# Improved Forest Management on Non-Federal U.S. Forestlands

Professional Forester Attestation

VERSION 1.0

2024-07-01

background This is a supplemental document to the ACR Methodology Improved Forest Management on Non-Federal U.S. Forestlands, Version 2.1 (“the Methodology”) and is required for all projects registered under the Methodology. Attestation from a Professional Forester, as defined by the Methodology, must be provided to substantiate the feasibility of the baseline scenario for certain constraint categories. This template provides a standardized format for such.

INSTRUCTIONS Complete the following sections corresponding to project information, constraint categories, and the attestation. All sections must be completed. While the undersigning Professional Forester is not required to complete Sections II through VI (a representative of the Project Proponent may also do so), they must be sufficiently familiarized with the GHG Project to attest to the claims made therein. Supporting information may be attached as an addendum. This attestation (and any attached addenda) must be provided at validation as an appendix to the GHG Project Plan.

When making updates as a result of a dynamic evaluation (*ACR IFM Methodologies Tool for Dynamic Evaluation of Baselines*), attestations may be provided for only the relevant categories requiring recourse (Sections II through VI). In all cases, Sections I and VII must be provided.

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| section I: project information |
| 1 | **Project Title** |       |
| 2 | **ACR Project ID#** |       |
| 3 | **Sections II-VI completed by (name, title, organization)** |       |
| 4 | **Date form completed** | Click or tap to enter a date. |
| Section II: Legality |
| 1 | **General Legal Constraints***What are the laws (e.g., forest practice laws), regulations, statutes, legal rulings, and other general legal constraints relevant to forest management in the project area? Have these been appropriately modeled in the baseline scenario?*      |
| 2 | **Property- and Owner-Specific Legal Constraints***What are the conservation easements, deed restrictions, donor funding restrictions on allowable management activities, contracts limiting forest management of existing and/or new timber owners, and any other property- or owner-specific legal constraints relevant to forest management in the project area? Have these been appropriately modeled in the baseline scenario?*      |
| 3 | **Best Management Practices***What are the federal, state, or local government agency-prescribed voluntary best management practices to protect water, soil stability, forest productivity, wildlife, and other sensitive resources? Have these been appropriately modeled in the baseline scenario?*      |
| Section III: Operability and Access |
| 1 | **Operability Constraints***What are the topographical constraints (e.g., maximum slope, slope instability, length of slope) to harvest operations, given the logging methods which are common practice for the region? Describe the source of this information (e.g., best management practices, known equipment limitations, professional experience in the region).*      |
| 2 | **Operability***Given the identified constraints (Section II.1), does the baseline scenario include harvest treatments in any inoperable or topographically constrained areas?*      |
| 3 | **Access Logistics***What are the access logistics required by the baseline scenario to physically access timber for harvest and transport? Describe the expected means of transportation, availability of existing infrastructure, any needed infrastructure improvements or expansions, any temporary or permanent access limitations, and other relevant conditions.*      |
| 4 | **Access***Given the access logistics (Section II.3), is there sufficient access to the project area’s timber such that the baseline scenario’s harvest treatments would be financially feasible and common practice for the region?*      |
| Section IV: Regional Timber Market Capacity |
| 1 | **Timber Market Identification***What are the regional timber markets (e.g., mills, ports, rail yards, and other markets for timber) utilized by the baseline scenario, and what are their approximate hauling distances from the project area? Are their* *hauling distances profitable?*      |
| 2 | **Timber Market Capacity***For each identified timber market (Section III.1), what is the approximate current capacity for the wood products produced by the baseline scenario? Calculate total current capacity by summing the capacities of all identified timber markets. Does the calculated total current capacity exceed the baseline scenario’s harvested timber output? Describe the source of the capacity information (e.g., timber market reports, published literature, personal communications with timber market staff).*      |
| Section V: Silviculture |
| 1 | **Prescriptions***What are each of the silvicultural prescriptions (including harvest treatments, intermediate treatments, and regeneration assumptions) utilized by the baseline scenario?*       |
| 2 | **Common Practice***Are each of the identified silvicultural prescriptions (Section IV.1) common practice for the region? Write “N/A” if substantiating silvicultural prescriptions as common practice using an alternate source per Section 4.1.3.1 of the Methodology.*      |
| 3 | **Appropriateness for the Project Area***Are each of the identified silvicultural prescriptions (Section IV.1) appropriate for the project area, given site conditions and other relevant management considerations?*      |
| Section VI: Financial Feasibility |
| 1 | **Prices and Costs***Are the timber prices and costs used by the baseline scenario’s financial analysis realistic and relevant to the project area? Costs must include logging and transport costs, reforestation and site rehabilitation costs, and silvicultural prescription costs. If stumpage prices are utilized, substantiate their use below (Section VI.2).*      |
| 2 | **Stumpage Prices***Are stumpage prices utilized? If so, are all relevant costs considered (either within the stumpage price or separately)? If the stumpage prices are regional averages, are the project area’s operability, access, distance to market, and other conditions representative of the average conditions of the region, such that stumpage prices are appropriate?*      |
| 3 | **Species and Size***Are there markets available for each species and the average size timber harvested by the baseline scenario? While specificity regarding exact size classes is not required, this test should consider whether timber is under- or oversized for available markets.*      |
| Section VII: Attestation |
| **All information provided in this document and in all addenda are true, correct, and complete to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.** |
|  | **Name** |       |
| **Title** |       |
| **Organization** |       |
| **Licensing Jurisdiction/ Certification Program** |       |
| **License/Certificate ID#** |       |
| **Date** | Click or tap to enter a date. |