

Summary of UPM Blandin Improved Forest Management Project

Name of Project Proponent	Blandin Paper Company
Project Title	UPM Blandin Native American Hardwoods Conservation and Carbon Sequestration Project
Country	USA
Location	Northern Minnesota, approximately 70 miles from Grand Rapids
Project Type	Improved Forest Management (IFM)
Carbon Standard	American Carbon Registry, Forest Carbon Project Standard v2.1
Methodology	Improved Forest Management Methodology for Quantifying GHG Removals and Emission Reductions through Increased Forest Carbon Sequestration on Non-Federal U.S. Forestlands
Project Status	Project implemented on July 28, 2010 (start date). Project validation and verification was completed on December 1, 2015.
Project Description	<p>The project involves improving forest management by employing Smart Forestry practices which increase the carbon storage above those levels that would be achieved by employing more aggressive management practices typical of industrial private lands in the region.</p> <p>Smart Forestry is a forest management style that combines ecologically-based forestry, best site-management practices, in coordination with adjacent landowners. It uses nature's clues as a guide to match the tree and plant species with the right habitat type over the life of a forest.</p> <p>The implementation of Smart Forestry practices by Blandin is ensured in perpetuity through a conservation easement, signed in July 2010. The conservation easement was put on all 187,876 acres of Blandin property, covering the entirety of the eligible project area (175,385 acres). It provides for the continuation of management by habitat types and promotes</p>

	<p>a working forest. Under the easement, Blandin cannot subdivide the land in any fashion or develop the land and must provide access to public. The easement is held by the State of Minnesota, and was facilitated by The Conservation Fund and The Nature Conservancy given the environmental value of the properties.</p> <p>In practice, Smart Forestry, as compared with the typically aggressive cutting by other private industrial forest managers in the region, involves longer rotations/cutting cycles, and in some cases moving from even-aged to uneven-aged management systems (e.g. from clear-cutting aspen to mixed wood, aspen and white spruce, stands via periodic selective harvest).</p>																								
Climate Benefits	<p>The project is expected to generate more than 3.6 million tons CO2e emission reductions from 2010 to the end of the first crediting period in 2030.</p> <p>The projected emission reductions until 2020 are as follows:</p> <table> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Annual ERTs</th> <th>Cumulative ERTs</th> </tr> <tr> <td>2010-2014</td> <td></td> <td>178,898</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2015</td> <td>192,889</td> <td>371,787</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2016</td> <td>261,710</td> <td>633,497</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2017</td> <td>313,858</td> <td>947,355</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2018</td> <td>367,703</td> <td>1,315,058</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019</td> <td>510,046</td> <td>1,825,104</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2020</td> <td>453,895</td> <td>2,278,999</td> </tr> </table>	Year	Annual ERTs	Cumulative ERTs	2010-2014		178,898	2015	192,889	371,787	2016	261,710	633,497	2017	313,858	947,355	2018	367,703	1,315,058	2019	510,046	1,825,104	2020	453,895	2,278,999
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Community and Environmental Co-Benefits	<p>The project area has SFI Certification and a conservation easement demonstrating high quality sustainable management. Furthermore, the Blandin forest has maintained ISO certification since 1999, with recertification every 3 years.</p> <p>Blandin allows public access for recreational use of the property, including for snowmobiling, hunting, fishing, trapping, cross-country skiing, bird watching, berry picking, hiking and snow shoeing. The public is guaranteed access for recreation in accordance with Blandin's recreation policy and through the conservation easement. Blandin</p>																								

	<p>partners each year with the National Ruffed Grouse Society to provide areas for their annual hunt. Blandin also provides firewood permits to the public for no fee and gives away 5,000 seedlings each spring.</p> <p>Because of Blandin's unique style of forest management, Blandin accomodates many requests from the Minnesota DNR, counties, the University of Minnesota and tribal groups to provide tours and expertise on forest practices. Blandin is a regular supporter, through active participation and financial contributions, of the Minnesota Logger Education Program, Minnesota Forest Resources Council, and Sustainable Forestry Education Cooperative. Blandin is on the forestry advisor group for the Forestry Tech Program at Itasca Community College and contributes and promotes the Historical Forest History Center. Blandin is also a member of Minnesota Forest Industries and the Minnesota Forest Resources Partnership.</p> <p>Blandin supports ongoing research to evaluate different aspects of forestry. Blandin has completed a 6-year ecto-mycorrhizae survey by habitat type through the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and is involved in cooperative research with the Natural Resources Research Institute and the National Council on Air and Stream Improvement. Blandin also participated in a 10-year project to evaluate the effects of different riparian management techniques to revise the Minnesota Best Management Practices.</p>
Technical Advisors	TerraCarbon LLC
Project Contacts	Cheryl Adams, Forestry Resources Manager, UPM Blandin Paper Company, +1-212-327-6482, cheryl.adams@upm.com

Appendix 1: Project Map

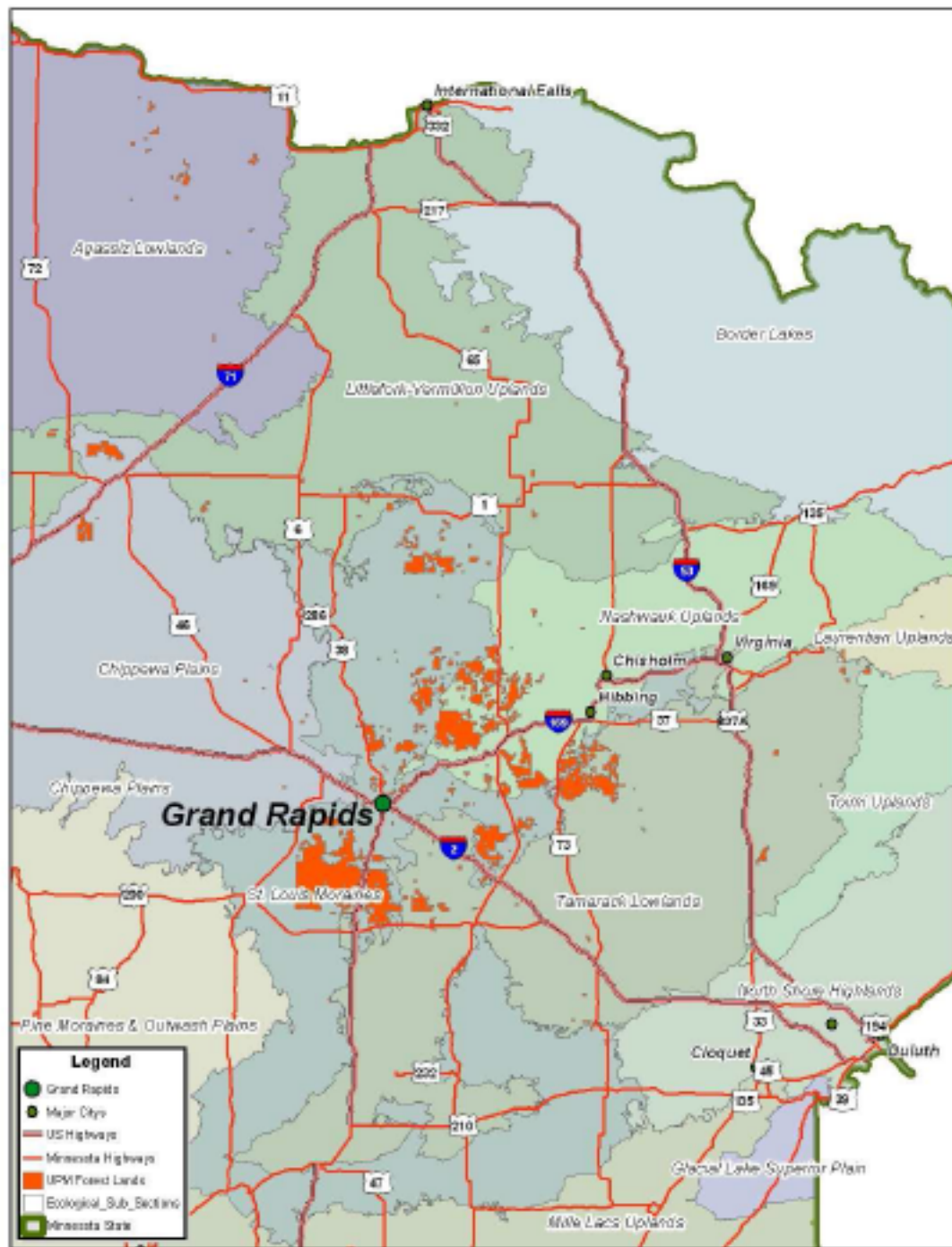


Figure A2. Project area in relation to National Hierarchical Framework of Ecological Units.

Appendix 2: Pictures



UPM Blandin's "mixed wood" management practices restore historic mixed species stands of aspen and conifers like balsam fir and white spruce.



Indian Paintbrush (*Castilleja sp*) flowering in the UPM Blandin Forest



Public use signs at the UPM Blandin Forest