

Lodgepole Treatment Comments and Age Distribution

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Many considerations point to need for modification of Lodgepole treatment approach from USFS prescription approach used during Phase 1 and 2 (slide 1 of 2)

Forsythe II Project Decision excluded multiple valid approaches to management of Lodgepoles (over objections by homeowners)

- Clear dead understory fuel
- Remove blow down
- Trim re-growth
- Thin (as in previous treatments)

On the ground view of appropriate treatment often differs significantly from initial USFS proposals based on mostly remote analysis and primarily only silvicultural considerations

- Recent Field trips have show good examples of this (unit 3 and 4)

Old Growth (and Developing Old Growth) is present within Lodgepole units. Initial USFS proposals based on mostly remote analysis have not taken this into account

- Contradiction to directions in Forest Plan

Management on the ground post-clearcut can make significant difference in healthy regeneration

- Need to match wood left scattered on ground to soil, slope, drainage, and solar orientation to promote optimal moisture retention to minimize invasive weed regrowth and to promote healthy tree regrowth
- Need to avoid very artificial looking “wildlife” piles

Many considerations point to need for modification of Lodgepole treatment approach from USFS prescription approach used during Phase 1 and 2 (slide 2 of 2)

Many valid reasons point to less clearcutting in Lodgepoles than allowed by the Final Decision

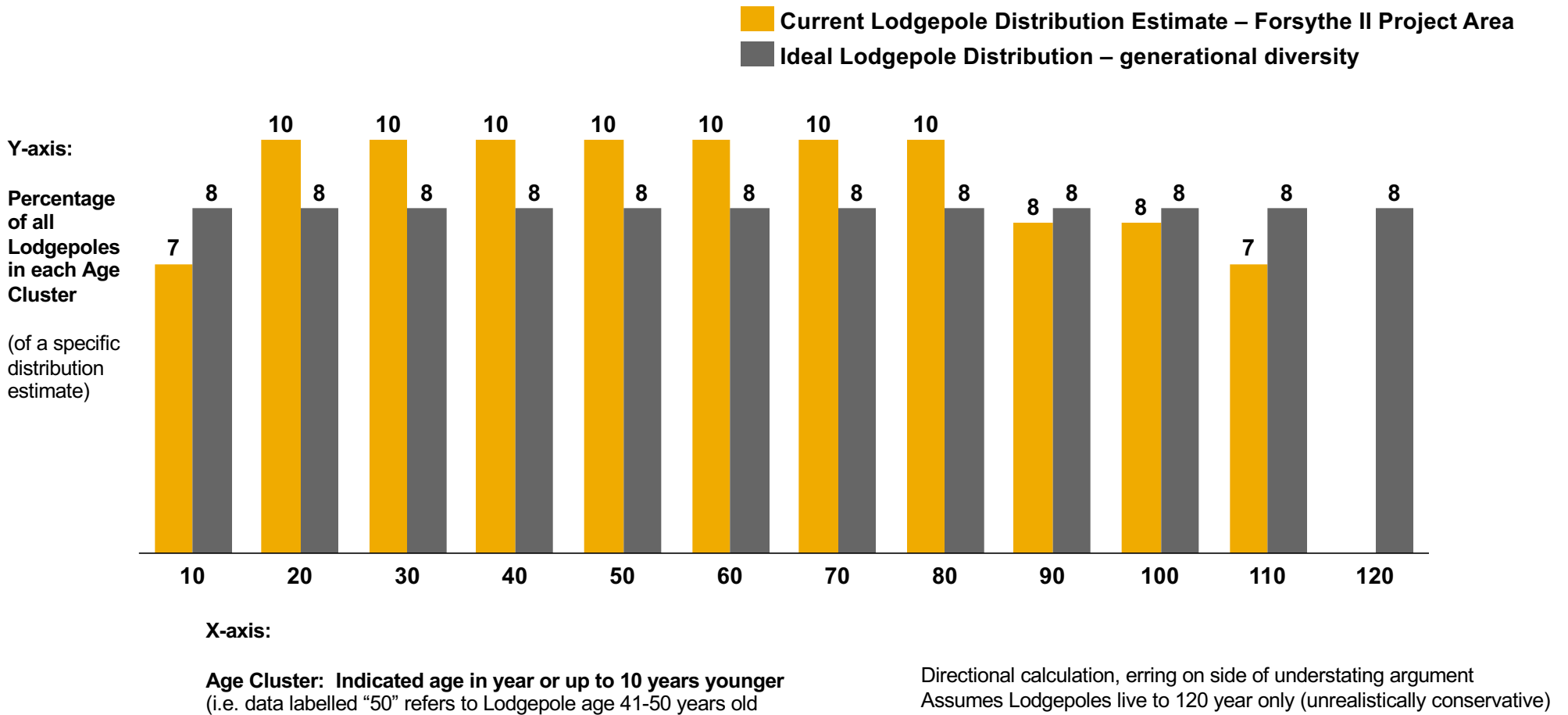
- Social
- Ecology / wildlife
- Damage to soil
- Invasive weeds
- Homeowner higher level goals for preservation of more natural look and feel in forest landscape

Final Decision goal to “mimic variable structural and spatial patterns across the landscape” needs to be realistically interpreted across a natural Lodgepole age cycle that involves

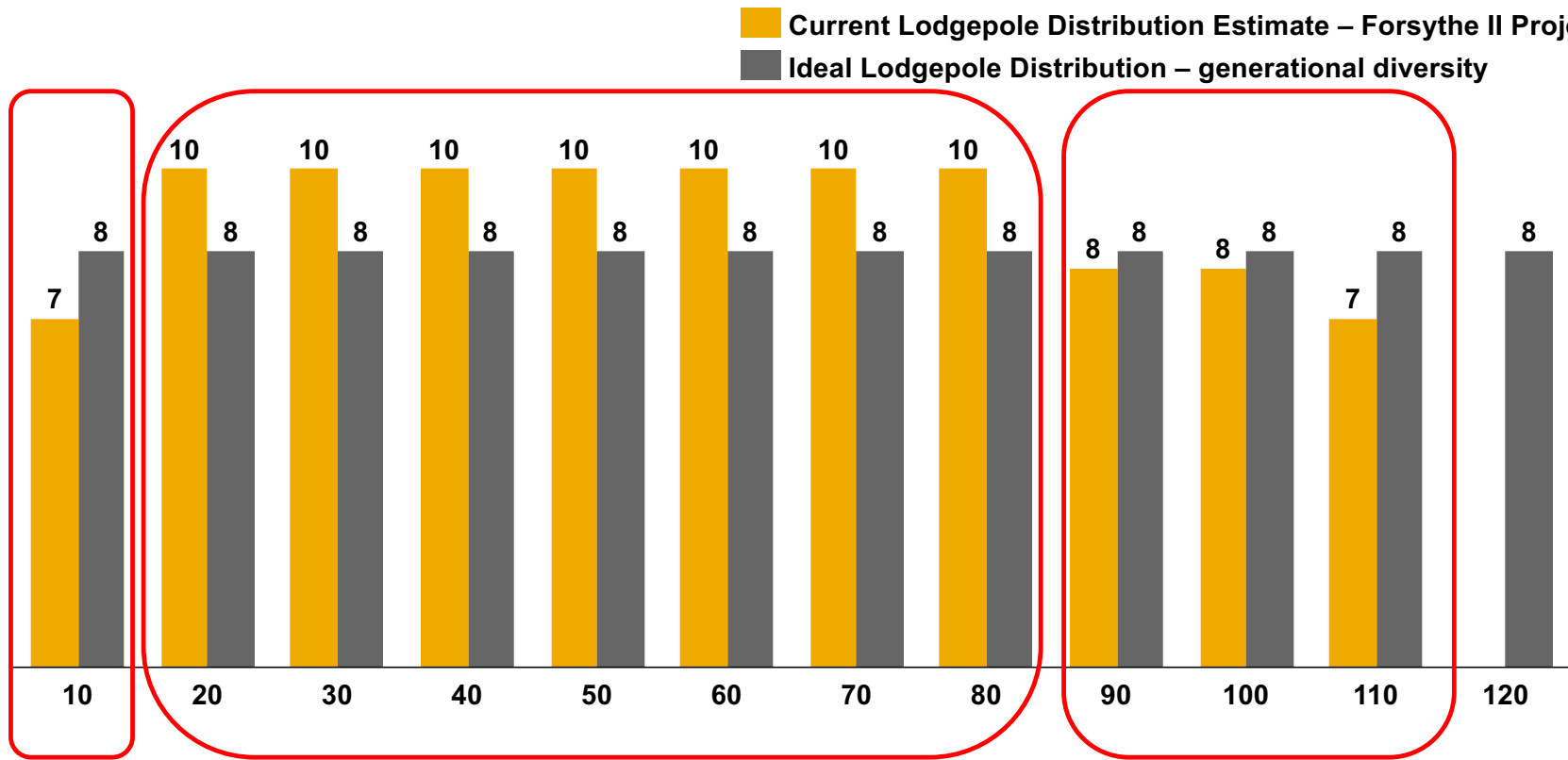
- Approximately 10 years to grow from seedling out of HSS 2T
- Approximately 70 years (tree age 10 – 80 years) to grow through HSS 3A, 3B, or 3C – depending on canopy cover density
- Approximately 40 or more years (tree age 80 – 120+ years) to grow through HSS 4A, 4B, or 4C – depending on canopy cover density

See graphs on following pages that illustrate implications of this Lodgepole age cycle on target Lodgepole distribution

Pre-treatment Forsythe II area Lodgepole acreage distribution (from EA Silviculture Report, page 26) indicates approximate pre-treatment 1% acreage shortfall (~32 out of 3,183 acres) of Lodgepoles in less than 10 year old age cluster relative to perfectly uniform structural stage distribution



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2T = 7%

3A, 3B, 3C = 70%

4A, 4B, 4C = 23%

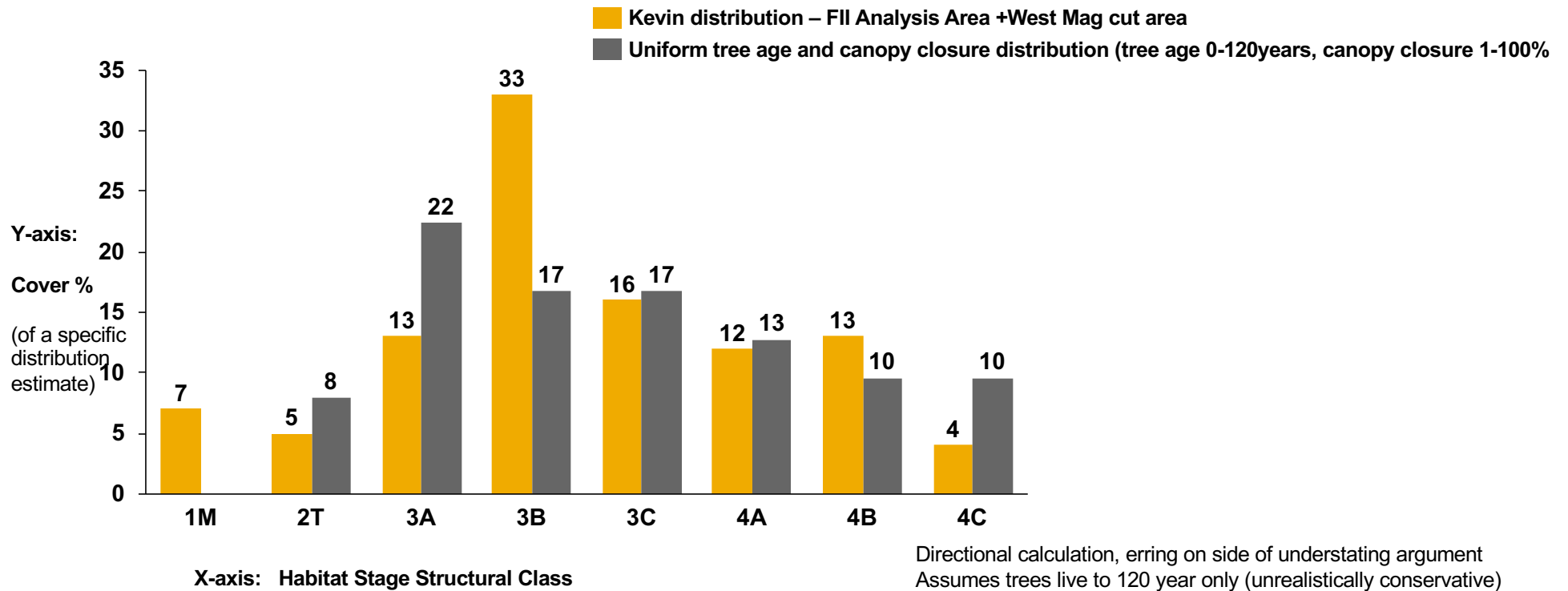
Actual distribution within age cluster is not known

Habitat Structural Stage for Lodgepoles
in Forsythe II Project Area, from EA Silviculture Report

Habitat Stage Structure Thought Experiment (with data as presented by Kevin) shows excessive clearcutting planned for Forsythe II (compare to next slide) and insufficient acreage of dense, old forest in HSS 4C and also forest in 3C

Pre Forsythe II Treatment Data

Kevin's "Habitat Stage Structure Thought Experiment" on left side of page 14 of his 09112019 MMG presentation

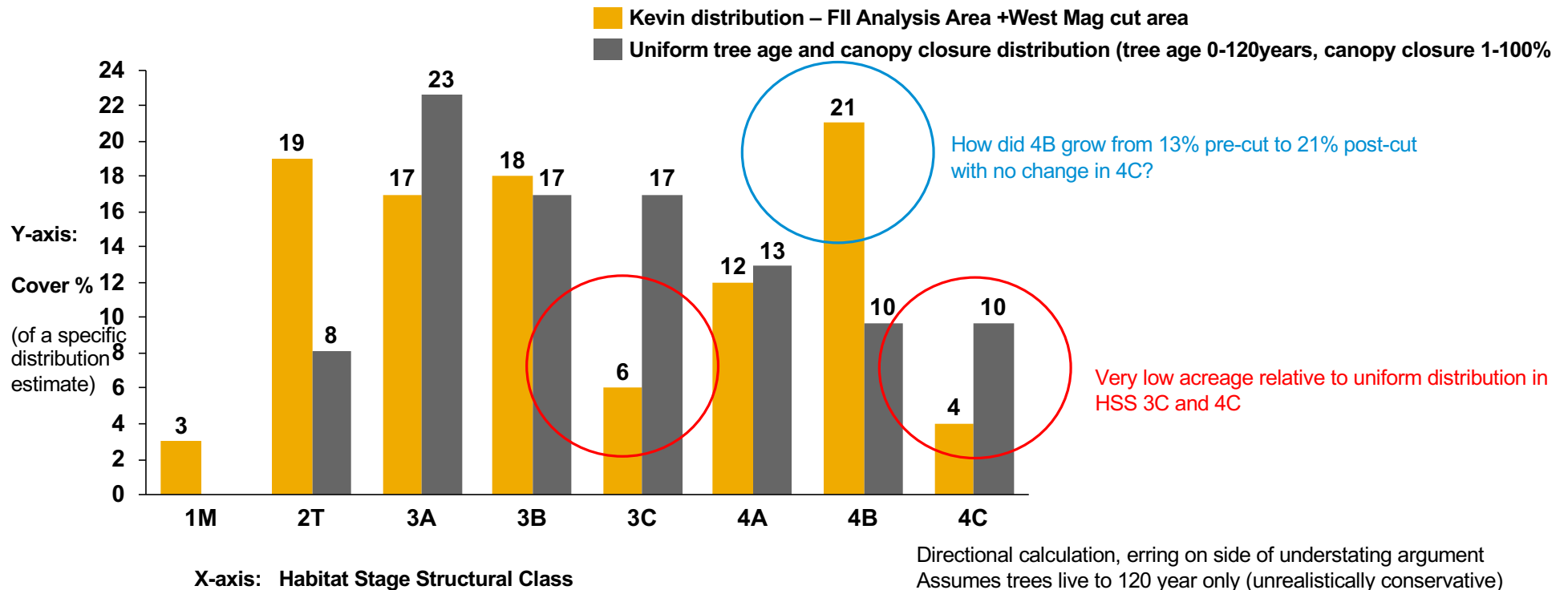


Habitat Stage Structure Thought Experiment (with data as presented by Kevin) shows excessive clearcutting planned for Forsythe II and insufficient acreage of dense, old forest in HSSC 4C and also forest in 3C

Also, distribution data needs to be reviewed to understand contributions to changes from pre- to post- treatment

Post Forsythe II Treatment Data

Kevin's "Habitat Stage Structure Thought Experiment" on right side of page 14 of his 09112019 MMG presentation



Acreage counts show excessive patch / clear cutting of Lodgepoles planned in Forsythe II, with effect even more pronounced if West Magnolia area is included

Lodgepole units north of Magnolia Drive (plus unit 24) account for only 41% of total Lodgepole unit acreage in Forsythe II. Even significant reductions of planned patch cutting in these Lodgepole units will leave the Forsythe II area with excessive Lodgepole acres in HSS 2T relative to an optimal distribution of Lodgepole structural stages

		Acres	Percentage
In Project Area, pre FII Project			
	Lodgepole Acres in HSS 2T	235	7%
	Lodgepole Acres in HSS 3A,B,C or 4A,B,C	2948	93%
West Magnolia (estimate), pre FII Project			
	Lodgepole Acres in HSS 2T	300	60%
	Lodgepole Acres in HSS 3A,B,C or 4A,B,C	200	49%
FII Project Area + West Magnolia, pre FII Project			
	Lodgepole Acres in HSS 2T	535	15%
	Lodgepole Acres in HSS 3A,B,C or 4A,B,C	3148	85%
FII Project Area + West Magnolia, post FII Target Plan			
(FII Target Plan of 30% patch / clear cut of	Lodgepole Acres in HSS 2T	866	24%
1104 Lodgepole unit acres = 331 patch cut acres)	Lodgepole Acres in HSS 3A,B,C or 4A,B,C	2817	76%
FII Project Area only, post FII Target Plan			
(FII Target Plan of 30% patch / clear cut of	Lodgepole Acres in HSS 2T	566	18%
1104 Lodgepole unit acres = 331 patch cut acres)	Lodgepole Acres in HSS 3A,B,C or 4A,B,C	2617	82%