person visits, phone calls, workshops and trainings, website visits, and social media.
- ***Practice plans*** for private forest owners and prescriptions should be counted as direct contacts under Outreach and Education. If these are implemented, they may also be counted as acres treated. (See Appendix C)



- **Indirect contacts** are those where the number of attendees is not known, including billboards, radio and TV interviews and programs, or advertising. These estimates can be provided by the media vendor.
- **Reporting** will be due to region USFS FHP program directors on December 31 (calendar year)



Appendix A

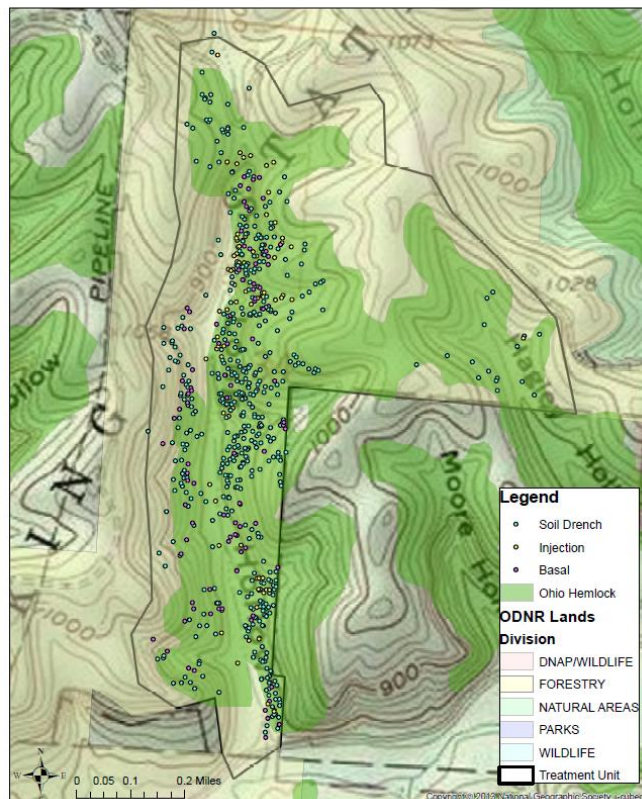
When reporting micro-specific areas such as spot treatments, biocontrol releases, trapping, etc., use the entire acreage of the managed area

Example: Multiyear treatment of hemlocks with a systemic insecticide to manage hemlock woolly adelgid.

The maximum amount of imidacloprid that can be applied as a soil drench or injection per acre limits the number of hemlocks that can be treated within a project area each year. For example, 16 trees with a 24-inch trunk circumference or eight trees with a 48-inch circumference can be soil injected/soil drenched each year per acre. The protection from imidacloprid treatment persists for 4-5 years, so eventually all the hemlocks in an area can be protected from hemlock woolly adelgid if treatments are applied over several years.

The map below shows a management area of 322 acres within which individual hemlocks are identified for treatments in either 2018 or 2019. In both years of the project, report the area treated as 322 acres.

Long Hollow HWA Treatments 2018-2019





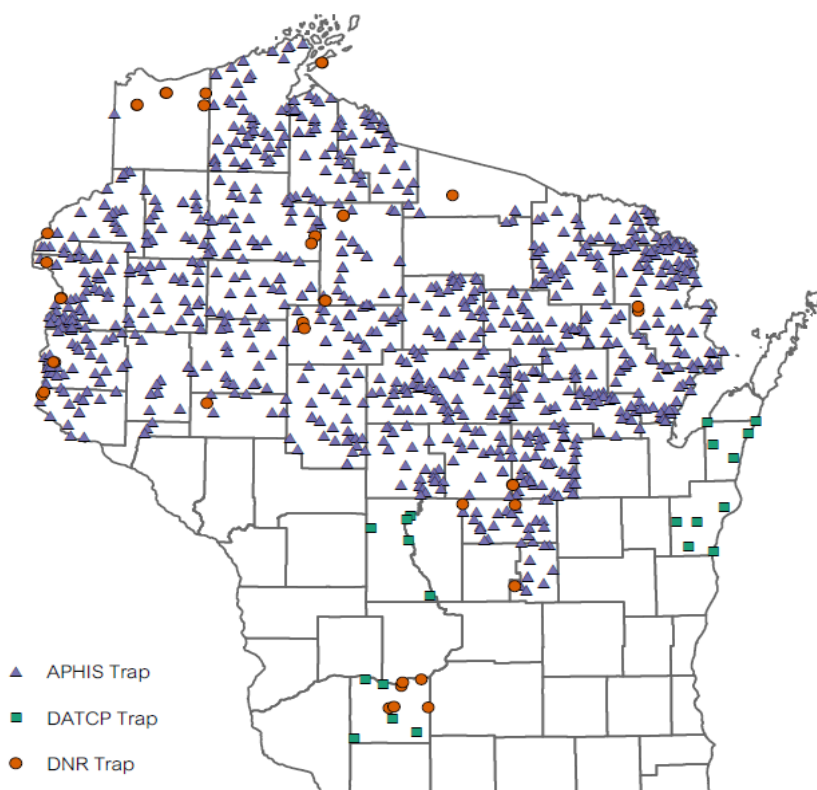
Appendix B

Acres credited for a trapping program are based on the size of the managed area for which the forest health staff are responsible.

Guidance:

- *For trapping programs contributed to by other agencies or groups, acreage credited to the forest health program staff will not equal the entire acreage of the trapping program.*

Example: A statewide EAB trapping program with contributions by three agencies: APHIS, DATCP and DNR Forest Health program. Only that part of the managed area trapped by Forest Health



Trap locations reflect the cooperative survey efforts of the following partners; WI Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP), WI Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS).

Map created 5/31/2016

Program staff would be credited to this meta-metric, not the entire statewide managed area. In this example, Forest Health program staff set single traps at state parks that are at high risk of EAB introduction (see iv. below).



- iv. For traps placed at isolated, high-risk locations, acreage reported will be at the state's discretion. Use of the area of attraction of the lure is appropriate if known or generally accepted.

Guidance:

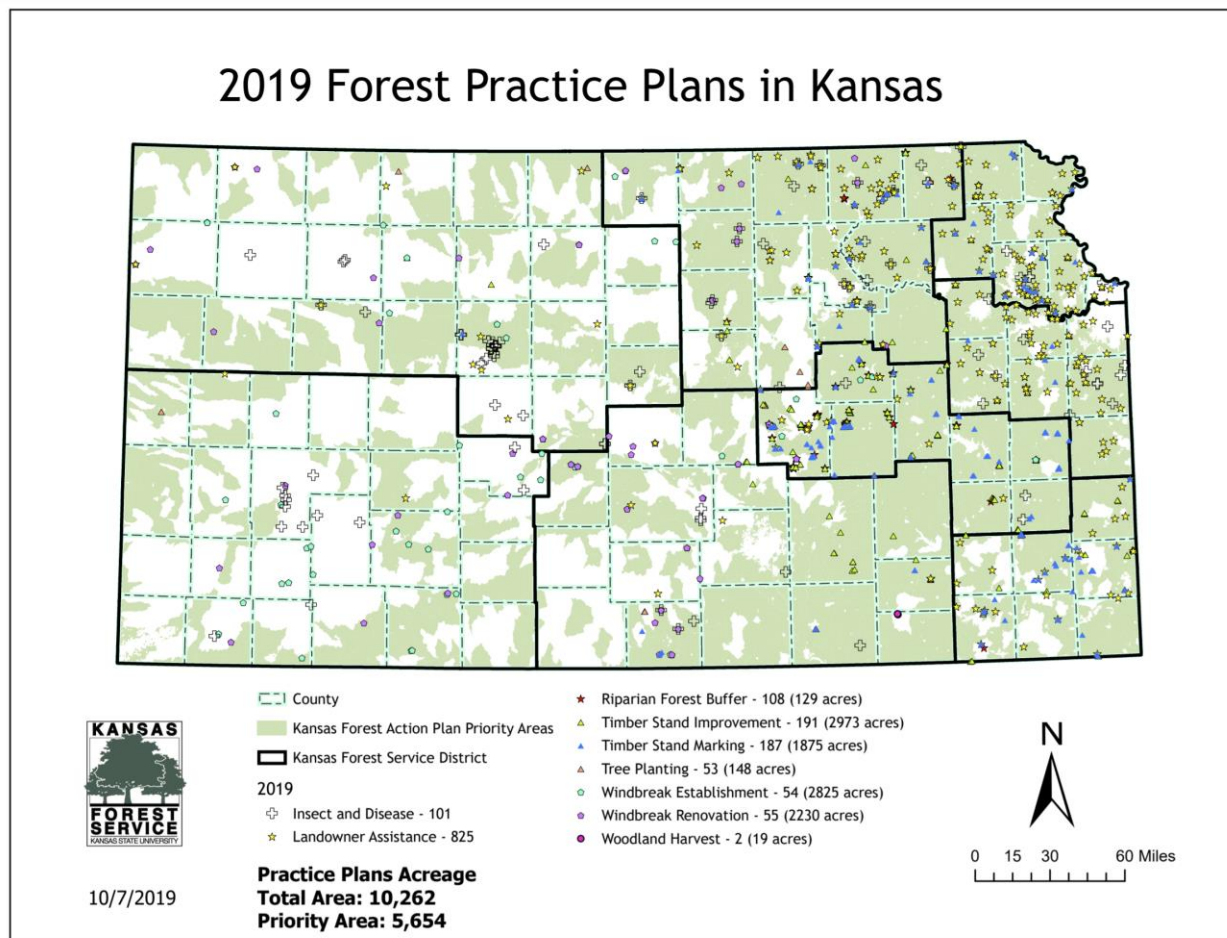
- *In the example of the EAB trapping program above, DNR Forest Health program staff set 31 traps at state parks. As this trap has a limited area of attraction, 31 acres might be credited to survey.*



Appendix C

Example of Insect & Disease Metrics from Rural Forestry Practice Plans

In many cases, important forest health work may be done by staff that receives a portion of their FTE funding from forest health sources. In the example illustrated by the map below, some district foresters writing practice plans are partially supported by forest health funding. For those foresters, the state may choose to include a proportion of practice plans written in their forest health reporting metrics where the plan objectives are relevant to forest health objectives.



If the state's internal reporting systems allow them to be identified, forest health reporting metrics can include practice plans with forest health components (invasive plant control, stand management due to invasive insects and diseases, etc.) written by a forester who receives forest health funding.



For instance, 500 acres of plans written by a forester with a 0.10 FTE from forest health (assuming these plans have a significant forest health component) could be counted as 50 acres of outreach at the time of writing and 50 acres of treatment when these plans are implemented by the landowner or contractor.

In the map above, the “Insect and Disease” points refer to individual landowner contacts with a forest health concern, and could be counted as outreach if the forester has forest health funding supporting them. As long as the reporting state has a reasonable and logical linkage to forest health funding, these outreach and treatment metrics should be able to be included in forest health numbers reported by the state, at their discretion.

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