

Proposed Revisions to the Forest Management
Guide for Boreal Landscapes and Forest
Management Guide for Great Lakes-St. Lawrence
Landscapes

Ministry of Natural Resources

November 2025

1. Introduction

The [Forest Management Guide for Boreal Landscapes](#) (2014) and the [Forest Management Guide for Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Landscapes](#) (2010) are part of a series of forest management guides in Ontario's forest policy framework. The Landscape Guides are enabled to provide direction to forest management planning teams by the [Forest Operations and Silviculture Manual](#) (FOSM) and [Forest Management Planning Manual](#) (FMPM), which are regulated under section 68 of the *Crown Forest Sustainability Act, 1994* (CFSA). Forest management plans are developed for each designated management unit in the province, with the exception of the southern Ontario management unit. The plans identify where and how the activities of forest access, harvest, renewal, and maintenance (i.e., tending and protection) will occur during the plan period.

The purpose of the Landscape Guides is to direct forest management activities to manage toward a natural forest landscape condition. Specifically, the Landscape Guides direct forest management planning teams to strategically plan to maintain or enhance natural landscape structure, composition and patterns that provide for the long-term health of forest ecosystems in an efficient and effective manner.

Successful implementation of the Landscape Guides is facilitated by the knowledge and experience of forest management planning team members. Landscape Guide direction and associated implementation is supported by a series of science and information packages, which are periodically updated to include the best available science, information and knowledge.

2. Landscape Guide Reviews

The Landscape Guides are required to be reviewed at least once every ten years, as described by FOSM. As part of meeting this commitment, the Landscape Guides were reviewed in 2024, including considerations for the results of applicable scientific investigations and monitoring programs, feedback from practitioners, First Nation peoples, Métis peoples, and stakeholders, as well as advances in technology and changes to operational practices. The reviews resulted in a recommendation to proceed with revisions focused on modernizing the Landscape Guides in the short-term to support forest management planning. There were also general recommendations and longer-term recommendations identified in the reviews that continue to be considered in the adaptive management approach described by FOSM.

3. Goals of the Revisions

The Ministry of Natural Resources (the Ministry) regularly revises its forest policy framework so that the most up to date guidance and direction is available for the continued sustainable management of Ontario's forests. The proposed revisions to the Landscape Guides are generally minor and focused on modernizing, clarifying, and improving consistency of direction to forest management planning teams.

The following is an overview of some of the proposed revisions:

- Change to Landscape Guide Region to include the Spanish Forest in the Boreal Landscape Guide Regions and remove Spanish Forest from Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Landscape Guide Regions.
- Align spatial assessments with recent changes in the Forest Management Planning Manual (2024).
- Clarify landscape guide application, for example where there is disagreement between the guide and science packages.
- Clarified application of [Validating and Revising Milestone Technical Note And Milestone Repository](#).
- Update references to policies and legislation.

All revisions summarized in Sections 4 and 5 are proposals and are subject to consultation with Indigenous communities, as well as review and comment by stakeholders and the public.

4. Proposed Revisions to the Forest Management Guide for Boreal Landscapes

#	Current section	Current Landscape Guide direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
1	Dedication	"Dedication to children born to those involved in its development. "	Removed in Version 2.	NA
2	NA	NA	Added list of standards and guidelines, with numbering. This change is intended to provide clarity to forest management planning teams and increase efficiency for referencing guide direction.	List of Standards and Guidelines
3	Acknowledgements	Acknowledgement specifies individuals.	Updated to acknowledge the land and include a general acknowledgement to people involved in the development, review and revision of the Landscape Guide.	Acknowledgements
4	NA	NA	Added a summary of the guide, and French summary to be consistent with other forest policy documents and support exemption from the French Language Services Act.	Summary
5	How to Use this Guide	Four steps providing guidance on how to efficiently use the Landscape Guide.	Moved to Introduction section and removed the reference to this guidance as "steps". This change is intended to provide clarity to forest management planning teams.	1

#	Current section	Current Landscape Guide direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
6	1	Introduction, including key concepts, policy background and context for implementation (e.g., phase-in provisions).	Simplified and clarified text throughout section 1. Updated references to legislation and policies. Removed references to Environment Assessment Act Declaration Order. Removed reference to the Ministry being the steward for Ontario's provincial parks (now Ministry of the Environment Conservation and Parks). Updated reference to the Statement of Environmental Values (SEV). Moved "key concepts" to section 2. Updated references from "Area of the Undertaking" to "managed forest", consistent with the FMPM. Removed references to previous guides replaced (prior to 2014).	1, 2.2
7	1.1	Objective of the Landscape Guide	Updated to "Purpose of the Landscape Guide", consistent with terminology in other forest management guides.	1.1
8	1.2.3	Landscape Guide Regions	Updated Boreal Landscape Guide Regions to include the Spanish Forest as part of 3E. Figure 1 was also updated to reflect this change.	1.2.1
9	1.4.1	Phase-in provisions	Phase-in provisions were updated to require forest management plans with an implementation date on or after April 1, 2029, to use the revised version of the Landscape Guide.	1.4.2

#	Current section	Current Landscape Guide direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
10	NA	NA	Added summary of revisions to the landscape guide, including a statement that these revisions are not expected to impact wood supply or wood costs.	1.4.1
11	2	Development of the Landscape Guide, including an overview of the process, who was involved, past management direction, change in management approaches to use natural ranges of variation, coarse and fine filter concepts, climate change, alternative management options, and pilot testing.	Simplified and clarified text throughout section 2. Removed sections detailing the development of the Landscape Guide and past management guide direction. Consolidated key concepts in the Landscape Guide into one section (2.2).	2
12	2	Figure 2 diagram of the adaptive management cycle.	Updated Figure 2 (adaptive management cycle) to align with proposed revisions to the Stand and Site Guide.	2
13	2.2.1.2	OMNR (1998c) procedures to identify active deer yards will be used in application of the Landscape and Stand and Site Guide (standard).	Removed standard relating to deer yards, as this direction is addressed in the Stand and Site Guide.	NA

#	Current section	Current Landscape Guide direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
14	NA	NA	Added text describing the 2024 Landscape Guide Reviews and people involved. The 2024 Landscape Guide review included considerations for the results of applicable scientific investigations and monitoring programs, feedback from practitioners, First Nation peoples, Métis peoples, and stakeholders, as well as advances in technology and changes to operational practices.	1.2.3
15	2.2.2	1) the societal and/or economic aspects of sustainable development require more or less habitat than would be provided by nature, or 2) the ecological requirements of a particular species or value are not addressed or accommodated sufficiently through application of only the coarse filter, in some cases because the proposed actions cannot completely mimic natural events.	Clarified description of two reasons for applying fine filter direction: 1) the outcome of the coarse filter does not meet societal expectations, or 2) the ecological requirements of a particular species or value are not addressed or accommodated sufficiently through application of only the coarse filter, in some cases because the proposed actions cannot completely mimic natural events.	2.2.2
16	2.2.2	Figure 3 illustrates the concept of coarse and fine filters.	Updated Figure 3 to align with proposed revisions to the Stand and Site Guide.	2.2.2

#	Current section	Current Landscape Guide direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
17	2.3.1	Climate Change and the Landscape Guide	Expanded on the section "Climate change and the Landscape Guide" to include more recent information and references, similar to the proposed revisions to the Stand and Site Guide. Included context of FOSM and FMPM. Described how the Landscape Guide enables practitioners to address climate change uncertainties more explicitly.	2.4.1
18	3	Applying the Landscape Guide in a Forest Management Plan	Reworded section 3.0 to clarify connections with desired forest and benefits meetings (as described in the FMPM). This change was based on feedback from First Nation community representatives. Also updated structure to include caribou habitat as a subsection to 3.1, reworded sections to add clarity, and rearranged Standards, Guidelines and Best Management Practices to occur at the end of each section. Updated forest units in tables 4, 5, 6 and 7. Changed references from "woodland caribou" to "caribou (boreal population)" or "caribou", from "forest management unit" to "management unit" and from "strategic forest management model" to "forest estate model".	3

#	Current section	Current Landscape Guide direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
19	3.1	Forest management plans will use the Landscape Guide indicators as the biodiversity indicators of objective achievement. The indicators required in FMPs can vary by Landscape Guide region as listed in the Landscape Guide Appendices (for example the landscape classes). Landscape Guide indicators will replace previous forest management planning direction for landscape pattern, area by forest type and age and amount and distribution of old growth forest (standard).	Removed reference to replacing previous forest management guide direction. (3) Forest management plans will use the Landscape Guide indicators as the biodiversity indicators of objective achievement. The indicators required in FMPs can vary by Landscape Guide region as listed in Table 2 and Table 3 (e.g., the landscape classes) and will be described in the FMP as required by the Forest Management Planning Manual. (standard)	3.1
20	NA	NA	Combined similar direction with the following guideline: (5) Planning teams will use Landscape Guide forest units to ensure that there is compatibility with all Landscape Guide indicator desirable levels. (guideline)	3.1.1

#	Current section	Current Landscape Guide direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
21	3.1.1.2	The old growth development stage of all plan forest units, or appropriate groupings of plan forest units as determined by the forest management planning team, will be represented in strategic forest management models.	Clarified direction by replacing "all" with "individual": Old growth forest by individual Landscape Guide forest units, or appropriate groupings of Landscape Guide forest units, as determined by the forest management planning team, will be represented in forest estate models used to develop the management direction.	3.1.1.2
22	3.1.1.3	Forest management teams will develop targets to ensure that the red and white pine indicator does not drop below the 1995 amount.	Guideline changed to require a reference to the 1995 amount of red and white pine in the indicator assessment, based on feedback about issues with data comparability: "Forest management plans will reference the 1995 amount of red and white pine forest when assessing the achievement of the red and white pine indicator."	3.1.1.3

#	Current section	Current Landscape Guide direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
23	NA	NA	Added section 3.1.1.6 (individual forest units) and reference to FMPM. This change was made to provide clarity and support of coarse filter direction in the Stand and Site Guide. The milestone statement is "move towards or maintain within". The direction is: (12) Forest management plans will represent each individual Landscape Guide forest unit in forest estate models used to develop the management direction. (guideline)	3.1.1.6
24	3.1.2	Planning teams will use OLT to measure the texture of the mature and old forest indicator or a substitute tool that has received approval from OMNR (standard).	Replaced repetitive standards from sections 3.1.2.1 and 3.1.2.2 with the following standard: (14) Forest management plans will use Ontario's Landscape Tool (OLT) to measure the pattern indicators (i.e., texture of the mature and old forest indicator, young forest patch size indicator) or an equivalent tool that has received approval from the Ministry. (standard)	3.1.2

#	Current section	Current Landscape Guide direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
25	3.1.2.1	Texture of the mature and old forest will be measured at plan start year and year 10 of the forest management plan (standard).	Change to require pattern indicators be measured at plan start, plan end, and years 20, 30, and 40, which aligns with the FMPPM: (16) Texture of mature and old forest will be measured at the 500 hectare and 5000 hectare scales at plan start (year 0), plan end (year 10), and years 20, 30, and 40 of the management direction of the forest management plan. (standard)	3.1.2.1
26	3.1.2.2	Young forest patch size will be measured at plan start year and year 10 of the forest management plan (standard).	Change to require pattern indicators be measured at plan start, plan end, and years 20, 30, and 40, which aligns with the FMPPM: (17) Young forest patch size will be measured at plan start (i.e., year 0), plan end (i.e., year 10), and years 20, 30, and 40 of the management direction of the forest management plan. (standard)	3.1.2.2

#	Current section	Current Landscape Guide direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
27	3.2.1	The texture of woodland caribou habitat will be measured at plan start year and at year 10 (guideline).	Change to require pattern indicators be measured at plan start, plan end, and years 20, 30, and 40, which aligns with the FMPPM: (21) The texture of caribou habitat will be measured at the 6,000 hectare and 30,000 hectare scales at plan start (i.e., year 0), plan end (i.e., year 10), and years 20, 30, and 40 of the management direction of the forest management plan. (guideline)	3.1.3.2
28	3.3	The desirable levels for the Landscape Guide indicators will be set as the inter-quartile range (IQR) (for non-spatial indicators) and mean (for pattern indicators) of the SRNV. Specific direction by landscape guide indicator by forest management unit is specified in the milestone tables in the landscape guide appendices (guideline).	Clarified direction by removing the statement that "Specific direction by landscape guide indicator by forest management unit is specified in the milestone tables in the landscape guide appendices": (22) The desirable levels for Landscape Guide indicators will be set as, or within, the inter-quartile range (IQR) of the SRNV for non-spatial indicators and mean of the SRNV for pattern indicators. (guideline)	3.2

#	Current section	Current Landscape Guide direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
29	3.4	Forest Management Planning Teams will develop targets for the Landscape Guide indicators that are consistent with Landscape Guide milestones over the short (e.g. 10 years), medium (e.g. 20 years) and long terms (e.g. 100 years) (guideline).	Updated reference to Validating and Revising Milestone Technical Note and Milestone Repository document: (23) Forest management plans will include targets for the Landscape Guide indicators that are consistent with milestones in the Validating and Revising Milestone Technical Note And Milestone Repository. Targets will be consistent with milestones over the short (i.e., 10 years), medium (i.e., 20 years) and long terms (i.e., 100 years). In FMPs within or intersecting continuous caribou distribution, this includes caribou habitat indicators. (guideline)	3.3

#	Current section	Current Landscape Guide direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
30	3.3	In forest management units that are within or intersect the continuous distribution of caribou, planning teams will describe how the direction provided by the Caribou Conservation Plan was addressed, including the development of a tract based Dynamic Caribou Habitat Schedule (DCHS), and how it is incorporated into targets for Landscape Guide caribou habitat indicators (standard).	Updated to include reference to Range Management Policy principles: (26) In management units that are within or intersect the continuous caribou distribution, planning teams will describe how the direction provided by Ontario's Woodland Caribou Conservation Plan (CCP) and principles from the Range Management Policy (RMP) in Support of Woodland Caribou Conservation and Recovery were addressed, including the development of a tract-based Dynamic Caribou Habitat Schedule (DCHS), and how it is incorporated into targets for Landscape Guide caribou habitat indicators. (standard)	3.3

#	Current section	Current Landscape Guide direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
31	3.4	The Planning team should practice judicious use of LLPs by considering the landscape condition at the start of the planning term, past management, natural disturbances, and the SRNV (guideline).	Included "Indigenous knowledge and values, local and landscape context" to the list of considerations described in the guideline regarding "judicious use" of LLPs: (28) The forest management planning team will practice judicious use of LLPs by considering the landscape condition at the start of the planning term, indicator projections, Indigenous knowledge and values, local and landscape context, past management, natural disturbances, and, when available and applicable, the SRNV. (guideline)	3.4
32	NA	NA	Added example to best management practices to suggest large landscape patches could include management objectives to reduce the risk of wildland fires: LLPs to address potential wildland fire risk within or near communities (e.g., planning teams may identify composition or pattern objectives for specific LLPs to reduce wildland fire risk, while also considering how these LLPs contributes to broader landscape structure, composition, and pattern objectives).	3.4

#	Current section	Current Landscape Guide direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
33	3.5	Where: Identification of the LLP using a system of numbering.	Clarify identification number for large landscape patches is intended to be captured in the strategic management zone field of the base model inventory: Where: Identification of the LLP using a numbering system (e.g., Strategic Management Zone (SMZ) identifier, as described in the Forest Information Manual)	3.4

#	Current section	Current Landscape Guide direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
34	3.5.1	When objectives exist for moose, deer or other wildlife, their habitat will be evaluated using models (available in OLT) to determine if application of the coarse filter direction of the Landscape Guide is contributing to these objectives. Identification, arrangement, and planning of deer winter concentration areas and yards, or the arrangement of moose habitat on the landscape should be planned using a hierarchy of Landscape Guide analysis techniques. Firstly, the SRNV of the amount of habitat (when available) should be considered at the management unit level and the contribution of the habitat SRNV at the deer or moose area level should be considered relative to that broader landscape. Secondly, the pattern within either large deer winter concentration areas and yards or moose areas should be planned i) in a manner that enhances habitat within the deer or moose area and ii) in a way that contributes to the broader landscape pattern objectives (guideline).	Clarified direction by separating into two pieces, removed direction that was redundant with direction in the Stand and Site Guide, and added clear reference to Stand and Site Guide: (30) Where objectives exist for moose or deer, forest management planning teams should evaluate using models, when available, to understand how application of the coarse filter provides habitat for these species. (guideline) (31) Within large landscape patches that emphasize moose or deer habitat following direction in the Stand and Site Guide, forest management planning teams will consider how the identification, arrangement and planning of these large landscape patches contributes to broader landscape structure, composition, and pattern objectives. (guideline)	3.4.1

#	Current section	Current Landscape Guide direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
35	3.5.2	Forest management planning teams will give priority to identifying LLPs with the greatest current value for caribou (guideline).	Added "high use areas" as an example of areas with the greatest current value for caribou: (33) Forest management planning teams will give priority to identifying LLPs with the greatest current value for caribou (e.g., high use areas). (guideline)	3.4.2

36	3.5.2.1	To manage for calving and nursery habitat (e.g., large lakes with islands, complexes of smaller lakes, or open peatland complexes with treed islands): include these habitats in caribou tracts and schedule them for protection or harvest consistent with habitat tract pattern and composition objectives developed through implementation of this guide; ii. proceed with allocation and harvest of a habitat tract with known or potential calving sites and nursery areas provided they are in an unsuitable condition (e.g. over mature, with a dense understory of shrubs such as raspberry); or if there is a sufficient supply of calving and nursery habitat in suitable condition on the management unit. For example, forest operations could occur if at least one third of the forest stands on the perimeter and islands of a known, large calving/nursery lake were retained or maintained in a suitable condition. Stands in suitable condition are generally mature, conifer dominated, sparsely to well-stocked, with a relatively open understory. Suitable calving and nursery habitat will also be contiguous with tracts of mature, conifer dominated forest cover; and for known calving sites and nursery areas that are in a suitable condition, establish a 1 km area of concern (AOC) and do not conduct forest operations within the AOC from May 1 to August 15.	Removed descriptions of example calving and nursery areas to avoid confusion with our current understand of caribou calving and nursery area values: (39) To manage for calving and nursery habitat, the following direction will apply (guideline): i. include these habitats in caribou tracts and schedule them for protection or harvest consistent with habitat tract pattern and composition objectives developed through implementation of the Landscape Guide; ii. proceed with allocation and harvest of a habitat tract with known or potential calving sites and nursery areas provided they are in an unsuitable condition or if there is a sufficient supply of calving and nursery habitat in suitable condition on the management unit; and iii. for known calving sites and nursery areas that are in a suitable condition, establish a 1 km area of concern (AOC) and do not conduct forest operations within the AOC from May 1 to August 15.	3.4.2.2
----	---------	---	--	---------

#	Current section	Current Landscape Guide direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
37	4	Effectiveness, effects, and efficiency of the Landscape Guide	Revised section to include updates on science and monitoring programs, describe current projects expected to inform Landscape Guide direction and update sections about effects and efficiency with current information.	4
38	NA	NA	Added glossary of relevant terms.	Glossary
39	Appendices	Tables A1-A30	Removed all appendices and replaced with two appendices and reference to Validating and Revising Milestone Technical Note and Milestone Repository: Appendix A provides a list of management units and identifies corresponding Landscape Guide Region. Appendix B provides Milestone table templates for northwest and northeast regions.	Appendices

5. Proposed Revisions to the Forest Management Guide for Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Landscapes

#	Current section	Current LG direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
1	Dedication	"Dedication to children born to those involved in its development."	Removed in Version 2.	NA
2	NA	NA	Added list of standards and guidelines, with numbering. This change is intended to provide clarity to forest management planning teams and increase efficiency for referencing guide direction.	List of Standards and Guidelines
3	Acknowledge -ments	Acknowledgement specifies individuals.	Updated to acknowledge the land and include a general acknowledgement to people involved in the development, review and revision of the Landscape Guide.	Acknowledgements
4	NA	NA	Added a summary of the guide, and French summary to be consistent with other forest policy documents and support exemption from the French Language Services Act.	Summary

#	Current section	Current LG direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
5	How to Use this Guide	Four steps providing guidance on how to efficiently use the Landscape Guide.	Moved to Introduction section and removed the reference to this guidance as "steps". This change is intended to provide clarity to forest management planning teams.	1
6	1	Introduction, including key concepts, policy background and implementation and phase-in provisions.	Simplified and clarified text throughout section 1. Updated references to legislation and policies. Removed references to Environment Assessment Act Declaration Order. Removed reference to the Ministry being the steward for Ontario's provincial parks (now Ministry of the Environment Conservation and Parks). Updated reference to the Statement of Environmental Values (SEV). Moved "key concepts" to section 2. Updated references from "Area of the Undertaking" to "managed forest", consistent with the FMPM. Removed references to previous guides replaced (prior to 2010).	1, 2.2

#	Current section	Current LG direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
7	1.1	Objective of the Landscape Guide	Updated to "Purpose of the Landscape Guide", consistent with terminology in other forest management guides.	1.1
8	1.2.3	Landscape Guide Regions	Updated Great Lakes-St. Lawrence (GLSL) Landscape Guide Regions to remove the Spanish Forest from the GLSL North Landscape Guide Region and add the management unit to Landscape Guide Region 3E. Figure 1 was also updated to reflect this change.	1.2.1
9	1.4.1	Phase-in provisions	Phase-in provisions were updated to require forest management plans with an implementation date on or after April 1, 2029, to use the revised version of the Landscape Guide.	1.4.2
10	NA	NA	Added summary of revisions to the landscape guide, including a statement that these revisions are not expected to impact wood supply or wood costs.	1.4.1

#	Current section	Current LG direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
11	2	Development of the Landscape Guide, including an overview of the process, who was involved, past management direction, change in management approaches to use natural ranges of variation, coarse and fine filter concepts, climate change, alternative management options, and pilot testing.	Simplified and clarified text throughout section 2. Removed sections detailing the development of the Landscape Guide and past management guide direction. Consolidated key concepts in the Landscape Guide into one section (2.2).	2
12	2	Figure 2 diagram of the adaptive management cycle.	Updated Figure 2 (adaptive management cycle) to align with proposed revisions to the Stand and Site Guide.	2
13	2.2.1.2	OMNR (1998c) procedures to identify active deer yards will be used in application of the Landscape and Stand and Site Guide (standard).	Removed standard relating to deer yards, as this direction is addressed in the Stand and Site Guide.	NA
14	NA	The 2024 Landscape Guide review included considerations for the results of applicable scientific investigations and monitoring programs, feedback from practitioners, First Nation peoples, Métis peoples, and stakeholders, as well as advances in technology and changes to operational practices.	Added text describing the 2024 Landscape Guide Reviews and people involved.	1.2.3

#	Current section	Current LG direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
15	2.2.2	1) the societal and/or economic aspects of sustainable development require more or less habitat than would be provided by nature, or 2) the ecological requirements of a particular species or value are not addressed or accommodated sufficiently through application of only the coarse filter, in some cases because the proposed actions cannot completely mimic natural events.	Clarified description of two reasons for applying fine filter direction: <i>1) the outcome of the coarse filter does not meet societal expectations, or 2) the ecological requirements of a particular species or value are not addressed or accommodated sufficiently through application of only the coarse filter, in some cases because the proposed actions cannot completely mimic natural events.</i>	2.2.2
16	2.2.2	Figure 3 illustrates the concept of coarse and fine filters.	Updated Figure 3to align with proposed revisions to the Stand and Site Guide.	2.2.2

#	Current section	Current LG direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
17	2.3.1	Climate Change and the Landscape Guide	Expanded on the section "Climate change and the Landscape Guide" to include more recent information and references, similar to the proposed revisions to the Stand and Site Guide. Included context of FOSM and FMPM. Described how Landscape Guide enables practitioners to address climate change uncertainties more explicitly.	2.4.1

#	Current section	Current LG direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
18	3	Applying the Landscape Guide in a Forest Management Plan	Reworded section 3.0 to clarify connections with desired forest and benefits meetings (as described in the FMPPM). This change was based on feedback from First Nation community representatives. Also reworded sections to add clarity, and rearranged Standards, Guidelines and Best Management Practices to occur at the end of each section. Updated forest units in tables 4, 5, 6 and 7. Changed references from "forest management unit" to "management unit" and from "strategic forest management model" to "forest estate model".	3

#	Current section	Current LG direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
19	3.1	Forest management plans will use the Landscape Guide indicators as the biodiversity indicators of objective achievement. The indicators required in FMPs can vary by Landscape Guide region as listed in the Landscape Guide Appendices (for example the landscape classes). Landscape Guide indicators will replace previous forest management planning direction for landscape pattern, area by forest type and age and amount and distribution of old growth forest (standard).	Removed reference to replacing previous forest management guide direction, and clarified differences in landscape guide direction by separating Table 2 into Table 2 (GLSL North) and Table 3 (GLSL South). <i>(3) Forest management plans will use the Landscape Guide indicators as the biodiversity indicators of objective achievement. The indicators required in FMPs can vary by Landscape Guide region as listed in Table 2 and Table 3 (e.g., texture of mature and old forest) and will be described in the FMP as required by the Forest Management Planning Manual. (standard)</i>	3.1

#	Current section	Current LG direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
20	NA	NA	Combined similar direction with the following guideline: <i>(5) Planning teams will use Landscape Guide forest units to ensure that there is compatibility with all Landscape Guide indicator desirable levels. (guideline)</i>	3.1.1
21	3.1.1.1	Table 3 indicates the White pine conifer shelterwood (PWUSC) forest unit belongs with the Mixed Pines Landscape Class.	Changed Table 3 (now Table 4) so the White pine conifer shelterwood (PWUSC) forest unit belongs with the White Pine Mixedwood Landscape Class.	3.1.1.1
22	3.1.1.2	The old growth development stage of all plan forest units, or appropriate groupings of plan forest units as determined by the forest management planning team, will be represented in strategic forest management models.	Clarified direction by replacing "all" with "individual": <i>The old development stage of individual Landscape Guide forest units, or appropriate groupings of Landscape Guide forest units as determined by the forest management planning team, will be represented in forest estate models.</i>	3.1.1.2

#	Current section	Current LG direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
23	3.1.1.3	Forest management teams will develop targets to ensure that the red and white pine indicator does not drop below the 1995 amount.	Guideline changed to require a reference to the 1995 amount of red and white pine in the indicator assessment, based on feedback about issues with data comparability: "Forest management plans will reference the 1995 amount of red and white pine forest when assessing the achievement of the red and white pine indicator."	3.1.1.3
24	NA	NA	Added section 3.1.1.5 (individual forest units) and reference to FMPM. This change was made to provide clarity and in support of coarse filter direction in the Stand and Site Guide. The milestone statement is "move towards or maintain within". The direction is: <i>(11) Forest management plans will represent each individual Landscape Guide forest unit in forest estate models used to develop the management direction. (guideline)</i>	3.1.1.5

#	Current section	Current LG direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
25	3.1.2	Planning teams will use OLT to measure the texture of the mature and old forest indicator or a substitute tool that has received approval from OMNR (standard).	Replaced repetitive direction from sections 3.1.2.1 and 3.1.2.2 with the following standard: <i>(12) Forest management plans will use Ontario's Landscape Tool (OLT) to measure the pattern indicators (i.e., texture of the mature and old forest indicator, young forest patch size indicator) or an equivalent tool that has received approval from the Ministry. (standard)</i>	3.1.2

#	Current section	Current LG direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
26	3.1.2.1	Texture of the mature and old forest will be measured at plan start year and year 10 of the forest management plan (standard).	Change to require pattern indicators be measured at plan start, plan end, and years 20, 30, and 40, which aligns with the FMPM: <i>(14) Texture of mature and old forest will be measured at plan start (year 0), plan end (year 10), and years 20, 30, and 40 of the management direction of the forest management plan at the following scales: (standard)</i> <i>i. 500 ha and 5000 ha scales in the GLSL North Landscape Guide Region.</i> <i>ii. 50 ha and 500 ha scales in the GLSL South Landscape Guide Region.</i>	3.1.2.1

#	Current section	Current LG direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
27	3.1.2.2	Young forest patch size will be measured at plan start year and year 10 of the forest management plan (standard). Young forest is defined as being less than 36 years of age (standard).	Change to combine young forest patch size indicator direction and require pattern indicators be measured at plan start, plan end, and years 20, 30, and 40, which aligns with the FMPM: <i>(15) Young forest patch size will be measured at plan start (i.e., year 0), plan end (i.e., year 10), and years 20, 30, and 40 of the management direction of the forest management plan. For the purpose of this indicator, young forest is defined as being less than 36 years of age. (standard)</i>	3.1.2.2

#	Current section	Current LG direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
28	3.3	The desirable levels for the Landscape Guide indicators will be set as the inter-quartile range (IQR) (for non-spatial indicators) and mean (for pattern indicators) of the SRNV. Specific direction by landscape guide indicator by forest management unit is specified in the milestone tables in the landscape guide appendices (guideline).	Clarified direction by removing the statement that "Specific direction by landscape guide indicator by forest management unit is specified in the milestone tables in the landscape guide appendices": <i>(16) The desirable levels for Landscape Guide indicators will be set as the SRNV for non-spatial indicators and mean of the SRNV for pattern indicators. (guideline)</i>	3.2

#	Current section	Current LG direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
29	NA	NA	Added the following guideline to be consistent with direction in the Boreal Landscape Guide and acknowledge the process identified in the FMPM to balance the achievement of objectives (e.g., social and economic). <i>(19) In cases where the achievement of meeting a Landscape Guide milestone conflicts with another management objective and the forest management planning team decides to favour the non-Landscape Guide objective, provide rationale in the forest management plan that describes in detail (guideline):</i> <i>i) the decision and how it was determined, and</i> <i>ii) the expected time to achieve all affected milestones.</i>	3.3

#	Current section	Current LG direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
30	3.4	Forest Management Planning Teams will develop targets for the Landscape Guide indicators that are consistent with Landscape Guide milestones over the short (e.g. 10 years), medium (e.g. 20 years) and long terms (e.g. 100 years) (guideline).	Updated reference to Validating and Revising Milestone Technical Note and Milestone Repository document: <i>(17) Forest management plans will include targets for the Landscape Guide indicators that are consistent with milestones in the Validating and Revising Milestone Technical Note And Milestone Repository. Targets will be consistent with milestones over the short (i.e., 10 years), medium (i.e., 20 years) and long terms (i.e., 100 years). (guideline)</i>	3.3

#	Current section	Current LG direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
31	3.4	The Planning team should practice judicious use of LLPs by considering the landscape condition at the start of the planning term, past management, natural disturbances, and the SRNV (guideline).	Included "Indigenous knowledge and values, local and landscape context" to the list of considerations described in the guideline regarding "judicious use" of LLPs: (21) The forest management planning team will practice judicious use of LLPs by considering the landscape condition at the start of the planning term, indicator projections, Indigenous knowledge and values, local and landscape context, past management, natural disturbances, and, when available and applicable, the SRNV. (guideline)	3.4

#	Current section	Current LG direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
32	NA	NA	Added example to best management practices to suggest large landscape patches could include management objectives to reduce the risk of wildland fires: LLPs to address potential wildland fire risk within or near communities (e.g., planning teams may identify composition or pattern objectives for specific LLPs to reduce wildland fire risk, while also considering how these LLPs contributes to broader landscape structure, composition, and pattern objectives).	3.4

#	Current section	Current LG direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
33	3.5	Where: Identification of the LLP using a system of numbering.	Clarify identification number for large landscape patches is intended to be captured in the strategic management zone field of the base model inventory: <i>Where: Identification of the LLP using a numbering system (e.g., Strategic Management Zone (SMZ) identifier, as described in the Forest Information Manual)</i>	3.4

#	Current section	Current LG direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
34	3.5.1	When objectives exist for moose, deer or other wildlife, their habitat will be evaluated using models (available in OLT) to determine if application of the coarse filter direction of the Landscape Guide is contributing to these objectives. Identification, arrangement, and planning of deer winter concentration areas and yards, or the arrangement of moose habitat on the landscape should be planned using a hierarchy of Landscape Guide analysis techniques. Firstly, the SRNV of the amount of habitat (when available) should be considered at the management unit level and the contribution of the habitat SRNV at the deer or moose area level should be considered relative to that broader landscape. Secondly, the pattern within either large deer winter concentration areas and yards or moose areas should be planned i) in a manner that enhances habitat within the deer or moose area and ii) in a way that contributes to the broader landscape pattern objectives (guideline).	Clarified direction by separating into two pieces, removed duplication from Stand and Site Guide, and added clear reference to Stand and Site Guide: <i>(23) Where objectives exist for moose or deer, forest management planning teams should evaluate using models, when available, to understand how application of the coarse filter provides habitat for these species. (guideline)</i> <i>(24) Within large landscape patches that emphasize moose or deer habitat following direction in the Stand and Site Guide, forest management planning teams will consider how the identification, arrangement and planning of these large landscape patches contributes to broader landscape structure, composition, and pattern objectives. (guideline)</i>	3.4.1

#	Current section	Current LG direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
35	4	Effectiveness, effects, and efficiency of the Landscape Guide	Revised section to include updates on science and monitoring programs, describe current projects expected to inform Landscape Guide direction and update the sections about effects and efficiency with current information.	4
36	NA	NA	Added glossary of relevant terms.	Glossary
37	Appendices	Tables A1-A11	Removed all appendices and replaced with two appendices and reference to Validating and Revising Milestone Technical Note and Milestone Repository: Appendix A provides a list of forest management units and identifies corresponding Landscape Guide Region. Appendix B provides Milestone table templates for GLSL North and GLSL South regions.	Appendices

#	Current section	Current LG direction or content	Proposed revision to direction or content and rationale	New section
38	Appendices	Young forest indicator in tables A1-A11	Young forest area-based indicator added for GLSL North Landscape Guide Region, to be consistent with GLSL South and Boreal Landscape Guide Regions. Area-based indicator provide important context for young forest patch size indicator. Milestone statement for this indicator is identified as "move towards or maintain within".	Appendices