

INTRODUCTION

This working plan covers the entire reserved, protected, unclassified forest, non forest land and zudupi jungle area of Wardha forest division, i.e. 933.683 sq km of forest area. This replaces the working plan of Dr Nand Kishore, 1992 to 2001-2002 (extended up to 2003-04). As the area of Bor Wildlife Sanctuary transferred to Pench Tiger Reserve for its management; the area of Bor Sanctuary, i.e. 40.359 sq km which was included in the previous plan has not been covered, in the present working plan of Wardha division.

The preliminary working plan was prepared by Shri Jarnail Singh, IFS and was approved by the State Level Committee on dated 29th November, 2002. On the basis of the preliminary working plan approved, the draft plan was prepared by the undersigned. After taking over charge of the division on 28.06.2004, writing the draft working plan for this division was started. By this time the enumeration was already done by SOFR Unit, Chandrapur. Therefore, to save time and to get better more analysis of the tree enumeration data was done by the computer. The software developed for the data analysis was used. Stock map is not prepared during the preparation of working plan, but the satellite imageries were used to clarify the forest patches according to density as received in the Normalized Density Vegetation Index (NDVI) mapping. Analyzed enumeration data and satellite imagery density data helped in forming the different working circles.

In this draft working plan, due care has been taken to incorporate suggestions given in the meeting of State Level Committee during discussion on preliminary working plan report. More than 50% area of the Wardha division constitutes Teak. The harvestable girth for teak has

been determined at the maximum volume production indicated by the intersection of CAI and MAI in the stem analysis exercise for teak at site quality IV. The girth (OB) corresponding to the exploitable girth is 101 cm, hence the exploitable girth is fixed as 105 cm. Preliminary working plan report of Wardha division when discussed in state level committee, suggestions were received during discussion to set up committee to the management of hollow trees distribution data, reasons for the same and decide the working circle. Committee was formed under the chairmanship of Add. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Production & Management), MS, Nagpur. Committee visited the forest area of Wardha division and assessed the hollowness problem and found 50% hollowness in teak trees of CWR working circle. Since the area was worked under CWR repeatedly, it leads to the production of hollow timber. Therefore in the present plan although the exploitable girth of teak in site quality IV is fixed as 105 cm as per stem analysis exercise; the hollow trees can be harvested at 75 cm GBH (OB).

Major changes which have been effected in the present working plan are:

- ⊕ Shift from CWR working to SCI working in major areas because the coppicing vigor has drastically reduced due to 3 - 4 coppice rotations in the past.
- ⊕ The plantation area has been drastically reduced because of past poor results of plantations and more emphasis is now laid on natural regeneration which will include root stock management.
- ⊕ In PWPR, Grassland management was not considered but after discussion in the state level committee, looking to grazing pressure on forest land in the division. "Grass & Fodder Resource

Management" working circle over an area 10379.821 ha is incorporated in the draft plan.

- ⊕ Ministry of Environment & Forests, GOI circulated National Working Plan Code in June 2004. In accordance to Nation Working Plan Code, chapters on Forests Protection, JFM, NWFP and Wildlife management have been incorporated.

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- i. Shri P M Chauhan Forest Guard,
- ii. Shri S J Kalbande Forest Guard,
- iii. Smt P P Shrikhande Accountant,
- iv. Shri S K Gajbhiye Driver.

Dated 7th June 2005

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