North Carolina Forestry Programs:

Management Plan Criteria Checklist

(Updated 5/25/12 by the Forest Management Branch of the North Carolina Forest Service)

The following matrix lists five of the more popular forestry programs in North Carolina, along with those programs' required management plan components and resource elements. Several notable *recommended* components/elements are also highlighted. This is meant to be a helpful quick-reference "cheat sheet" for forest management plan writers. Once a plan writer understands their landowner's short/long-term management objectives and the forestry programs they want to participate in, that plan writer could consult this matrix in order to ensure the necessary components and resource elements are addressed in that landowner's plan. Our best attempt has been made to provide an "apples to apples" comparison between the requirements of these programs. As questions arise about this matrix and the listed requirements, plan writers are encouraged to review each of the program websites/guidance documents for clarification (refer to 2nd page for corresponding weblinks).

DISCLAIMER-this matrix has been proofed by representatives from each of the listed programs and represents, to the best of our abilities, the most current and accurate information. Ultimately, however, the responsibility to ensure that a management plan contains the required components for program participation lies with each plan writer.

X = required component   * = recommended when present/appropriate

Programs: Plan Components:	NC Forest Service- Costshare Requirements	Forest Stewardship Program Standards	Tree Farm Sustainability Standards	Natural Resources Conservation Service- Forest Management Plan Criteria	North Carolina Forestry Present Use Value (PUV) Tax Program Minimum Standards
Property description, including overall present condition and general tract history	X	X	X	X	X
Specific landowner objectives	X	X	X	X	X
Stand description, including **both** current **and** desired conditions	X	X	X	X	X
Management & monitoring recommendations / prescriptions for each stand	X	X	X	X	X
Harvest & regeneration details	*	*	*		X
Schedule of recommended management activities	*	X	X	X	X
Tract map and/or photograph	X	X (including vegetative cover types, hydrology and other significant forest-related resources)	X	X	X
Record of landowner activities		*	X	X	
GIS shapefile of tract		X			

Programs: Resource Elements to Address:	NC Forest Service-Costshare Requirements	Forest Stewardship Program Standards	Tree Farm Sustainability Standards	Natural Resources Conservation Service- Forest Management Plan Criteria	North Carolina Forestry Present Use Value (PUV) Tax Program Minimum Standards
Soil	X	X	X	X	*
Water	X	X	X	X	
Biological diversity (ex. high conservation value forests; rare species and communities)		X	X	*	
Aesthetic quality		X	*	*	
Recreation		X	*	*	
Timber	X	X	X	X	X
Fish & wildlife	*	X	*	X	
T&E species	*	X	X	X	
Forest Health (including invasive species)	*	X	X	X	*
Archeological, cultural & historic sites	*	X	X	X	
Wetlands	*	X	*	X	
Range		X			
Fire (including fuel loads and need for prescribed fire)	*	X			
Carbon		X			
Integrated pest management			X		

For additional details on each program's requirements, refer to the following websites:

North Carolina Forest Service-Costshare Requirements:	http://www.ncforestservice.gov/Managing_your_forest/pdf/ComponentsofaMgtPlan.pdf
Forest Stewardship Program Requirements:	http://www.fs.fed.us/spf/coop/library/fsp_standards&guidelines.pdf
American Tree Farm Sustainability Standards:	http://www.treefarmsystem.org/standardsforcertification
Natural Resources Conservation Service- Forest Management Plan Criteria:	http://www.nc.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/index.html
NC Forestry Present Use Value Tax Program:	http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/forestry/pdf/WON/won40.pdf http://www.dornc.com/downloads/av5.pdf http://www.dornc.com/downloads/av4.pdf http://www.dornc.com/publications/puv_guide.pdf