

**A Decision Tree System  
for  
Developing Harvest Schedules from User-Defined  
Silvicultural Guidelines**

by

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**DEPARTMENT OF FOREST RESOURCES**

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# **DTREES, Version 4.2**

**A Decision Tree System**

**for**

**Developing Harvest Schedules from User-Defined Silvicultural Guidelines**

**User's Manual<sup>1</sup>**

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## INTRODUCTION TO THE DTREES SIMULATION SYSTEM

This manual is designed to facilitate the use of **DTREES** (Decision **TREE** System) and provide the user with information on the structure and use of various **DTREES** functions. It is not intended to teach system analysis or timber management planning, and the authors assume that the users of this system have some expertise in these areas, as well as experience in using personal computers running under the DOS operating system environment. The manual is broken down into several distinct sections that the user may consult as needed. Each main menu option is described and brief examples are provided.

### Typology Conventions

To help you better understand this manual, we will explain the conventions used to interact with the **DTREES** system and each of its sub-components. **DTREES** has been thoroughly tested and extensively error-trapped, and careful use of the system should result in quick and effective runs. However, the system is not capable of defeating all deliberate attempts to crash it, so we advise that you think ahead when changing variables to extreme values.

- (1) Whenever a key is bracketed by the greater-than and lesser-than signs `< >`, this symbolizes a key press. For example:
  - `<4> <ENTER>`- Symbolizes pressing the 4 key and then the enter key.
  - `<SPACEBAR>` - Symbolizes pressing the spacebar once.
  - `<5> <5> <.> <0> <ENTER>` Pressing 55.0 and then the enter key.
- (2) Whenever a numeric key press is requested (i.e. - `<4>`), it refers to the numeric keys above the alphabetic keys on the keyboard. **DTREES** uses the numeric keypad for cursor control only.
- (3) Unless otherwise noted, **DTREES** is not case sensitive. In other words, `<E>` is equivalent to `<e>`.
- (4) Definition of DOS. DOS refers to the Disk Operation System for IBM or IBM compatible personal computers.
- (5) Reverse video refers to reversing the basic foreground and background colors of the text. If the majority of the text is light letters on a dark background, reverse video will be dark letters on a light background.
- (6) When the message "Press any key to continue..." appears on the screen, **DTREES** is allowing you to observe the screen contents before continuing. Pressing any of the alpha-numeric keys will then signal **DTREES** to continue.

- (7) When cursor control is used to highlight a menu option in reverse video (as in the **SRP** (SET RUN PARAMETERS) module main menu), the up arrow key on the enhanced 101 key keyboard and the 8 key on the numeric keypad are equivalent. Similarly, the down arrow key is equivalent to the 2 key on the numeric keypad. Use these keys to highlight the menu option of interest, then press <ENTER> to execute that option.

### System Requirements and Recommendations

The DTREES system itself can be run from any computer operating DOS 3.1 or higher, and at least 3.5 MB of free disk space for the compiled programs alone. However, to properly use the DTREES system, the following is a description of the minimum operational system. (The system described here is an PC 486. The need for an extra 5 MB of free disk space is due to the fact that DTREES can create up to 6000 bytes of output for each stand processed. Should you process a planning area with 2500 management units, the DTREES output alone is 3-6 Mb! This is due to the detail with which DTREES processes each stand. This is also the cause for recommending a machine which has a processor running at least 33 Mhz. With a PC 486 running at 66 Mhz, DTREES will process one stand completely every 2 seconds. Using the same 2500 stands, that equals about 2 hours of total running time. The minimum recommended system for DTREES would include:

- DOS 3.1 or higher
- VGA graphics
- Computer processor running at 25 Mhz or higher
- At least 20 Mb of free disk space or other peripheral storage device, e.g., Bernoulli box

However, when operating DTREES and other components of the integrated planning package such as **DUALPLAN** (see Rose et al. 1989), even more processing power and memory space is recommended. The optimal system for the total planning system would include these components:

- 486 PC running at 50Mhz or better
- A minimum of 100 Mb of on line disk space
- Backup storage capacity of 200 Mb. Either Bernoulli cartridges, tape storage, optical disks, or mainframe computer storage.
- VGA graphics capacity
- High quality printer
- High quality plotter (support for **GIS**)

The total cost of the hardware for this system has decreased dramatically and would fall in the range of \$3-4,000. Many organizations involved in strategic planning already own such computer systems.



## What DTREES Does

A major objective of forest planning is to choose among many available stand management options in such a way that management objectives are achieved in the best possible way. The key is to provide a stand management scheduling model called DUALPLAN (see Rose et al. 1989) with a selection of technically sound management alternatives. The development of these alternatives is an important, but potentially very tedious process. **Decision TREE System (DTREES)** was developed to facilitate the development of management alternatives and functions as the "front-end" to a harvest scheduling algorithm. It provides a list of alternative management sequences for each forest stand by simulating management activities and responses. DTREES can also be run as a stand-alone program without a scheduling program to project stands and management outputs under predetermined silvicultural management rules. Included in DTREES system objectives are (1) use of a tree-based growth projection system, (2) a modular systems design, (3) an understandable and user accessible silvicultural decision system, (4) avoidance of stand aggregation, and (5) a flexible inventory data base interface.

DTREES can generate and simulate alternative management sequences for forest stands in the Great Lakes Region. DTREES makes no assumptions about economic conditions or values. It simply models the biological aspects of a forest as presented in the inventory files. For a given inventory data base, DTREES will produce an output data base which describes, for each stand in the inventory that was selected by the user for simulation, a series of management actions and their associated product flows by species and the characteristics of the trees remaining in a stand due to a management action over time. DTREES bases its decisions on silvicultural guidelines derived from management handbooks for each covertype in the Great Lakes Region (Brand, 1981a).

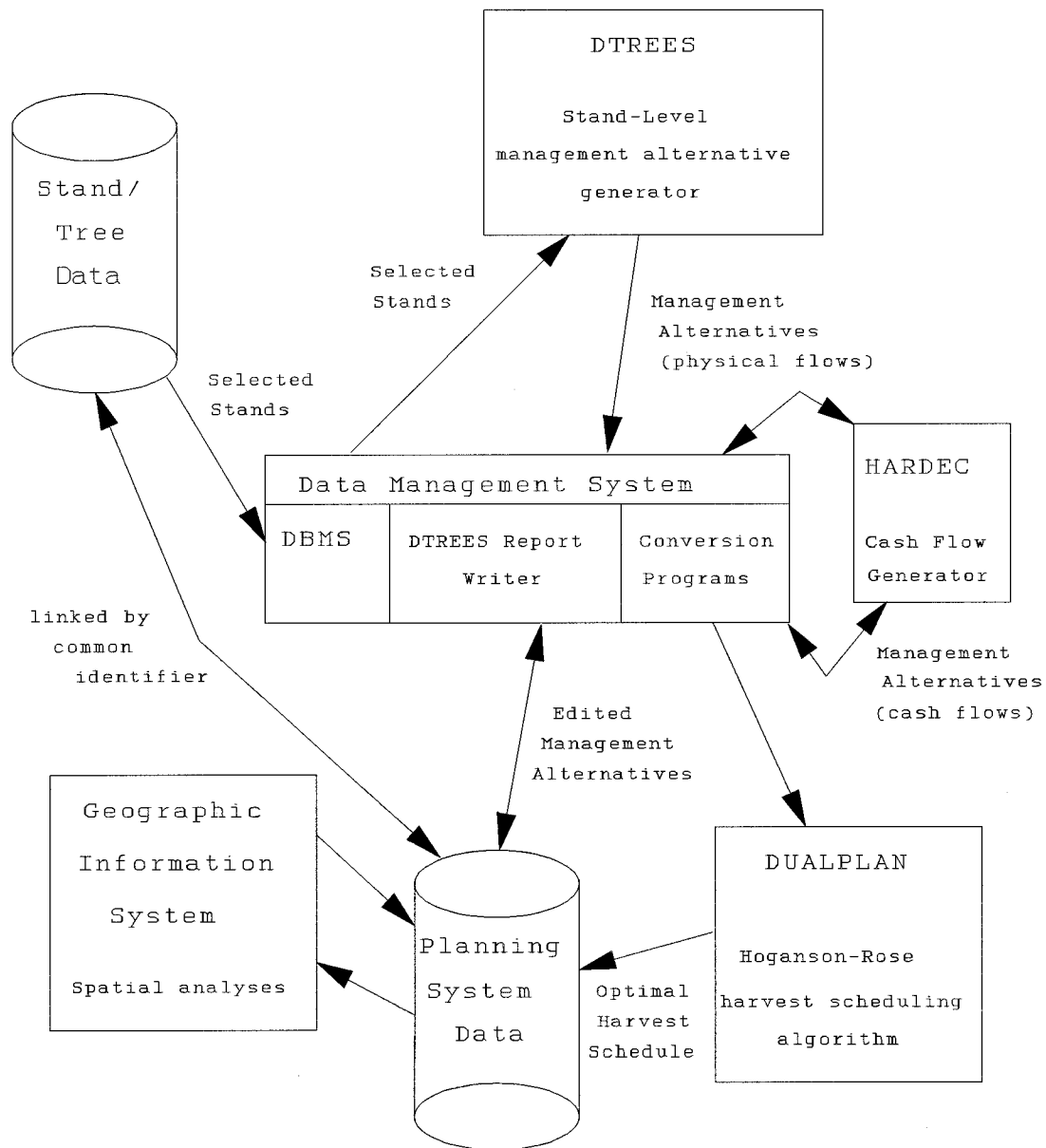
An example of the type of input required by DTREES is given in Appendix I for a few stands from the DNR Sturgeon River State Forest. Following the input example is an example of the type of information DTREES will provide under a Model I formulation assumption. Most timber management scheduling models found in the forestry literature are formulated in either a Model I or Model II format. The best description of these two model formulations can be found in Johnson and Scheurman (1977). The primary difference between Model I and Model II formulations is in the method of defining the variables that relate to the management alternatives. In Model I, the decision variables are the number of acres of an initial age class assigned to a unique management sequence or option over time. In Model II, on the other hand, the decision variables refer to the number of acres in an initial age class that are harvested in a given planning period. The major difference between the two formulations is that in model II stands harvested in a specific planning period are merged to form a new age class while in model I all stands maintain their original identity. This version of DTREES is designed only to project inventories under user-recommended silvicultural actions without development of optimal schedules. The user for this version of DTREES can only use the model I option.

DTREES is designed to support the DUALPLAN harvest scheduling system. However, DTREES can be used to produce a "first-cut" at a harvest management plan. When used in this manner, it is best to use a Model I formulation with only one alternative generated at each decision node. With these settings, DTREES will produce only the silvicultural "optimal" management sequence according to the decision system critical parameters, and the simulation will continue for the entire planning horizon. This output can be used as a base from which to recommend various management options. Use of DTREES in conjunction with DUALPLAN to generate economically optimal management schedules is considerably more complex because for each stand multiple management alternatives and associated product flows need to be generated. The scheduling model selects among those alternatives in order to optimize an objective function such as minimum cost of production or maximum net discounted net revenues. The use of DTREES as a front-end to a scheduling model will be described in a separate user's manual which is currently being prepared.

DTREES uses the **GROW** subroutine (Brand, 1981b) for growth projections, and in the Model I formulation empirical tree lists are used for regenerating stands after final harvests. The harvesting schemes modelled by DTREES include clearcutting, random thinning, selection by species or diameter size class, and shelterwood harvests for natural regeneration. A detailed discussion of the concepts and procedures used by DTREES to produce alternative management sequences is contained in the overview paper by Rose, Hoganson, Pelkki, and Arthaud (1989).

#### **Where DTREES Fits into Forest Management Scheduling System**

Figure 1 shows the overall structure of an integrated planning system. While DTREES is fully capable as a stand-alone system, it is designed to work with the other components of the planning system in an integrated fashion. The stand-level inventory database is the most current representation of the real world (forest). From this current state, DTREES models for each stand (or management unit) in the forest several alternative management sequences forward in time. Each of these alternatives are then evaluated by economic criteria using program HARDEC and costs of production are defined for each alternative. This modified prescription list is then evaluated by DUALPLAN, the microcomputer version of the Hoganson-Rose algorithm (Hoganson and Rose, 1984). DUALPLAN finds the lowest cost strategic harvesting plan for the entire forest, for given levels of production. The planning system can take advantage of geographic information systems (GIS) for analysis, display and reporting on the output from DTREES and DUALPLAN if stand data are available in digitized form. The report writer provides a series of management summary and exception reports for the user. Its purpose is to reveal to the user in a concise and readable format all relevant outputs from the simulated management actions.



Forest Planning System Framework

## INSTALLING THE DTREES SIMULATION SYSTEM

**Back up your DTREES diskettes before any installation procedure!** This will minimize the risk of damage to the original diskettes. DTREES has no copy protection, so follow these steps to make working diskette copies:

1. Put first DTREES diskette in drive A.
2. Put a blank formatted working copy disk in drive B.
3. Type <COPY A:\\*.\* B:>
4. Repeat steps 1-3 until you have copied all three DTREES diskettes.

Put the program disk away in a safe place and continue with the installation of the working copies to the computer's hard disk. The user has two options to do this.

### Using DOS

1. Create a directory for the DTREES main files on your computer hard disk, e.g., DTREES by typing <MKDIR DTREES> from the C:\ prompt.
2. Go to that directory by typing <CD DTREES>
3. Insert DTREES diskette 1 into drive A: or B: and type <COPY A:\\*.\*> or <COPY B:\\*.\*>. Repeat process for DTREES diskette 2.
4. Create a data and output subdirectory on the DTREES directory on your hard disk by typing <MKDIR DATA> and <MKDIR OUTPUT>. Be sure that you are at the C:\DTREES prompt if that is the directory you created.
5. Move to the data subdirectory by typing <CD DTREES\DATA>.
6. Insert DTREES diskette 3 into drive A: or B: and type <COPY A:\\*.\*> or <COPY B:\\*.\*>.

These steps will complete the installation process. The output directory was created so that DTREES outputs can be written to a specific subdirectory.

### Using DTSETUP Program

An installation program **DTSETUP** on the program diskette can be used also to install the program and all necessary files to any specified hard disk. Simply insert the program diskette in a drive, type <DTSETUP> and follow the simple instructions on the screen. The proper files will be copied to the hard disk. Drive "A" is the default input drive, but the system will determine from which drive the **DTSETUP** program was activated. The default destination drive and directory is C:\DTREES. The **DTSETUP** program itself will not be saved to the hard disk. The following shows the input screens the user will see during installation:

DTREES INSTALLATION PROGRAM

DEFAULT INPUT DRIVE for DTREES files: **A:\**  
DEFAULT DESTINATION DRIVE for DTREES files: **C:\DTREES**

- (1) **Change input drive/directory for DTREES files...**
- (2) Change destination drive/directory for DTREES files.
- (3) Install DTREES as specified...
- (4) Exit the installation program...

Use Numeric or Arrow Keys to select option  
Press <Enter> to execute the option

Enter Drive/Directory String, e.g. C: or C:\FILES: **B:**

DTREES INSTALLATION PROGRAM

NEW INPUT DRIVE for DTREES files: **B:\**  
DEFAULT DESTINATION DRIVE for DTREES file: **C:\DTREES**

- (1) Change input drive/directory for DTREES files...
- (2) **Change destination drive/directory for DTREES files.**
- (3) Install DTREES as specified...
- (4) Exit the installation program...

Use Numeric or Arrow Keys to select option  
Press <Enter> to execute the option

Enter Drive/Directory String, e.g. C: or C:\FILES: **C:\DTREES**

DTREES INSTALLATION PROGRAM

NEW INPUT DRIVE for DTREES files: **A:\**  
NEW DESTINATION DRIVE for DTREES files: **C:\DTREES**

- (1) Change input drive/directory for DTREES files...
- (2) Change destination drive/directory for DTREES files.
- (3) **Install DTREES as specified...**
- (4) Exit the installation program...

Use Numeric or Arrow Keys to select option  
Press <Enter> to execute the option

Copying files to directory:D:\DTREES

At this point a list of all the files being copied to the hard disk will appear on the screen, e.g.,

C:\DTREES\DTREES.EXE  
C:\DTREES\DTSETUP.EXE  
etc.  
    XX File(s) copied  
C:\DTREES\DATA\MISC.PAR  
etc.  
    XX File(s) copied

DTREES program has been successfully installed in drive C:\DTREES  
Press a key to continue...

DTREES INSTALLATION PROGRAM

NEW INPUT DRIVE for DTREES files: **A:\**  
NEW DESTINATION DRIVE for DTREES files: **C:\DTREES**

- (1) Change input drive/directory for DTREES files...
- (2) Change destination drive/directory for DTREES files..
- (3) Install DTREES as specified...
- (4) Exit the installation program...**

Use Numeric or Arrow Keys to select option  
Press <Enter> to execute the option

To run DTREES, simply type <DTREES> from the created directory  
Press a key to continue...

## USING THE DECISION TREE SYSTEM: DTREES MAIN MENU

After entering DTREES from the DOS prompt in the appropriate directory, the DTREES initial screen will appear. Pressing any key at this point will place you in the main DTREES menu. From this menu you can access all of the major DTREES subsystems and execute all of DTREES procedures. The DTREES main program menu appears:

### DTREES MAIN PROGRAM MENU

- 1) General Information about DTREES
- 2) Set Paths Defaults
- 3) Creating Misc. Database Shells (DTDBMAN.EXE)
- 4) Filling Inventory/Codes Data Bases (DTDBFILL.EXE)
- 5) Review/Edit Inventory Data Base (DTLIST.EXE)
- 6) Review/Edit Codes Data Base (DTPEDIT.EXE)
- 7) View/Edit Decision Trees (VE.EXE)
- 8) Set Run Parameters (SRP.EXE)
- 9) Run DTREES Simulation (RDTREES.EXE)
- 10) DTREES Report Writer (REPORT.EXE)
- 11) DOS Operation System Functions
- 12) Leave DTREES

Use Arrow or Number Keys to highlight  
Press Spacebar to execute

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DTREES License # 000-01

A selection is made by using the cursor, number, <Home>, or <End> keys and the <Enter> key for a highlighted choice. The appropriate subsystem is activated, and typically a new menu screen or activity will appear. What follows is a description of the function of each subsystem available from the main menu. Option 11 which activates the simulation should not be selected until the control parameters and decision trees are reviewed and set properly.

### DTREES Software Structure

**DTREES** is coded in Microsoft Professional BASIC version 7.1. It requires an IBM or IBM compatible personal computer which supports DOS 3.1 or higher.

**DTREES.EXE** controls the main program menu and all functions of DTREES are accessible through it. While other modules may be executed outside of this module's environment, the DTREES is designed to be executed from **DTREES.EXE**! Use of the other modules outside of **DTREES.EXE** may cause unpredictable results, loss of data, or damage to the system software.

**DTDBMAN.EXE** sets up the data base structures for all data base tables.

**DTFILLDB.EXE** fills the relational data base structures with data.

**DTLIST.EXE** permits viewing and editing of inventory data bases.

**DTPEDIT.EXE** permits viewing and editing of the run codes data base tables.

**VE.EXE (View/Edit)** controls the display and editing of the decision trees which drive DTREES. There are 12 covertypes which can be displayed, and each critical value displayed can be modified and saved. Up to 4 sets (a set consists of critical values for all 12 covertypes) of these "critical" values can be stored at a time.

**SRP.EXE (Set Run Parameters)** controls all other DTREES running parameters. When executing this subsystem, the user can observe and modify the following:

- Inventory source type and file names
- Output file names
- Input and output file paths
- Timber size class codes for all tree species
- Planning horizon length and number of periods
- Modelling formulation (Model 1/Model 2)
- Species and coertype conversion codes
- File start up point
- Update of inventory to current year
- Generation of silvicultural optimal sequence only

The **RDTREES.EXE** module actually performs the simulation of management sequences over time. It uses the US Forest Service NC Experiment Station RunGrow routine to make growth projections.

**REPORT.EXE** permits generating a number of reports on the simulated stand schedules.



## MAIN MENU OPTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT DTREES

This option of the **DTREES** main menu generates the following screen:

### Information About the DTREES Software

- (1) General Information about DTREES
- (2) Software Disclaimer for DTREES
- (3) Return to DTREES Main Menu

Use Arrow or Number Keys to highlight  
Press Spacebar to execute

### Suboption 1: General Information about DTREES

By pressing <1>, the user can read a general description of DTREES, how it fits into the overall planning system, its general structure, and possible uses. By pressing <2> DTREES displays the software disclaimer, which outlines the agreement between authorized users and the authors. Pressing <3> returns the system to the main DTREES menu.

### General Information About DTREES

DTREES, (Decision TREE System), is a prescription writer and harvest simulator designed to provide alternative management sequences for each stand in a forest. It is driven by a series of 12 decision trees developed for the STEMS modelling system, the GROW subroutine, and a series of empirical regeneration tree lists. For any given stand, DTREES can provide the user with 1-16 alternative management sequences over the planning horizon, complete with estimated residual and harvest volumes by species and product class.

Although DTREES is a 'stand-alone' software system, it was designed to provide the alternative management options for the harvest scheduling model, DUALPLAN, as part of an integrated forest planning system, which also includes cost models, geographic information systems (GIS), and a concise management report generator.

Press any key to continue....

The DTREES system consists of 8 main sub-systems:

- (1) General Information about DTREES
- (2) Set Paths Defaults
- (3) DTDBMAN: Create Misc. Data Base Shells
- (4) DTDBFILL: Filling Inventory/Codes Data Bases
- (5) DTLIST: Review/Edit Inventory Data Base
- (6) DTPEDIT: Review/Edit Codes Data Base
- (7) VE: View/Edit Decision Trees
- (8) SRP: Set Run Parameters
- (9) RDTREES: The DTREES Simulation Module
- (10) REPORT: A Collection of DTREES Output Summary Routines  
DTSIMLST: Review Simulation Output Data Base  
A module called by REPORT.

The DTMAKDB module lets user read raw inventory data into a predefined relational DATA base structure. It also lets user view and modify the inventory data base.

The DTDBFILL module allows the user to read inventory flat files and create a relational data base of inventory records.

Press any key to continue....

DTLIST allows the user to view/edit stand inventory data bases.

DTPEDIT allows the user to view/edit the codes data bases. The data base contains 4 tables: a covertype conversion table, a species conversion table, a merchantability limits table, and a regeneration table.

The VE module allows the user to observe and modify the decision system used by DTREES.

SRP allows the user to modify DTREES running parameters, set file paths, and specify input file formats.

RDTREES is the module that actually carries out the simulation of alternative management sequences.

REPORT allows the user to summarize DTREES simulation results as well as original stand inventories which were inputted to DTREES. The submodule DTSIMLST allows review of stand-level detail of the management schedule.

For a detailed description of DTREES, and complete explanations of various DTREES' functions, see the user's manual.

Press any key to continue....

## Suboption 2: Software Disclaimer

### Software Disclaimer for DTREES

All of the software on the DTREES diskette(s) has been extensively tested and checked for accuracy. To the best of our knowledge, it contains no errors. However, the authors do not provide any guarantees and are not responsible for errors that may arise during the use of this software. The authors ask that any errors found by users be brought to the authors attention in order to incorporate appropriate changes into future versions. For permission to use or copy DTREES, or to obtain updates to this software, write to either:

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Press any key to continue....

## Suboption 3: Return to DTREES Main Menu

This option returns the user to the Main Menu.

## MAIN MENU OPTION 2: SET PATHS DEFAULTS

Many of the individual DTREES programs and modules provide the user with an option to set data input and output path parameters. Once input and output paths have been set within a module, they do not have to be reset in a new module, unless new path parameters are desired. Whenever the "Set Paths Default" option is selected, the screen will display the current default values. The user by selecting (highlighting) one of the first 2 options has a chance to change the default values. Any changes are written to a "DTREES.PTH" file. This file is loaded by all DTREES modules and sets the default values for the next time DTREES is executed.

```

      SET FILE DRIVE PATHS

1. Current Data Input Path= C:\DTREES\DATA\
2. Current Run Output Path= C:\DTREES\OUTPUT\
3. Finished - Accept Current Settings

      Enter the path you wish to change
      Use Arrow or Number Keys to highlight
      Press Spacebar or Enter to execute
      Enter new path for data files
      ▶                               ◀

```

### Selecting Input Files

Many of the individual DTREES modules require the user to select a codes and/or inventory data base file. The requests for files are of two basic types. First, raw data files with extension ".DAT" are requested when inventory raw data are to be stored in a relational data base using program "DTFILLDB.EXE". Secondly, files with extension ".MDB" are requested to either select a stand inventory or codes data base. The latter contains four relational tables describing covertype conversion, species conversion, and species merchantability parameters, and regeneration tree lists. As will be explained below, all of these data bases can be expanded and/or edited.

Whenever a request for a file input occurs, the screens shown below will appear. The user may request to see a list of data file names, enter the file name for a specific data file to be recalled or return to the MAIN MENU.

```

      STAND INVENTORY INPUT MENU

1. See the list of filenames.
2. Enter the data filename.
3. Return to the MAIN MENU.

      Use Numeric or Arrow Keys to select option
      Press <Enter> to execute the option

```

### File Entry Choice 1 - See the list of filenames

This option will retrieve an existing data file that was previously created. All of these files have either a ".MDB" (data base) or ".DAT" (raw data) extension as a part of their file name. For the current data base creation option, the user will see the default data path which can be changed, followed by a list of files with extension ".DAT" for a user specified disk drive). The user can select a file by hitting the <Enter> key on a highlighted file or by entering the file number. If there are more than 10 files with extension ".DAT" then the program will let the user scroll through additional lists.

Enter path or <ENTER> for default path: c:\dtrees\data\  
▶ ◀

Once the path is entered or the default path has been accepted, the program displays a list of all files with extension ".DAT":

(1) CONVERT.DAT  
(2) TIMEINFO.DAT  
(3) FIASU1.DAT  
(4) STURGEON.DAT

Select by entering a number or highlight  
using cursor and pressing <Enter> or Spacebar

### File Entry Choice 2 - Enter the data filename

This option will retrieve an existing data file with extension ".DAT" as a part of their file names. Therefore, to recall the data file called FILE1.MDB, the user would simply enter **FILE1** when prompted for the file name. Press <ENTER>, instead of entering a file name, if you are unsure of the data file name to be retrieved or <Esc> to return to the DATA INPUT MENU. For this option, the user will see the default data path which then can be changed. Then the user is prompted for the name of an input file, up to 8 characters long without any extension:

Enter path or <ENTER> for default path: C:\DTREES\DATA  
▶ ◀

Enter data filename, or press only <ENTER> to return

Later, when a created inventory data base is to be retrieved, the list of files might look like follows (note file extension ".MDB").

(1) REGSTURG.MDB  
(2) DTCOD1.MDB  
(3) STURGEON.MDB

Select by entering a number or highlight  
using cursor and pressing <Enter> or Spacebar

After inputting a requested name for an inventory raw data file, input of a codes data base is requested from the user:

CODES DATA INPUT MENU

1. See the list of filenames.
2. Enter the data filename.
3. Return to the MAIN MENU.

Use Numeric or Arrow Keys to select option  
Press <Enter> to execute the option

Enter path or <ENTER> for default path: c:\dtrees\DATA\

- (1) DTCOD1.MDB
- (2) STURGEON.MDB

Select by entering a number or highlight  
using cursor and pressing <Enter> or Spacebar

**File Entry Choice 3 -Return to the MAIN MENU**

With this option the user can return to the Main Menu of the current DTREES module being executed.

### MAIN MENU OPTION 3: CREATE MISCELLANEOUS DATA BASE SHELLS

This option should only be used by the author of the program. With this option, the basic structure of all relational data base tables is established. Any changes made to the data base structure will make all program modules inoperable. All programs would have to be recompiled to become fully functional again. There is one scenario under which the user should execute this program. If any of the data base shells on the data subdirectory were accidentally lost or erased, the empty data base shells could be recreated using this program. This not the same as making actual changes in the data base structures. There are three data base shells corresponding to inventory data, codes data, and DTREES output data. They are named "STAND.MDB", "DTCOD.MDB", and "DTOUT.MDB" and should always be present in the DTREES data subdirectory, e.g., C:\DTREES\DATA.

This program should only be executed by data base manager because it allows changes in data base structure which could make all or some DTREES modules inoperable. All data base shells reside in program directory

Press a key to continue...

\*\*\* DTREES: DataBase Builder. \*\*\*

- (1) Set Paths Defaults
- (2) Make DNR data base shell for DTREES
- (3) Make a codes data base shell
- (4) Make DTREES output data base shells
- (5) Exit DTREES data base builder

Use Arrow or Number Keys to highlight  
Press Spacebar or Enter to execute

Do you want to create a new stand data-base shell?  
Yes No

Do you want to create a new codes data-base shell?  
Yes No

Do you want to create a new output data-base shell?  
Yes No

Building DataBase Shell

## MAIN MENU OPTION 4: FILLING INVENTORY/CODES DATA BASES

This option is utilized to read two types of information into relational data bases: 1) coding information for covertime, species, and merchantability limits, and regeneration tree lists from ASCII files into the codes data base and 2) DNR CSA (phase II) inventory data from DNR ASCII files into the stand data base. The stand data base uses an hierarchial design with general plot or stand information at the top level and tree-level information on the lower level. The data base structure also contains two aggregate inventory tables for covertime and covertime/age class combinations. Use of relational data bases speeds access to relevant data during the simulation and facilitates data base maintenance and updates.

```
*** DNR Data Base Creation Program ***

(1) Select Paths Defaults.
(2) Read code data and create database.
(3) Read inventory data and create database.
(4) Return to DTREES MAIN Menu.

Use Arrow or Number Keys to highlight
Press Spacebar or Enter to execute
```

### Suboption 1: Select Paths Defaults

This general option was described above.

### Suboption 2: Read Code Data and Create Data Base

The menu below will appear with options that allow the user to change the name of the current codes data base and to fill that new data base with codes data.

```
SET DTREES CODES DATA BASE FILE NAME

1. Change Codes Data Base File Name: DTCod1.MDB
2. Fill Data Base: DTCod1.MDB
3. Return to Main Menu

Use Arrow or Number Keys to highlight option
Press Spacebar or Enter to execute
```

This suboption will provide the user an opportunity to change the default codes data base name. If the data base name to be filled with data already exists, the user will have a chance to fill either individual tables or to rewrite all tables. The codes data base tables are filled from ASCII files, "COVER.PAR", "SPECIES.PAR", "MERCHDBH.PAR", and "REGEN.PAR" residing in the data subdirectory. The appropriate ASCII file is updated by program DTPEDIT.EXE every time any changes are made by the user in an associated codes data base table.



## 1. Changing Codes Data Base File Name

DTREES codes data will be written to file: c:\dtrees\DATA\DTCod1.MDB Do you want to save outputs under another file name	
Yes	No
Enter path name or hit <Enter> for default c:\dtrees\DATA\ ▶ ◀	
Enter data filename, or press only <ENTER> to return ▶DTCod2 ◀	

## 2. Fill Data Base

For suboption 2, the program will read the data from four ASCII files, COVER.PAR, SPECIES.PAR, MERCHDBH.PAR, and REGEN.PAR on the data input directory. These four ASCII files are rewritten any time one of the corresponding codes data base tables has been modified.

Codes Data Base DTCod2.MDB already exist. Do you want to delete all tables or individual tables.		
All	Individual	None

If <A>ll is selected all four codes data base tables will be filled with the data read from the appropriate ASCII files. If <I>ndividual is selected, the program will prompt the user for each individual table that is to be filled. In that case the previous content of the specific table is deleted first. A message will appear while a specific table is being loaded.

Filling all codes data base tables
Do you want to fill the covertype data base table? Yes No
Do you want to fill the species data base table? Yes No
Do you want to fill the merchantability limits data base table? Yes No
Do you want to fill the regeneration data base table? Yes No
Filling regeneration data base table



The program will proceed with creating a relational data base of the inventory raw data using a default file name that is the same as the input file name, except with the extension ".MDB". If a relational data base with that name already exists, a new file name can be entered by the user or the old file can be deleted, i.e, being overwritten by the new data.

Database c:\dtrees\data\STURGEON.MDB already exist.  
Do you want to delete it.  
Yes No

Enter a new file name (extension assumed MDB)?

#### **Suboption 4: Return to DTREES Main Menu**

The user will be returned to the DTREES Main Menu.

## MAIN MENU OPTION 5: REVIEW/EDIT INVENTORY DATA BASE

```
*** DTREES Stand Lister ***  
  
(1) Select Paths Defaults  
(2) Select Inventory and Codes Data Base  
(3) Run Data Base Utilities  
(4) View Selected Data Base  
(5) Quit DTREES Stand Lister Program  
  
Use Arrow or Number Keys to highlight  
Press Spacebar or Enter to execute
```

### General Comments On Data Base Selection

Many DTREES modules like this **REVIEW/EDIT INVENTORY DATA BASE** option give the user an opportunity to select an inventory and a codes data base. The user by selecting (2) will receive default names for data bases that are stored on the "MISC.PAR" file which is changed only when these default values are not accepted:

```
Current default inventory data base = c:\dtrees\data\STURGEON.MDB  
Do you want to select another inventory data base  
  
Yes                               No
```

For <N>0 the user can select from the following menu to retrieve any available other data base. Here option (1) provides a default path and data bases in that directory from which the user can chose. As described before, option (2) requires the user to directly enter a file name.

```
STAND INVENTORY DATA BASE SELECTION MENU  
  
1. See the list of filenames.  
2. Enter the data filename.  
3. Return to the MAIN MENU.  
  
Use Numeric or Arrow Keys to select option  
Press <Enter> to execute the option  
  
Enter path or <ENTER> for default path: c:\dtrees\DATA\  
  
(1) DTCOD1.MDB  
(2) STURGEON.MDB  
  
Select by entering a number or highlight  
using cursor and pressing <Enter> or Spacebar
```

After an inventory data base has been selected or the default has been accepted, the user can accept the default codes data base or proceed with selecting a different data base:

```
Current default codes data base = c:\dtrees\data\dtcod1.mdb  
Do you want to select another inventory data base  
  
Yes                               No
```

CODES DATA BASE SELECTION MENU

1. See the list of filenames.
2. Enter the data filename.
3. Return to the MAIN MENU.

Use Numeric or Arrow Keys to select option  
Press <Enter> to execute the option

Enter path or <ENTER> for default path: c:\dtrees\DATA\

- (1) DTCOD1.MDB
- (2) STURGEON.MDB

Select by entering a number or highlight  
using cursor and pressing <Enter> or Spacebar

Since default data base names are always stored on the "MISC.PAR" file, the user can skip option "(2) Select Inventory and Codes Data Base" and proceed directly to any other option. The program will display the default data base names for these options as above and the user either accepts these defaults or proceeds by entering different data base names. Anytime, a new data base name is selected, the program module will modify the "MISC.PAR" file so that this new default is displayed the next time the program module is activated.

### Suboption 1: Select Paths Defaults

This general option was described above.

### Suboption 2: Select Inventory and Codes Data Base

This general option was described above.

### Suboption 3: Run Data Base Utilities

The first time a new inventory data base has been created from raw data, the inventory data base should be aggregated using the data base utility suboption 3. This utility will create aggregate inventory data base records summarizing stand-level data by covertime and covertime/age classes. These aggregate data records provide useful overviews of the inventory. Note that the program suboption again permits the user to make paths parameters and input file selections. Running suboptions 3 or 4 which update the aggregate covertime and covertime/age combinations also perform automatically suboption 5, i.e., the updating of area totals.

\*\*\* DTREES: Aggregate Covertime/Age Utilities \*\*\*

- (1) Set Default Paths.
- (2) Select Inventory and Codes Data Bases.
- (3) Update the Aggregate Covertime List.
- (4) Update the Agg. Covertime/Age Combinations List.
- (5) Update Area Totals.
- (6) Exit Utilities Menu.

Use Arrow or Number Keys to highlight  
Press Spacebar or Enter to execute

#### Suboption 4: View Selected Data Base



When suboption 4 is selected, the user can view the stand-level inventory data generated by the program. One can scroll through the list using any of the keypad keys. Additionally, the user can find specific stand records, reorder the inventory list using various sorting options, and can review aggregate data records by entering a <C>overtime. In this case, the user will be prompted for selecting either a covertime or covertime/age classification list.

*** DTREES: List of Stands. ***										
Use the arrow keys to move through the list.										
There are 2551 stands.										
Stand ID	Covertime:Label	Cover-type	Age	Site Index	Spec	Size	Dens	Phys Class	Treat-ment	Tagged
271050001	Ash	1	170	43	1	4	3	4		
271050002	Ash	1	135	46	1	5	3	4		
271050003	Ash	1	132	42	1	5	7	4		
271050004	Ash	1	132	47	1	5	5	4		
271050005	Ash	1	130	42	1	5	3	4		
271050006	Ash	1	129	32	1	4	3	4		
271050007	Ash	1	129	32	1	4	3	4		
271050008	Ash	1	126	52	1	5	3	4		
271050009	Ash	1	125	36	1	5	5	5		
271050010	Ash	1	124	49	1	5	3	4		

Tag	UnTag	View/Edit	Delete	Map	Quit	
Group	Select	Screens	Covertypes	Re-order	Stands	Find Stand

Stand Data Base: c:\dtrees\data\STURGEON.MDB  
 Codes Data Base: c:\dtrees\data\dtcod1.mdb

The  or  arrow indicate whether more information can be found to the right or left of the current screen. These additional screens can be reviewed by using the right or left arrow keys. Various options are highlighted at the bottom of the screen. The <T> option is used to tag stands for a simulation run. Only tagged stands will be simulated by program. With this option, the user can control which stands or covertime types should be simulated. The tagging and untagging is done faster and more efficiently for whole covertime types at the aggregate level which is reached by using the <C> key. The <U> option is used to untag previously tagged stands.

The <D> option permits the user to delete a whole data base record.

The <M> option allows the user to display a map of the currently highlighted or tagged stands.

The <G> option can be used to select certain stand groups according to a number of selection criteria options for tagging.

The <S> option lets the user go to one of four stand-level data screens directly. Other data screens can also be opened by repeatedly using the right or left arrow cursor keys.

The <R> option lets the user reorder the inventory according to several sorting options.

The <F>indoption lets the user specify data to find specific stands very quickly.

The following screens display the stand-level information on subsequent right screens opened by using the right arrow key:

\*\*\* DTREES: List of Stands. \*\*\*  
Use the arrow keys to move through the list.  
There are 2551 stands.

Stand ID	Covertypes:Label	Owner	Stand Area	Area Expander	No. of Trees	Survey Date	Date Simulate
271050001	Ash	5	11.0	11.0	2	1982	03-31-94
271050002	Ash	5	26.0	26.0	5	1984	03-31-94
271050003	Ash	5	12.0	12.0	4	1984	03-31-94
271050004	Ash	5	53.0	53.0	5	1984	03-31-94
271050005	Ash	5	9.0	9.0	5	1984	03-31-94
271050006	Ash	5	27.0	27.0	4	1984	03-31-94
271050007	Ash	5	10.0	10.0	4	1984	03-31-94
271050008	Ash	5	18.0	18.0	2	1983	03-31-94
271050009	Ash	5	61.0	61.0	5	1977	03-31-94
271050010	Ash	5	7.0	7.0	4	1990	03-31-94

Tag	UnTag	View/Edit	Delete	Map	Quit
Group Select	Screens	Covertypes	Re-order	Stands	Find Stand

Stand Data Base: c:\dtrees\data\STURGEON.MDB  
Codes Data Base: c:\dtrees\data\dtcod1.mdb

\*\*\* DTREES: List of Stands. \*\*\*  
Use the arrow keys to move through the list.  
There are 2551 stands.

Stand ID	Covertypes:Label	Stat For	Acq Stat	Admin Cnty	Twnshp	Rnge	Sec	UTM N	Zone E
271050001	Ash	50	0	0	137	0061	0017	02	0W
271050002	Ash	50	0	0	137	0062	0017	26	0W
271050003	Ash	50	0	0	137	0059	0021	03	0W
271050004	Ash	50	0	0	137	0059	0021	05	0W
271050005	Ash	50	0	0	137	0062	0017	16	0W
271050006	Ash	50	0	0	137	0062	0017	14	0W
271050007	Ash	50	0	0	137	0062	0017	14	0W
271050008	Ash	50	0	0	137	0061	0017	06	0W
271050009	Ash	50	0	0	137	0061	0017	04	0W
271050010	Ash	50	0	0	137	0060	0021	34	0W

Tag	UnTag	View/Edit	Delete	Map	Quit
Group Select	Screens	Covertypes	Re-order	Stands	Find Stand

Stand Data Base: c:\dtrees\data\STURGEON.MDB  
Codes Data Base: c:\dtrees\data\dtcod1.mdb

\*\*\* DTREES: List of Stands. \*\*\*  
 Use the arrow keys to move through the list.  
 There are 2551 stands.

Stand ID	Covertypes:Label	Eco Topo	Understory			Site	BA	BA	Live
			Type	Size	Dens	Spec	sqft	Sum	Trees
271050001	Ash	1	01	2	2		83	83	238
271050002	Ash	1	01	1	4		102	88	187
271050003	Ash	1	01	1	1		120	125	272
271050004	Ash	1	01	1	1		112	109	254
271050005	Ash	1	01	1	4		80	73	181
271050006	Ash	1	01	1	4		153	175	438
271050007	Ash	1	01	1	4		153	175	438
271050008	Ash	1	01	2	1		103	98	156
271050009	Ash	1	01	2	2		122	109	225
271050010	Ash	1	01	1	1		98	94	179

Tag	UnTag	View/Edit	Delete	Map	Quit
Group Select	Screens	Covertypes	Re-order	Stands	Find Stand

Stand Data Base: c:\dtrees\data\STURGEON.MDB  
 Codes Data Base: c:\dtrees\data\dtcod1.mdb

The <V>iew/Edit option opens a screen of plot level data which can be then be edited.

\*\*\* DTREES: Edit Stand Data. \*\*\*  
 Use the arrow keys to move through the list.  
 Stand: 271050001      Number of Trees = 2

General Stand Data	General Stand Data	General Stand Data
Stand ID: 271050001	Ownership: 5	State Forest: 50
Covertypes: 1	Stand Area: 11	Acquis. Status: 0
Age: 170	Area Expander: 11	Administrator: 0
Site Index: 43	Number of Trees: 2	County: 137
Site Species: 1	Survey Date: 1982	Township: 0061
Size: 4	Date Simulated 940331	Range: 0017
Density: 3		Section: 02
Physio. Class: 4		UTM N: 0
Treatment:		UTM E: 0
		UTM Zone: 0W

Edit	Tree List	Save Changes	Quit
------	-----------	--------------	------

Stand Data Base: c:\dtrees\data\STURGEON.MDB  
 Codes Data Base: c:\dtrees\data\dtcod1.mdb



Using the right arrow key, the user can see the rest of the stand data:

```

*** DTREES: Edit Stand Data. ***
Use the arrow keys to move through the list.
Stand: 271050001   Number of Trees = 2
  
```

General Stand Data	General Stand Data	General Stand Data
Ownership: 5	State Forest: 50	Ecoregion:
Stand Area: 11	Acquis. Status: 0	Topography: 1
Area Expander: 11	Administrator: 0	Understory Type: 01
Number of Trees: 2	County: 137	Understory Size: 2
Survey Date: 1982	Township: 0061	Understory Dens: 2
Date Simulated 940331	Range: 0017	Basal Area: 83
	Section: 02	Basal Area Sum: 83
	UTM N: 0	Live Trees: 238
	UTM E: 0	
	UTM Zone: 0W	

←

```

Edit      Tree List      Save Changes      Quit
  
```

```

Stand Data Base: c:\dtrees\data\STURGEON.MDB
Codes Data Base: c:\dtrees\data\dtcod1.mdb
  
```

The <E>dit option permits editing of the stand-level data. After editing of any stand data, the <S>aveChanges option updates the current stand record. The <T>reeList option will open a screen with tree-level data.

```

*** DTREES: Edit Tree List. ***
Use the arrow keys to move through the list.
Stand: 271050001   Number of Trees = 2
  
```

Tree #	Species	Species Label	Diameter	No. Trees per Acre	Crown Ratio
1	1	Black Ash	8.0	216.0	-1
2	73	N White Cedar	8.0	22.0	-1

→

```

Edit      Add      Delete      ReOrder      Stand-Level      Save Changes      Quit
  
```

```

Stand Data Base: c:\dtrees\data\STURGEON.MDB
Codes Data Base: c:\dtrees\data\DTCOD1.MDB
  
```

These tree data records can be deleted, edited, reordered, and be saved using the associated letters at the bottom of the screen. Tree records can also be added. <L>, <Esc>, or <Q> will return the user to the stand-level data. The <C>over type option at the stand level provides the user with aggregate data records by covertime or covertime/age classes.

\*\*\* DTREES: List of Stands. \*\*\*  
 Use the arrow keys to move through the list.  
 There are 2551 stands.

Stand ID	Covertypes:Label	Cover-type	Age	Site Index	Spec	Size	Dens	Class	Treat-ment	Tagged
271050091	Ash	1	1	40	1	1	1	4		
271050088	Ash	1	3	50	1	1	3	4		
271050089	Ash	1	3	36	1	1	9	5		
27105009	Do you want Covertypes or Covertypes/Age combinations?									
27105008	Covertypes					Covertypes/Age				
271050081	Ash	1	11	38	1	1	2	5		
271050082	Ash	1	11	52	1	1	5	5		
271050083	Ash	1	11	44	1	1	1	4		

Tag	UnTag	View/Edit	Delete	Map	Quit
Group Select	Screens	Covertypes	Re-order	Stands	Find Stand

Stand Data Base: c:\dtrees\data\STURGEON.MDB  
 Codes Data Base: c:\dtrees\data\DTCOD1.MDB

\*\*\* DTREES: List of Aggregate Covertypes. \*\*\*  
 Use the arrow keys to move through the list.  
 There are 29 covertypes.

Covertypes: Label	Number Stands	Number Selected	Stand Area	Expander Area	Tagged Std Area	Tag Exp Area
Ash	91	0	1661.0	1661.0	0.0	0.0
Lowland Hardwoods	7	7	139.0	139.0	0.0	0.0
Aspen	657	0	12693.0	12693.0	0.0	0.0
Birch	48	0	1179.0	1179.0	0.0	0.0
Balm of Gilead	33	0	544.0	544.0	0.0	0.0
Northern Hardwoods	4	4	34.0	34.0	0.0	0.0
White Pine	5	5	75.0	75.0	0.0	0.0
Norway Pine	104	0	1428.0	1428.0	0.0	0.0
Jack Pine	123	0	1844.0	1844.0	0.0	0.0
White Spruce	54	0	930.0	930.0	0.0	0.0

ReOrder	Find	Tag Group	UnTag Group
	View Stand Records		Quit

Stand Data Base: c:\dtrees\data\STURGEON.MDB  
 Codes Data Base: c:\dtrees\data\DTCOD1.MDB

\*\*\* DTREES: List of Aggregate Coverttype/Age Combinations. \*\*\*  
 Use the arrow keys to move through the list.  
 There are 256 combinations.

Coverttype: Label	Age Class	Number Stands	Stands Selected	Stand Area	Expander Area	Tagged Std Area	Tag Exp Area
Ash	10	7	0	80.0	80.00	0.0	0.00
Ash	20	0	0	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.00
Ash	30	2	0	18.0	18.00	0.0	0.00
Ash	40	0	0	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.00
Ash	50	1	0	10.0	10.00	0.0	0.00
Ash	60	3	0	36.0	36.00	0.0	0.00
Ash	70	9	0	304.0	304.00	0.0	0.00
Ash	80	20	0	337.0	337.00	0.0	0.00
Ash	90	13	0	193.0	193.00	0.0	0.00
Ash	100	8	0	134.0	134.00	0.0	0.00

ReOrder                      Find                      Tag Group                      UnTag Group  
    View Stand Records                      Quit

Stand Data Base: c:\dtrees\data\STURGEON.MDB  
 Codes Data Base: c:\dtrees\data\DTCOD1.MDB

### Suboption 5: Quit DTREES Stand Lister Program

The user will be returned to the DTREES Main Menu.

## MAIN MENU OPTION 6: REVIEW/EDIT CODES DATA BASE (DTPEDIT.EXE)

This option permits the user to review and/or edit any of the four data base tables specifying various conversion parameters. All four tables can be expanded by adding records, or records can be edited or deleted.

### DTREES PARAMETER EDITING PROGRAM

1. Set Path Parameters
2. Select Codes Data Base
3. Edit Covertypes Codes
4. Edit Species Codes
5. Edit Merchantability Codes
6. Edit Regeneration Lists
7. Return to Main Menu

Use Numeric or Arrow Keys to select option  
Press <Enter> to execute the option

Anytime a data base table has changed, its contents are written to an ASCII file. If the data base gets corrupted it can only be restored by running DTFILLDB.EXE. DTFILLDB will read the 4 ASCII files Cover.Par, Species.Par, MerchDBH.Par, and Regen.Par back into the data base. These ASCII files are updated anytime the user has edited the codes data base.

Press a key to continue...

### Suboption 1: Select Paths Defaults

This general option was described above.

### Suboption 2: Select Codes Data Base

This general option was described above.

### Suboption 3: Edit Covertypes Codes

This option permits the user to assign DNR covertypes codes to one of 12 covertypes codes used by the USDA Forest Service RunGrow routine. Setting the covertypes conversion files assigns each and every possible commercial forest inventory code to one of the 12 DTREES decision trees. While it is recommended that each inventory covertypes is simulated under the decision tree that most closely corresponds to the inventory type it is not required. Therefore, the user may find it advantageous to simulate the bulk of the aspen stands under the aspen decision tree, but for some aspen stands, the user may choose to use the birch decision tree, or even the red pine decision tree. DTREES will not convert the covertypes, the conversion codes simply instruct DTREES as to which decision tree structure and critical parameter set to use to make a management decision at a particular point in time. This provides added modelling flexibility.

When editing covertypes conversion codes, the user is presented with an editing screen with 4 columns: inventory covertypes code, inventory covertypes name, decision tree code and decision tree name. Of these 4 columns, the user may edit any value in the last (most right) three columns. DTREES is set up to allow up to 100 unique inventory covertypes, and each of these

may be paired with one decision tree. When this screen appears, the user may use PgUp or PgDn keys to page between screens. The arrow keys are then used to select a column and field for editing. When the desired field is highlighted, pressing the "E" key will allow the user to edit that field. If the user has selected a field in the Covertype Name column, by continuously pressing the F1 key the user can cycle through all currently available covertype names. At any point the backspace key and other keys can be used to edit that field. Pressing the enter key saves the new name. If the field is in the decision tree name column, the F2 key will similarly cycle through the 12 available DTREES decision trees and a "Not Used" option. Or the user may simply type in the decision tree name. Or the user may simply enter the decision tree code value (1-12, 13 for "Not Used") and the name column will be updated automatically. Pressing the escape key exits this function.

```

DTREES PARAMETERS INPUT AND EDITING SECTION
Use the arrow keys to move through the list.
There are 100 covertype records in data base: c:\dtrees\data\DTCOD1.MDB

```

DNRCovTyp	Label	RGrowCovTyp	Label
1	Ash	12	Lowland Hardwood
2	Not Used	13	Not Used
3	Not Used	13	Not Used
4	Not Used	13	Not Used
5	Not Used	13	Not Used
6	Willow	12	Lowland Hardwood
7	Not Used	13	Not Used
8	Not Used	13	Not Used
9	Lowland Hardwoods	12	Lowland Hardwood
10	Not Used	13	Not Used

```

Edit Record      Add Record      Delete Record      Quit

```

If any changes were made in the data base table, the program will save these changes in the data base as well as write an ASCII backup files with the data base contents. This is a precaution for the case that the data base table is corrupted and needs to be generated again. This is done by the program "DTPEDIT.EXE" which will read data from these ASCII files back into a relational data base structure. The user is prompted for a file name or can write to the default file name. This latter procedure is recommended to avoid cluttering the disk with unnecessary data files.

```

Covertype conversion codes table will be saved to file:
c:\dtrees\DATA\COVER.PAR
Do you want to save outputs under another file name
Yes                No

```

Enter path name or hit <Enter> for default C:\DTREES\DATA\

Enter data filename, or press only <ENTER> to return

The same type of saving option will be given if edits have been performed in any of the following three relational data base tables and will not be repeated below.



#### Suboption 4: Edit Species Codes

This option permits the user to assign DNR species codes to one of 31 GROW species codes used by the USDA Forest Service RunGrow routine (Brand, 1981b). The original species code is always retained in all projections and in the final output. It is recommended that the user pair inventory species groups with the GROW species group that most closely corresponds to the inventory species group's growth and mortality characteristics.

The editing and pairing procedure for the species conversion codes is identical to that described above for the coertype conversion codes. If a new species group is added to the original species list, DTREES automatically gives that species default timber size class codes which the user may wish to edit.

```
DTREES PARAMETERS INPUT AND EDITING SECTION
Use the arrow keys to move through the list.
There are 100 species records in data base: c:\dtrees\data\DTCOD1.MDB
```

DNRSpec	Label	RGrowSpec	Label
1	Black Ash	11	Black Ash
2	American Elm	15	Elm
3	Silver Maple	13	Silver Maple
4	Red Elm	15	Elm
5	Rock Elm	15	Elm
6	Willow	12	Cottonwood
7	Not Used	28	Not Used
8	Not Used	28	Not Used
9	Not Used	28	Not Used
10	Not Used	28	Not Used

```
Edit Record      Add Record      Delete Record    Quit
```

#### Hints about DTREES Species/Coertypes Conversion Files

The species conversion codes in the corresponding codes data base table and backup ASCII file **SPECIES.PAR** pairs each species code in your inventory with one of 31 RGROW species for individual tree projection. If DTREES encounters a species that it cannot recognize, the procedure will fail and a systems "crash" will occur and an error message will appear. **Make sure that any species code DTREES may encounter is paired with a RGROW code in the data base and SPECIES.PAR file!** You have the option of pairing any species in your inventory with the RGROW species that most accurately reflects the growth and mortality characteristics of that species. The growth projection parameters used are the same set used by **STEMS** (Belcher et. al., 1982).

As with the species conversion procedure, the coertype conversion codes in the corresponding codes data base table and backup ASCII file **COVERTYP.PAR** pairs each coertype in the inventory with one of the 12 DTREES decision tree simulation systems. If DTREES encounters a coertype in an input file with a code not found in the **COVERTYP.PAR** file, DTREES will "crash" and produce an error message. **Make sure that any coertype code DTREES may**

**encounter is paired with a DTREES decision system in the data base table and COVERTYP.PAR file!**

Also, you may choose to pair a certain covertype in your inventory with any DTREES decision system. You do not need to pair red pine to red pine, you may choose to pair red pine to aspen. DTREES would then use the aspen decision system to simulate the management of red pine stands, but regeneration of the stand (if Model I formulation was used) would still be with the regeneration tree list for the red pine covertype as created with the **DTPEEDIT** system.

### **Suboption 5: Edit Merchantability Codes**

DTREES separates trees into three product classes:

Residual wood - any tree with a DBH less than the minimum indicated (Biomass) pole timber DBH and at least equal to 1 inch and all volume in a tree above merchantable pulpwood top diameter outside bark (DOB).

Pulpwood - any tree with a DBH between the minimum pole timber DBH and the minimum saw timber DBH, and the section of a tree above the minimum saw timber top DOB but below the minimum pulpwood top DOB.

Saw timber - any tree with diameter at least the defined minimum saw timber DBH and below the minimum saw timber top DOB.

DTREES allows you to change the definition of minimum pulpwood and saw timber DBH and top DOB for each species in the inventory. In this manner, a user can restrict certain species to certain product classes. If a species is not used for saw timber, define the minimum saw timber DBH = 99.99, which would force all volume into the pulpwood and residual wood categories. In a similar manner, you could restrict a species to only biomass production, or relax a saw timber criteria for a certain high-value species.

This option permits the user to assign for each DNR species code specific utilization parameters in the form of pole or saw timber dbh and dob limits. These parameters are used by DTREES in the calculation of harvest and residual stand volumes. Editing timber size class codes is done using the same editing style as with the covertype and species conversion files. In this editor, however, new species names cannot be added, and timber size class codes can be edited only for those inventory codes that have a species group name assigned to them. If the code is not used, the editor will skip over these rows. Pressing the "E" key allows the user to edit the values for each of the size classes. There are restrictions on the numeric values that will be accepted by DTREES for any one of the size classes and they are given below.



The restrictions on size class diameters are:

Pole DBH: Pole DBH < Saw DBH, Pole DBH  $\geq$  3.50  
 Saw DBH: Saw DBH > Pole DBH, 8.00  $\leq$  Saw DBH  $\leq$  99.99  
 Pole Top DOB: Pole DOB < Pole DBH, Pole DOB < Saw DOB  
 Saw Top DOB: Saw DOB < Saw DBH

Within the editing function, after pressing the "E" key to edit a given field, pressing the F1 key will insert the default value for that field. As mentioned before, by entering a very large value for a minimum DBH, you can prevent that species from ever being utilized for that product. For example, if you know that black locust is never utilized for sawtimber, enter 99.99 for the minimum DBH. All harvested locust volume will then be assigned to residual wood and pulpwood.

DTREES PARAMETERS INPUT AND EDITING SECTION  
 Use the arrow keys to move through the list.  
 There are 100 merchantability records in data base: c:\dtrees\data\DTCOD1.MDB

DNRSpec	Label	Pole DBH	Saw DBH	Pole DOB	Saw DOB
1	Black Ash	5.00	12.00	4.00	8.00
2	American Elm	5.00	12.00	4.00	8.00
3	Silver Maple	5.00	12.00	4.00	8.00
4	Red Elm	5.00	12.00	4.00	8.00
5	Rock Elm	5.00	12.00	4.00	8.00
6	Willow	5.00	12.00	4.00	8.00
7	Not Used	5.00	12.00	4.00	8.00
8	Not Used	5.00	12.00	4.00	8.00
9	Not Used	5.00	12.00	4.00	8.00
10	Not Used	5.00	12.00	4.00	8.00

Edit Record      Add Record      Delete Record      Quit

### Suboption 6: Edit Regeneration Lists

In order to develop a regeneration system which would cover all major covertypes in Minnesota, the Phase I FIA data for all plots in with average age 10 to 20 were aggregated by coertype and average "regeneration lists" were developed.

This option permits the user to develop/edit customized regeneration lists for any coertype. These lists require input of a species code, a species diameter, and a tree expansion factor (tree per acre represented by the tree).

DTREES PARAMETERS INPUT AND EDITING SECTION  
 Use the arrow keys to move through the list.  
 There are 732 regeneration records in data base: c:\dtrees\data\DTCOD1.MDB

DNRCovTyp	Label	TreeNo	DNRSpec	DBH	Tree Expander
1	Ash	1	1	1.50	65
1	Ash	2	1	2.50	26
1	Ash	3	1	3.50	12
1	Ash	4	1	4.50	14
1	Ash	5	1	5.50	6
1	Ash	6	1	6.50	2
1	Ash	7	1	7.50	1
1	Ash	8	1	11.50	3
1	Ash	9	3	1.50	100
1	Ash	10	3	3.50	34

Edit Record      Add Record      Delete Record      Quit

**Regeneration Files and DTREES Simulation Dynamics**

DTREES volume outputs are aggregated by species groups as defined in the codes data base species table and corresponding SPECIES.PAR conversion file. If the regeneration tree list contains a large number of different species, the output volume files will be larger, in direct proportion to the number of additional species contained in the regeneration files.

The time it takes DTREES to calculate gross cubic foot volumes for a stand is directly proportional to the **number of trees in a given tree list**. Therefore, if a regeneration file contains a large number of trees (whether all one species or not), DTREES will take more time to process that stand.

With the above two comments in mind, editing of the regeneration tree lists and the initial inventory tree lists is important. The objective is to model the total volume by product class as accurately as possible without excessive detail. For example, if your data indicates that in a red pine plantation there exists 20 stems per acre of jack or scotch pine, you may decide to omit these stems or simply include them in the regeneration tree list as red pine stems, especially if these trees will be harvested and used for the same product as the red pine. Likewise, if you are modelling a northern hardwood stand, data may indicate as many as 20 species in a given stand, with only 4 or 5 predominating. In this case you may choose to completely list out the dominant and valuable trees, and lump the rest as miscellaneous hardwoods. However, if DTREES simulation time and disk space is not a concern, DTREES can handle tree lists up to 100 trees per stand.

**Suboption 7: Return to Main Menu**

The user will be returned to the DTREES Main Menu.

## MAIN MENU OPTION 7: VIEW/EDIT DECISION TREES

### An Introduction to the DTREES Decision Trees

In order to make silvicultural evaluations, some type of expert knowledge must be encoded into DTREES in a decision subsystem. This decision making system must be automated in order to accommodate the batch processing style of DTREES. Recent work in simplifying the silvicultural decision making process has been done in the form of simple decision trees (Brand, 1981a). These decision trees were developed to be used in a computerized format in the STEMS growth- projection system. They are based on silvicultural guidelines found in manager's handbooks for Lake States' covertypes.

The figure below shows an example of a decision tree for the aspen coertype. The decision tree uses stand-level characteristics to evaluate a stand and determine the appropriate harvest action at a given moment. The decision trees are aptly named. Starting at the far left of the tree (root) the stand is evaluated at each junction of branches until it reaches the far right of the tree, arriving at a harvest action. At each junction a different stand characteristic is compared to the critical values, and one of the paths is taken to the next decision junction. The critical values are the governing factors in the determination of a harvest prescription. It should be pointed out that the decision tree as shown in the figure will only produce one management action for a given stand at a point in time (decision node). The mechanism for arriving at a different ending branch in the decision tree will be discussed later.

Decision trees were selected for DTREES for several reasons. They are easily understood by silviculturalists and foresters, and they have a clear and simple logic. Decision trees are easily implemented in a computer program, and provide a quick evaluation of the stand at a given point in time. Finally, changes in the critical values and simple structural modifications are easy to make. For example, in the aspen decision tree, to prevent the conversion of any aspen stands to red pine, simply alter the critical value at that junction to equal zero. Since no aspen stand will have a site index of zero, the conversion prescription will never be made.

The decision system in DTREES is a set of 12 decision trees developed to simulate timber management in the Lake States (Brand, 1981a). An abbreviated decision tree is shown in the following figure:

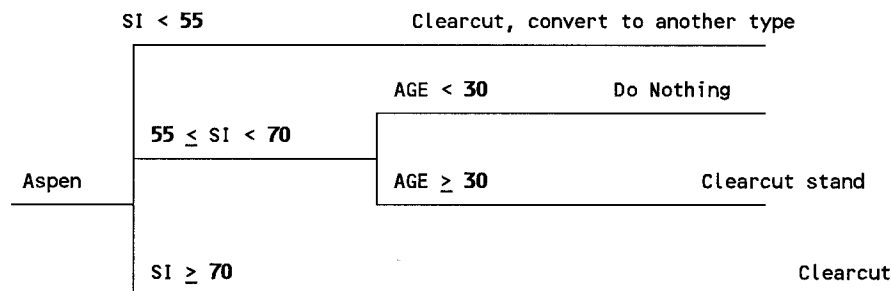


Figure. Structure of a simple decision tree.

At each node of the decision tree, there is an associated critical stand parameter, here site index (SI) and stand age (AGE). Each critical parameter has an associated value (shown

in bold type). The stand's SI value is compared against these values and the appropriate decision path is followed until a management decision is reached. It is important to note that in this unmodified decision tree, there is only one possible management decision for any given state of the stand. For example, an aspen stand with SI = 65 and AGE = 25 would result in a "Do Nothing" recommendation from this decision tree.

By pressing <7> while in the DTREES main menu, the VE module is executed. But prior to the actual execution of the VE system, the user is queried as to whether or not they wish to change the current set of critical parameters used in the DTREES' run. These critical parameter sets are the sets of all the values (remember the numbers shown in bold in the figure above) associated with each of the 12 cover types and their decision trees. DTREES allows you to store and maintain 4 sets of these critical parameters. **The default set (set 1) is a direct adaptation of silvicultural guidelines published by Brand (1981).** These sets allow the user to maintain a base set of parameters while experimenting with different values, or specializing a set of critical parameters for different regions or management objectives.

By pressing <Y> or <y> in answer to the query, the user can then select the set of interest by pressing <1>, <2>, <3>, or <4>. The VE module will execute once this decision is made.

### Viewing and Editing Decision Trees

While the VE module loads up, a message is flashed on the screen. When the module is loaded and ready to run, a covertype selection menu appears on the screen as shown below. To select a cover type, highlight a choice with the cursor keys and press the <Enter> key.

```
View/Edit Current Decision Trees
(Commercial Forest Types only)

Jack pine           N White Cedar
Red pine           Oak-Hickory
White pine         Aspen
Spruce-Fir        Paper Birch
Black Spruce/Larch Northern Hardwoods
Mixed Swamp Conifers Lowland Hardwoods

Use Arrow Keys to select the decision tree
for the covertype you wish to view.
Press <Enter> to execute the option.
Press <Esc> to leave selection menu.
```

Once a covertype is selected, you will see part or all of the decision tree on the screen (as the one for aspen in the figure above). Some of the decision trees are rather large and therefore take up 2-4 screens while others are simple enough to all fit on one screen. At the bottom of each screen, in reverse video, you will see a list of the available key presses (command line):

Command Options: E-(Edit) C-(Continue) 1 2 3 4

(This happens to be the screen options for the Northern Hardwoods type). These options will allow you to edit (press <E>) the critical values associated with the stand parameters, return to the main VE menu (press <C>), or switch to another screen which shows you more of the decision tree (press <1>, <2>, <3>, or <4>). If you don't see any numbers on the command line, then all of the decision tree is shown on the current screen. The following is a list of the decision trees and the number of screens for each:

<u>Decision Tree Cover Type</u>	<u>Number of Screens</u>
1. Jack Pine	2
2. Red Pine	3
3. White Pine	2
4. Spruce-Fir	3
5. Black Spruce (Larch)	1
6. Mixed Swamp Conifers	2
7. Northern White Cedar	3
8. Oak-Hickory	4
9. Aspen	1
10. Paper Birch	1
11. Northern Hardwoods	4
12. Lowland Hardwoods	1

When editing critical values, you can only edit those which appear on the screen which is currently displayed, unless that decision parameter also occurs on a prior screen. To begin editing critical values shown on the screen, press <E>. You will notice that the command line will change from

Command Options: E-(Edit) C-(Continue) 1 2 3 4

to

Change this value (Y/N)? (Press E again to escape the editor)

At the same time, a critical value will blink off/on the decision tree. If you press <E> again, the command line will return to its original state and the blinking will stop. If you press <N>, the command line will remain the same, but a new value on the screen will be blinking. You may run through all the critical values on the screen in this manner until the one you wish to edit is blinking. When you have cycled through all the values that can be edited on the screen, the command line will return to its original state (remember, the numbers may not appear on the command line, it depends on which cover type you are currently viewing).

When you find the value you are interested in changing, press <Y> and the command line will change to something like this:

Current critical value ( 1 9 1 ) = 40      New value = ##.#

The pound signs (#) will be in reverse video and they represent the format for this critical value. The current critical value should be the same as the value flashing on the screen. The numbers in the parenthesis correspond to critical value set, cover type, and critical value. So in the example above, we are in the first critical parameter set, our cover type is

9 (Aspen), and we are editing the first critical value. To change the critical value, simply press the numbers which will be inserted into the format as you press them, left to right. You do not enter the decimal point as it is assumed. Here are some examples for the above situation:

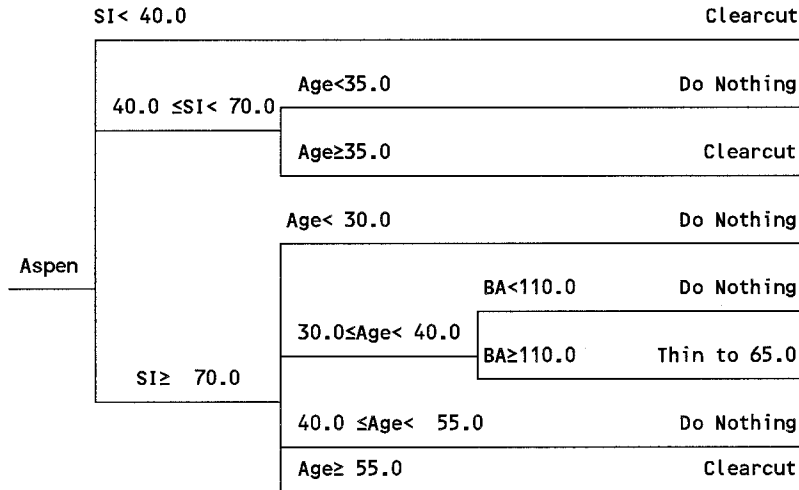
To change the value from 40 to 60, press:	<6> <0> <0>
To change the value from 40 to 7.5, press:	<0> <7> <5>
To change the value from 40 to 80.5, press:	<8> <0> <5>
To make no changes (40 to 40), press:	<4> <0> <0>

The editor will only accept numeric keypresses at this point, and when you have made the last accepted keypress, the new value will be displayed on the screen (no blinking) and a new value will be blinking (unless that value was the last to be edited on the screen).

Some of the variables on the decision tree branches need further explanations: BASAP, BAPOLE, and BASAW stand for basal area of sapling, pole, and sawtimber respectively. These classes are defined by the user in the merchantability codes editing program DTPEDIT or main menu option 6. The variable DBAR signifies the average dbh. Two variables, BAMIN and BAROT are defined as regression equations at the bottom of some decision tree. Within these equations, the variables QMDBH stands for quadratic mean diameter, NT stands for number of trees, Age for stand age.

Editing the values associated with the critical parameters is the only editing allowed. Structural alterations of the decision trees themselves, or the harvest actions specified by them (with the exception of thinning intensity) is not possible. However, minor alterations in the tree structure can be accomplished by "pruning" branches of the tree by setting critical values to a minimum or maximum value. The figure below shows how we could modify the simple aspen decision tree shown in the earlier figure so that the simulation would never recommend a clearcut followed by a type conversion. The actual decision tree for the aspen cover type is shown in the next figure. Here, two branches are "pruned" from the decision tree. Type conversion is eliminated as in our previous example, but now, for stands with site index greater than 70, the option to thin stands between the ages of 30 and 40 is eliminated by setting BA too high to be ever selected.

Additional comments on how the decision trees can be made more flexible can be found in section "Setting Covertypes/Species Conversion Codes".



Command Options: E-(Edit) C-(Continue)

Figure. Example of "pruning" a decision tree so that the simulation will never recommend type conversion.

## MAIN MENU OPTION 8: SET RUNNING PARAMETERS

Once all the decision tree parameters have been set, the user uses the **Set Run Parameters (SRP)** subsystem to enter in all the other pertinent parameters needed by DTREES to run. This section will explain each component of the **SRP** system and how it is used to control the DTREES simulation module **RD TREES**. To enter into the SRP system, highlight <10> while in the DTREES Main Program menu.

The **SRP** menu will appear on the screen. Use either the arrow keys or the numeric keys to highlight the option of interest and key press <SPACEBAR> to select that option.

### SET DTREES RUN PARAMETERS

1. Select Paths Defaults
2. Select inventory and codes data bases
3. Display saved run parameters
4. Edit name of output data base
5. View/edit type/species/merch. conversion files
6. Set miscellaneous simulation run parameters.
7. Run program on a virtual disk.
8. Exit DTREES run parameter menu.

Use Arrow or Number Keys to highlight  
Press Spacebar or Enter to execute

### Suboption 1: Select Paths Defaults

This general option was described above.

### Suboption 2: Select Inventory and Codes Data Bases

This general option was described above.

### Suboption 3: Display Saved Run Parameters

The following screen will open:

### CURRENT DTREES CONTROL PARAMETERS

Press (1) to display: Inventory File Parameters  
Press (2) to display: Covertypes Conversion Codes  
Press (3) to display: Size Class Parameters  
Press (4) to quit this menu

Use Arrow or Number Keys to highlight  
Press Spacebar or Enter to execute

By pressing <1> the user will see the screen below. There are four boxes. The box on the upper left corner contains the source file and output file names. Moving clockwise, the box in the upper right-hand corner shows the time control parameters for each planning period, whether or not DTREES will update inventory data to the current year, and whether or not



DTREES will simulate multiple sequences over the planning horizon. The box on the lower right-hand corner displays the paths where DTREES will search for the input files, where it will place the output files, and where it will search for the regeneration lists. Finally, in the lower left-hand corner the modelling formulation DTREES will use is displayed. This information will stay on the screen until any key press is made, at which point the display control parameters menu will reappear.

<p>Source File Names:</p> <p>Source of input: Minnesota DNR CSA</p> <p>Main inventory file: STURGEON.MDB</p> <p>Codes data file: DTCOD1.MDB</p> <p>Output Data Base Name: SturgOut.MDB</p>	<p>Time Control Parameters EQUAL PLANNING PERIOD LENGTHS</p> <p>Number of Periods = 5 Period Length = 10 Planning horizon = 50 years</p> <p>Update Inventory data to current year? YES</p> <p>DTREES will simulate only optimal sequence</p>
<p>MODEL FORMULATION: Model 1 Regeneration will occur in the management sequences.</p>	<p>Path for Input and Output Files</p> <p>Input Path for Data and Regeneration Files: c:\dtrees\data\ Output Path for DTREES outputs: C:\DTREES\OUTPUT\ Press any key to continue....</p>

Pressing <2> in the display control parameters menu will display the covertype conversion codes and then the species conversion codes currently used by DTREES to convert inventory codes for covertypes and species to those recognized by DTREES and the RGROW growth projection system. The codes are displayed sequentially, when the screen is filled, DTREES will wait for a key press before continuing to display more codes. These codes can be edited using the DTPEDIT.EXE module.

CURRENT COVERTYPE CONVERSION CODES

Inventory Code	Inventory Type	Dtrees Code	Decision Tree Used
1	Ash	12	Lowland Hardwood
2	Not Used	13	Not Used
3	Not Used	13	Not Used
4	Not Used	13	Not Used
5	Not Used	13	Not Used
6	Willow	12	Lowland Hardwood
7	Not Used	13	Not Used
8	Not Used	13	Not Used
9	Lowland Hardwoods	12	Lowland Hardwood
10	Not Used	13	Not Used
11	Not Used	13	Not Used
12	Aspen	9	Aspen
13	Birch	10	Paper Birch
14	Balm of Gilead	9	Aspen
15	Cottonwood	12	Lowland Hardwood
16	Not Used	13	Not Used
17	Not Used	13	Not Used

Press any key to continue....

SPECIES CONVERSION CODES

Inventory Code	Inventory Species Group	GROW Species Code	GROW Species Group
1	Black Ash	11	Black Ash
2	American Elm	15	Elm
3	Silver Maple	13	Silver Maple
4	Red Elm	15	Elm
5	Rock Elm	15	Elm
6	Willow	12	Cottonwood
7	Not Used	28	Not Used
8	Not Used	28	Not Used
9	Not Used	28	Not Used
10	Not Used	28	Not Used
11	Not Used	28	Not Used
12	Quaking Aspen	25	Quaking Aspen
13	Paper Birch	26	Paper Birch
14	Balm of Gilead	30	Other Hardwoods
15	Cottonwood	12	Cottonwood
16	Bigtooth Aspen	24	Bigtooth Aspen
17	Hybrid Poplar	12	Cottonwood

Press any key to continue....

By pressing <3> in the display control parameters menu, the user will be able to observe the current timber size class codes used for each species group in the inventory. These codes determine, how each tree is assigned to a product class group, either sawtimber or pulpwood. They can be used to restrict certain species groups from a product class by setting the minimum DBH to a very large number (i.e. - 99.99). The minimum top diameters outside bark (DOB) are the smallest top diameters allowed for that species group. These codes can be edited using the DTPEDIT.EXE module.

TIMBER SIZE CLASS CODES

Species Code	Species Group Name	Sawtimber		Poletimber	
		Min DBH	Min Top DOB	Min DBH	Min Top DOB
1	Black Ash	12.00	8.00	5.00	4.00
2	American Elm	12.00	8.00	5.00	4.00
3	Silver Maple	12.00	8.00	5.00	4.00
4	Red Elm	12.00	8.00	5.00	4.00
5	Rock Elm	12.00	8.00	5.00	4.00
6	Willow	12.00	8.00	5.00	4.00
7	Not Used	12.00	8.00	5.00	4.00
8	Not Used	12.00	8.00	5.00	4.00
9	Not Used	12.00	8.00	5.00	4.00
10	Not Used	12.00	8.00	5.00	4.00
11	Not Used	12.00	8.00	5.00	4.00
12	Quaking Aspen	12.00	7.00	5.00	3.00
13	Paper Birch	12.00	8.00	5.00	4.00
14	Balm of Gilead	12.00	8.00	5.00	4.00
15	Cottonwood	12.00	8.00	5.00	4.00
16	Bigtooth Aspen	9.00	7.00	4.00	3.00

Press any key to continue....

**Suboption 4: Edit Name of Output Data Base**

By pressing <4> in the main Set DTREES Run Parameters menu, the user can edit the names of the output data base name created by DTREES. The data base contains three types of tables. The PRESCRIPTION table contains the list of alternative management sequences by stand, alternative, and period. It also contains some stand-level summary data such as stand age, stand size, residual and removed basal area.

The HARVEST table contains, for each record in the PRESCRIPTION table, a list of the volumes removed from the stand by species and rough product class. For non-harvest actions recorded in the PRESCRIPTION table, there is no record in the HARVEST table.

The RESIDUAL table is identical to the HARVEST table in structure, but it contains a list of residual volumes by species group for each record in the PRESCRIPTION LIST FILE. For records in the PRESCRIPTION table that have no merchantable volume, there is no record in this file.

```
SET DTREES DATA BASE OUTPUT FILE NAME

1. Data Base Output File Name: DTout.MDB
2. Return to Set Run Parameter Main Menu

Use Arrow or Number Keys to highlight
the file you wish to change or option
Press Spacebar or Enter to execute

DTREES outputs will be saved to file: C:\DTREES\OUTPUT\DTout.MDB
Do you want to save outputs under another file name

Yes                               No

Enter path name or hit <Enter> for default: C:\DTREES\OUTPUT\
      ▲                               ▼

Enter data filename, or press only <ENTER> to use
default name: DTout.MDB
      ▲                               ▼
```

### Suboption 5. View/Edit Type/Species/Merch. Conversion Files

This option can also be directly invoked from the Main Menu option 6 "Review/Edit Codes Data Base" which was described on page 27.

### Suboption 6: Setting Miscellaneous Simulation Run Parameters

Pressing <5> while in the main SRP menu allows the user access to the DTREES parameters shown below. When in this menu, the numeric keys 1-4 activate and act as toggles for the first four functions. Pressing <1> will toggle the inventory update function on/off. Pressing <2> will switch the modelling formulation between model I and model II. A special section below explains the important difference between choosing the model I versus model II option. Pressing <3> will toggle the number of alternatives generated at each decision node between 1 and 2. When only one alternative is generated, DTREES will produce only one management sequence per stand, and it will conform to the critical parameters entered in the View/Edit subsystem (see section IV.3).

Pressing <4> will allow you to enter a stand identifier (i.e., columns 1-21 for Phase II data) which corresponds to next identifier in the inventory input files DTREES will execute upon. (For standard ASCII file format the identifier can have any format (characters, spaces, or numbers), but it must be a string type field). In other words, DTREES will search sequentially through the input files until it finds the record with this identifier. DTREES will then start simulation with this stand in the inventory files. If an identifier is listed on





## MAIN MENU OPTION 9: THE DTREES SIMULATION MODULE

**RDTREES.EXE** is the run time simulator of the DTREES system. RDTREES performs the actual simulation of multiple harvesting sequences over time and creates the output files which are then used to create economic alternatives and then fed into the harvest simulator, DUALPLAN. RDTREES is activated by pressing <11> in the main DTREES menu. This should be done only after all decision tree and control parameters are set correctly for the DTREES run. When key <11> is pressed, the RDTREES module will load and begin its run.

### Suboption 1: Select Paths Defaults

This general option was described above.

### Suboption 2: Select Inventory Data Base

This general option was described above.

```
DTREES Simulation for DNR and Nat For Data

(1) Select Paths Defaults
(2) Select inventory data base
(3) Start DTREES simulation
(4) Stop DTREES simulation

Use Arrow or Number Keys to highlight
Press Spacebar or Enter to execute
```

### Suboption 3: Start DTREES Simulation

RDTREES will begin simulation of the stands that were tagged in the MAIN MENU OPTION 5: REVIEW/EDIT INVENTORY DATA BASE. The RDTREES screen will appear with certain information about the current state of the simulation.

```
Make sure you have set all run parameters using option 8 of
the main DTREES menu. You should also view the stand list
first and tag the stands or covertypes you want to simulate.
To tag all stands of a covertime, select the covertime <C>
key on bottom menu and then the Tag or UnTag option.
Do you want to proceed.

Yes                               No
```

The RDTREES screen displays some information about the stand currently being simulated and the state of that simulation process such as "Regen currently working." Stand information includes the original inventory stand identifier, the inventory covertime code, the date of the inventory data, the stand size in acres, the stand site index, and the stand's initial age (not current simulation stand age). Facts about the simulation include the DTREES decision tree under which the stand is being simulated, the current planning period which DTREES is simulating, and the decision node DTREES is working from. For a detailed explanation of these decision nodes, see

Pelkki, (1988). DTREES also displays how many stands it has simulated already in the current run of the RDTREES module. After the successful simulation of a stand, the stand is untagged in the stand data base.

DTREES IS CURRENTLY SIMULATING STAND: 91  
Working on Planning Period: 1  
Working From Decision Node: 2

Stand Identifier: 271050091	Model 1	Inventory Year 1991
Covertypes Code 1	INVENTORY	Covertypes Name Ash
Simulated by DTREES decision tree: No. = 12 Lowland Hardwood		
<b>Regen currently working</b>		
Acres = 5		
Site Index = 40		
Initial / Current Stand Age = 1 / 8		

USE F1 KEY TO STOP RUN AFTER THIS STAND  
USE F2 KEY TO STOP RUN IMMEDIATELY

There are two more important keys to remember while the RDTREES system is executing. The F1 key (one of 10 or twelve function keys on your keyboard) will, when pressed, stop the execution of the RDTREES module when the current stand is finished processing. The F2 key, on the other hand, will terminate the running of the RDTREES module immediately, without updating any work done to the current stand. For example, if you press the F1 key, RDTREES will finish processing the current stand, update the output files and return to the main menu. If F2 is pressed, RDTREES erases all work done on the current stand and returns you immediately to the DTREES main program menu. In either case, the processing completed on previous stands is already saved and RDTREES, when reactivated, will resume processing with the first unprocessed stand. The F1 and F2 keys are designed to allow the user to escape RDTREES and process large input files in a piecemeal fashion and allow the computer on which DTREES is installed to be used for other purposes when necessary.

## MAIN MENU OPTION 10: DTREES REPORT WRITER

This program module is fully integrated within the DTREES system. As soon as a simulation of an inventory or part of an inventory has been terminated, the user has immediate access to a number of useful report writers.

```
*** Program options. ***

(1) Set Program Path Parameters
(2) Report on Inventory Data
(3) Report on DTREES Output
(4) Review DTREES Stand-Level Output
(5) Exit DTREES Report Writer Program

Use Arrow or Number Keys to highlight
Press Spacebar or Enter to execute
Press Escape to end
```

### Suboption 1: Select Paths Defaults

This general option was described above.

### Suboption 2: Report on Inventory Data Base

This option generates 4 types of summary reports for the inventory data base as displayed below:

```
*** Inventory report options. ***

(1) Report on one covertime area, basal area and volume.
(2) Report on covertime area, basal area and volume.
(3) Report on covertime area per age class.
(4) Report on stand data, per covertime.

Use Arrow or Number Keys to highlight
Press Spacebar or Enter to execute
Press Escape to end
```

```
*** Inventory Report ***

This report will have the following information:
- Total Area,
- Basal area per acre,
- Volume per acre,
for the covertime chosen.

Press a key to view covertime options.
```



\*\*\* Inventory Report \*\*\*

This report will have the following information:

- Total Area,
- Basal area per acre,
- Volume per acre,

for all covertypes.

Press a key to continue or ESC to end.

\*\*\* Inventory Report \*\*\*

This report will have the following information:

- Total area per age class,

for all covertypes.

Press a key to continue or ESC to end.

\*\*\* Inventory Report \*\*\*

This report will have the following information:

- Area,
- Age,
- Volume per acre,
- Site index,

for all stands in the covertype chosen.

Press a key to view covertype options.

Covertype Selection Menu

\*\*\* DNR CSA/Phase II covertype labels \*\*\*

Ash	White Spruce
Willow	Balsam Fir
Lowland Hardwoods	Lowland Black Spruce
Aspen	Tamarack
Birch	Northern White Cedar
Balm of Gilead	Upland Black Spruce
Cottonwood	Stagnant Spruce
Northern Hardwoods	Stagnant Tamarack
Walnut	Stagnant Cedar
Oak	Offsite Aspen
Central Hardwoods	Offsite Oak
White Pine	Red Cedar
Norway Pine	Cutover Area
Jack Pine	Lowland Grass
Scotch Pine	Upland Grass

Use Arrow Keys to highlight choice  
 Press <Enter> to select covertype  
 Press <Esc> to select none

### Suboption 3: Report on DTREES Output

This option generates 7 types of summary reports for the simulated stand management outputs as displayed below. Reports 1 and 2 are reports for all or selected covertypes as shown in the previous screen while reports 3-6 report for individual selected species:

```
*** DTREES Report options. ***  
  
(1) Report on covertype areas.  
(2) Report on covertype volumes.  
(3) Report on species volume harvested data.  
(4) Report on species volume remaining data.  
(5) Report on species dbh distribution.  
(6) Report on species volume harvested by covertype.  
  
Use Arrow or Number Keys to highlight  
Press Spacebar or Enter to execute  
Press Escape to end
```

```
***          Covertype Report          ***  
  
This report will have the following information:  
- Total Area,  
- Area clearcutted,  
- Area thinned,  
- Area idle,  
for each planning period, age class and for the covertype chosen.  
  
Press a key to view covertype options.
```

```
***          Covertype Report          ***  
  
This report will have the following information:  
- Total Area,  
- Basal Area per acre,  
- Volume Remaining,  
- Volume Harvested,  
for each age class, planning period and for the covertype chosen.  
  
Press a key to view covertype options.
```

An example of this report is shown below:

Covertypes: Aspen		Planning period: 1		
Age Class	Total Area (acres)	Basal Area (sq.ft./acre)	Vol. Harvested (10 <sup>3</sup> cu.ft.)	Vol. Remaining (10 <sup>3</sup> cu.ft.)
[0 10]	2,273	0.0	0.00	0.00
[10 20]	1,692	53.3	0.00	42.37
[20 30]	919	87.6	0.00	82.93
[30 40]	474	174.6	50.01	48.81
[40 50]	871	207.0	139.01	92.99
[50 60]	1,911	218.3	195.30	454.66
[60 70]	3,215	217.9	460.76	503.76
[70 80]	1,075	205.8	343.52	0.00
[80 90]	168	210.8	84.21	0.00
[90 100]	80	195.8	23.85	0.00
[100 110]	15	138.0	4.07	0.00
[110 120]	0	0.0	0.00	0.00

Press a key to see table for next age class or ESC to end.

Covertypes: Aspen		Planning period: 1		
Age Class	Total Area (acres)	Basal Area (sq.ft./acre)	Vol. Harvested (10 <sup>3</sup> cu.ft.)	Vol. Remaining (10 <sup>3</sup> cu.ft.)
[120 130]	0	0.0	0.00	0.00
[130 140]	0	0.0	0.00	0.00
[140 150]	0	0.0	0.00	0.00
[150 160]	0	0.0	0.00	0.00
[160 170]	0	0.0	0.00	0.00
[170 180]	0	0.0	0.00	0.00
[180 190]	0	0.0	0.00	0.00
[190 200]	0	0.0	0.00	0.00
[200 210]	0	0.0	0.00	0.00
[210 220]	0	0.0	0.00	0.00
[220 230]	0	0.0	0.00	0.00
[230 240]	0	0.0	0.00	0.00
All	12,693		1,300.73	1,225.51

Press a key to see table for next planning period or ESC to end.

Reports 3-6 are for specific species. The user selects one from the following selection screen by moving the cursor to a species and by hitting the <Enter> key. Examples of these reports are displayed below.

Species Selection Menu

\*\*\* DNR CSA/Phase II species labels \*\*\*

Black Ash	Yellow Birch	Hackberry	Northern White Ce
American Elm	Walnut	Boxelder	Eastern Red Cedar
Silver Maple	Butternut	White Pine	Hemlock
Red Elm	Cherry	Norway Pine	Douglas Fir
Rock Elm	Buckeye	Jack Pine	European Larch
Willow	Red Oak	Scotch Pine	Japanese Larch
Quaking Aspen	Black Oak	Ponderosa Pine	Siberian Larch
Paper Birch	English Oak	Austrian Pine	Locust
Balm of Gilead	White Oak	White Spruce	Ironwood
Cottonwood	Burr Oak	Balsam Fir	River Birch
Bigtooth Aspen	Scarlet Oak	Colorado Spruce	Blue Beech
Hybrid Poplar	White Ash	Norway Spruce	Miscellaneous
Red Maple	Green Ash	Black Hills Spruc	
Sugar Maple	Bitternut Hickory	Black Spruce	
Basswood	Shagbark Hickory	Tamarack	

Use Arrow Keys to highlight choice  
Press <Enter> to select coverype  
Press <Esc> to select none

\*\*\* Species Report \*\*\*

This report will have the following information:

- Total volume,
- Total volume harvested,
- Residual volume harvested,
- Pulpwood volume harvested,
- Sawtimber volume harvested,

for each planning period and for the species chosen.

Press a key to view species options.

Species: Quaking Aspen Unit: 10<sup>3</sup> cu.ft.

Pl.Period	Total Vol.	Tot.Vol.Harv.	Res.Vol.Harv.	Pul.Vol.Harv.	Saw.Vol.Harv.
1	2,388.1	1,274.0	194.7	737.1	342.2
2	1,505.1	943.9	147.8	548.6	247.5
3	1,010.0	329.9	50.0	127.4	152.5
4	1,215.3	427.3	68.6	208.3	150.4
5	1,349.8	435.0	74.5	262.6	97.9

Press a key to choose another species.

\*\*\* Species Report \*\*\*

This report will have the following information:

- Total volume,
- Total volume remaining,
- Residual volume remaining,
- Pulpwood volume remaining,
- Sawtimber volume remaining,

for each planning period and for the species chosen.

Press a key to view species options.

Species: Quaking Aspen Unit: 10<sup>3</sup> cu.ft.

Pl.Period	Total Vol.	Tot.Vol.Rem.	Res.Vol.Rem.	Pul.Vol.Rem.	Saw.Vol.Rem.
1	2,388.1	1,114.2	199.5	738.3	176.4
2	1,505.1	561.3	131.8	300.2	129.3
3	1,010.0	680.2	177.0	369.5	133.8
4	1,215.3	788.0	190.1	458.8	139.0
5	1,349.8	914.8	195.6	514.6	204.6

Press a key to choose another species.

\*\*\* Species Report \*\*\*

This report will have the following information:

- Total volume,
- Volume harvested,
- Volume remaining,

for each plan.period and average dbh class of the species chosen.

Press a key to view species options.

Species: Quaking Aspen      Planning period: 1      Unit: 10<sup>3</sup> cu.ft.

Dbh Class	Total Volume	Vol. Harvested	Vol. Remaining
[0 2]	2.1	0.0	2.1
12 4]	104.1	1.3	102.8
14 6]	42.4	18.2	24.2
16 8]	139.9	76.0	63.9
18 10]	519.5	256.4	263.2
110 12]	1,023.0	537.6	485.4
112 14]	421.1	257.2	163.9
114 16]	126.7	119.4	7.3
116 18]	8.9	7.6	1.3
118 20]	0.3	0.3	0.0

Press a key to see table for next dbh class.  
Press ESC to end.

Species: Quaking Aspen      Planning period: 1      Unit: 10<sup>3</sup> cu.ft.

Dbh Class	Total Volume	Vol. Harvested	Vol. Remaining
118 20]	0.3	0.3	0.0
120 22]	0.0	0.0	0.0
122 24]	0.0	0.0	0.0
124 26]	0.0	0.0	0.0
126 28]	0.0	0.0	0.0
128 30]	0.0	0.0	0.0
All	2,388.1	1,274.0	1,114.2

Press a key to see table for next planning period.  
Press ESC to end.

\*\*\*      DTREES Report      \*\*\*

This report will have the following information:  
- Total Area of Covertypes Classes,  
- Volume Harvested per Species and Covertypes Classes,

Press a key to continue or ESC to end.

Appendix II shows an example of this output file for the Sturgeon River State Forest.

### Suboption 4: Review DTREES Stand-Level Output

This suboption gives the manager ready access to the stand-level specific management options and associated harvest and residual stand data simulated by the DTREES program. Appendix III shows the DTREES output file structure.

```

*** DTREES Output Schedule Lister Program ***

(1) Select Paths Defaults
(2) Select Simulation Output Data Base
(3) Run Output Data Base Aggregation
(4) View Selected Output Data Base
(5) Quit DTREES Output Schedule Program

Use Arrow or Number Keys to highlight
Press Spacebar or Enter to execute
    
```

### Run Output Data Base Aggregation

The first time a new simulation run has been done, the output data base should be aggregated using the data base utility option 3. This utility will create aggregate tree data base records for both harvest and residual volumes. The user is prompted for an output data base and the associated codes data abse that was used in the simulation.

### View Selected Output Data Base

When option 4 is selected, the user can view all stand-level schedules generated by the program. One can scroll through the list using any of the keypad keys. Additionally, the user can find specific stand records, reorder schedule lists using various sorting options, and can review detailed or aggregate data records by entering a <D> or <A>. In both these cases, the user will be prompted for selecting either list for all planning periods for the selected stand or only the currently selected (highlighted) planning period.

```

*** DTREES: List of Stand Schedules ***
Use the arrow keys to move through the list.
There are 35 stand schedule records.
    
```

Stand ID	Covertype Label	Acres	Age (yrs)	Plan. Period	Manag. Action	BA before harvest	BA harvested
271050094	Lowland Hardwoods	9	115	1	SW	191	191
271050094	Lowland Hardwoods	9	10	2	RG	0	0
271050094	Lowland Hardwoods	9	20	3	DN	56	0
271050094	Lowland Hardwoods	9	30	4	SW	84	84
271050094	Lowland Hardwoods	9	10	5	RG	0	0
271050095	Lowland Hardwoods	9	84	1	SW	212	212
271050095	Lowland Hardwoods	9	10	2	RG	0	0
271050095	Lowland Hardwoods	9	20	3	DN	56	0
271050095	Lowland Hardwoods	9	30	4	SW	84	84
271050095	Lowland Hardwoods	9	10	5	RG	0	0

```

View Schedule Detail          View Schedule Aggregate          Quit
Re-order Prescriptions          Find Stand
    
```

Schedule Data Base: C:\DTREES\OUTPUT\STURGOUT.MDB  
Codes Data Base: c:\DTREES\DATA\DTCOD1.MDB

By selecting <A>ggregate or <D>etail the program will ask for whether <A>ll planning periods or only the <S>elected planning period are(is) to be displayed.

\*\*\* DTREES: List of Stand Schedules \*\*\*  
 Use the arrow keys to move through the list.  
 There are 35 stand schedule records.

Stand ID	Covertype Label	Acres	Age (yrs)	Plan. Period	Manag. Action	BA before harvest	BA harvested
271050094	Lowland Hardwoods	9	115	1	SW	191	191
271050094	Lowland Hardwoods	9	10	2	RG	0	0
271050094	Lowland H					56	0
271050094	Lowland H					84	84
271050094	Lowland H					0	0
271050095	Lowland H					212	212
271050095	Lowland H					0	0
271050095	Lowland H					56	0
271050095	Lowland Hardwoods	9	30	4	SW	84	84
271050095	Lowland Hardwoods	9	10	5	RG	0	0

Do you want all or the selected  
 planning period for this stand.

All                      Selected

View Schedule Detail                      View Schedule Aggregate                      Quit  
 Re-order Prescriptions                      Find Stand

Schedule Data Base: C:\DTREES\OUTPUT\STURGOUT.MDB  
 Codes Data Base: c:\DTREES\DATA\DTCOD1.MDB

Having selected first <D>etail and then <A>ll periods, the next screen will display species-level details for the selected stand and all planning periods.

\*\*\* DTREES: Detailed Schedule \*\*\*  
 Use the arrow keys to move through the list.  
 Stand: 271050094      Number of Detailed Records = 20

Stand ID	Plan Per.	Type	Species	Residual Volume	Pulpwood Volume	Sawlog Volume
271050094	1	Har	Black Ash	354	1500	0
271050094	1	Har	Quaking Aspen	140	97	814
271050094	1	Har	Balsam Fir	74	287	0
271050094	1	Har	Miscellaneous	245	1016	0
271050094	3	Res	Black Ash	80	306	37
271050094	3	Res	American Elm	33	69	0
271050094	3	Res	Quaking Aspen	3	14	0
271050094	3	Res	Paper Birch	14	62	0
271050094	3	Res	Balm of Gilead	3	9	0
271050094	3	Res	Red Maple	8	0	0

Return to Stand-Level                      Quit

Schedule Data Base: C:\DTREES\OUTPUT\STURGOUT.MDB  
 Codes Data Base: c:\DTREES\DATA\DTCOD1.MDB

The "type" field indicates whether the volumes shown are harvest or residual volumes where residual volumes refer to volumes remaining in a stand in a given planning period. The volumes themselves are gross cubic foot volumes per acre. For residual volumes it is the volume above the defined top DOB, for pulpwood volumes it is the volume between the defined sawtimber



top DOB and the pulpwood top DOB, and for sawtimber it is the volume above a one-foot stump and below the defined sawtimber top DOB.

Hitting <Esc>, <Q>uit or Stand-<L>evel will return the user to the stand level data screen.

Selecting first <D>etail and then <S>elected period, the next screen would display species-level details for the selected stand and only the selected planning period.

Having selected first <A>ggregate and then <A>ll periods, the next screen will display aggregate data for the selected stand and all planning periods. The selection of the aggregate data for a stand schedule provides a list of the harvest and residual volumes summed across the individual species.

```

*** DTREES: Aggregate Schedule List ***
Use the arrow keys to move through the list.
Stand: 271050094      Number of Aggregate Records = 5
  
```

Stand ID	Plan Per.	Stand Area	Age	Residual Volume	Harvest		Residual		
					Pulpwood Volume	Sawlog Volume	Residual Volume	Pulpwood Volume	Sawlog Volume
271050094	1	9.00	115	813	2900	814	0	0	0
271050094	2	9.00	10	0	0	0	0	0	0
271050094	3	9.00	20	0	0	0	216	625	37
271050094	4	9.00	30	405	946	162	0	0	0
271050094	5	9.00	10	0	0	0	0	0	0

```

Return to Stand-Level      Quit
  
```

```

Schedule Data Base: C:\DTREES\OUTPUT\STURGOUT.MDB
Codes Data Base: c:\DTREES\DATA\DTCOD1.MDB
  
```

Both harvest volumes and volumes remaining in the stand are shown side by side for each planning period. The volumes again are gross cubic foot volumes per acre. For residual volumes it is the volume above the defined top DOB, for pulpwood volumes it is the volume between the defined sawtimber top DOB and the pulpwood top DOB, and for sawtimber it is the volume above a one-foot stump and below the defined sawtimber top DOB.

Selecting first <A>ggregate and then <S>elected period, the next screen would display the aggregate data for the selected stand and only the selected planning period.

## DTREES MODELLING SYSTEM COMPONENTS

The following is a more detailed description of the models and assumptions used by RDTREES in simulating the alternative harvest sequences. More details can be found in a Master's thesis by Pelkki (1988).

### Growth Projection System

Since the decision trees can only evaluate a stand at a given point in time, DTREES must have some method of projecting stands forward in time to the next planning period. For this purpose, a microcomputer growth-projection system (**RGROW**) based on the GROW subroutine (Brand, 1981b) has been adapted from **RUNGROW** (Eriksson, Ek and Weber, 1986).

Although obtaining the necessary tree-list data may require some extra data manipulation, several factors made the use of such an interface indispensable. The current trend is towards distance-independent growth models which provide the best projections and unfortunately have more demanding input data requirements than stand growth models. The use of tree lists allows easy simulation of harvest activities and permits more sophisticated selection harvest methods to be simulated as well. The use of the GROW subroutine meant that any combination of species and stand structure could be modelled (Brand, 1981b). This growth-projection system was already adapted for microcomputer use in RUNGROW, and only required minor modifications which allowed it to be integrated into DTREES.

The advantages in using RGROW are numerous. Since the GROW subroutine is part of the STEMS growth-projection system (Belcher, et al., 1982), updates in the growth and mortality coefficients will be easily installed into RGROW and DTREES. Also, the volume yields presented by DTREES should then be reasonably similar to volumes produced by STEMS. Also, this particular growth projection system is widely used and accepted in the Lake States (Ffolliot et al., 1985). Projection times for RGROW are less than two seconds for an abbreviated tree list over a 10-year period on an IBM PC-AT class computer. Performance of several DTREES components will be discussed in a later section. However, the time required to invoke and run the growth simulator does not, at this time, present a major problem in the matrix generating process.

It should be noted that to keep data requirements and processing time to a minimum, the tree lists used by DTREES are aggregated. The entire stand must be represented with 10 or less trees in the tree list. It has been shown that aggregate or "short" tree lists do not result in a great loss of precision (Ek, et al., 1985). More recent work has supported these findings and improved methods of condensing or aggregating tree lists are being developed<sup>3</sup>.

However, there are some disadvantages to using this growth projection model. The system is slower than look-up tables (Ek, Hoganson, and Hahn, 1984). Also, in cases similar to that

---

<sup>3</sup> Stegemoeller, Katie. Master's thesis. The University of Minnesota College of Natural Resources, St. Paul, MN 55108.

encountered when using the Minnesota DNR Phase II Intensive database, the approximated tree list may not adequately represent the stand. Because this growth system does not deal with trees of less than 1.0" diameter properly, a separate regeneration function is required. Also, Brand (1981b) noted that this growth projection system projects diameter growth well in the lower diameter classes, but overpredicts diameter growth for large diameter classes.

The projection system performs quite well for the most part, but there are some indications that the GROW system does not provide sufficient mortality for the aspen covertime when interfaced with the aspen regeneration system. The projected volumes and stand characteristics shown in the table below are taken from an actual DTREES run, on site classes 60 and 79 aspen stands.

**Table.** Aspen stand regeneration and growth data.

Site Class	Parent Stand BA	Stand Percent Aspen	Stand Age	Stems per acre	Number of Average DBH	Cubic Foot Volume
------------	-----------------	---------------------	-----------	----------------	-----------------------	-------------------

The following are DTREES projections:

60	90	63	2	6634	0.0	0
			10	4073	1.18	0
			20	1859	2.47	0
			30	982	3.87	1202
			40	776	5.20	1518
79	199	70	2	4414	0.0	0
			10	2722	1.73	0
			20	1325	3.45	1375
			30	1041	4.7	1666
			40	814	5.8	2231

The following is from Ek and Brodie (1975):

60	Not given (N-G)	N-G	2	5000	0.2	0
			10	3221	1.3	0
			20	1605	2.6	147
			30	N-G	N-G	N-G
			40	560	5.4	1411
80	N-G	N-G	2	5000	0.3	0
			10	2870	1.7	1
			20	1304	3.5	532
			30	N-G	N-G	N-G
			40	431	7.4	3074

From this data we can see that for the stand, once projections are made with GROW (from year 20 to end of rotation), mortality falls off and so does diameter growth. This reduces the total volume projected. This disjoint growth curve is to be expected when merging two independently developed models. Hopefully, when regeneration is handled within GROW, this

will be less apparent. The volumes as shown in Table 9.1 are fairly representative of the aspen coertype for those site classes and ages.

Another possible cause of the disjoint growth curves for aspen is the fact that the Ek and Brodie model returns only one diameter average for all trees. The mortality function is known to be nonlinear, with mortality occurring most heavily in the smaller diameter classes. Thus, when all trees are averaged, the mortality function of RGROW cannot properly model the mortality of the lower size classes. This problem may be solved adequately by providing 3 trees per species, each representing a different size class component for that species.

The next table shows the yield data for red pine plantations on site classes 60 and 80 that were regenerated and grown over a 50 year planning horizon. The data assumes a 2-1 planting stock and an initial density of 1210 stems per acre.

**Table.** Red pine regeneration and growth data.

Site	Class	Age	NT/acre	Avg. DBH	Volume/acre
60	3		1210	0	0
	13		918	2.2	0
	23		918	4.7	1103
	33		909	6.1	2012
	43		899	7.0	2729
	53		887	7.6	3250
80	3		1210	0	0
	13		918	2.9	0
	23		918	5.3	1474
	33		911	6.7	2496
	43		901	7.5	3201
	53		883	7.9	3540

All ages end in "3" because seedlings are 3 years old and projection periods are 10 years.

From age 23 on, RGROW handled diameter growth and projection. It should be noted that the DTREES volumes reported are gross cubic foot volume per acre, calculated by Stone's equations (Hahn, 1984). The volume calculation procedure will be discussed in more detail later. Comparison of the volumes given by DTREES with those in empirical yield tables for Minnesota shows that for the red pine coertype, RGROW provides an acceptable model, though perhaps not over predicting the diameter growth of red pine in the older age classes.

## Harvesting Systems

Several harvesting systems are currently employed in RDTREES. They include:

1. Do nothing
  - No harvest of any tree on stand
2. Clearcut
  - Cut and remove every tree
3. Random thin
  - Randomly remove to a specified basal area
4. Diameter section cut
  - Randomly thin within certain diameter or product classes. (i.e. - Thin basal area of sawtimber to 70 ft.<sup>2</sup> per acre.)
5. Shelterwood regeneration harvest
  - Thin from above to a certain basal area, then remove residual overstory in 10 years.

The basic method of selecting and executing these systems is discussed in Pelkki (1988).

## Volume Equations

VOLCALC is a subsystem within RDTREES that calculates gross cubic foot volume given a simple tree list. VOLCALC calculates a per acre volume by species and product class, and passes this information back to an update function which records this information in both residual and harvest data files which is linked to the final decision matrix when that is formulated. All volumes shown in previous tables were calculated with this module unless otherwise noted.

VOLCALC uses Stone's equations for calculating volume (Hahn, 1984). These require the following information: (1) diameter at breast height, (2) merchantable height, and (3) diameter outside bark at merchantable height to estimate gross cubic foot volume from a 1 foot stump to the merchantable top for an individual tree. These are the same equations used by STEMS for its gross volume calculations. The tree list that RGROW uses is well suited for these equations. Diameter at breast height and number of stems per acre is provided by DTREES. The user has inputted merchantable top diameters in the module "Set Run Parameters". Merchantable height is calculated from a height-estimation model (Ek, et al., 1981) which uses the parameters: (1) diameter at breast height, (2) site index, (3) merchantable top diameter outside bark, and (4) stand basal area. All trees with a top diameter greater than the user specified merchantable top diameter for pulpwood have a volume estimate calculated. This assures that all stand volumes are recorded, even though the trees may not be harvestable. Volume per tree is calculated and then multiplied by the number of stems per acre to obtain volume per acre. This is then tallied by product class and species type. Currently, only three product classes, pulpwood, sawtimber and biomass (volume above merchantable pulpwood top diameter) are provided. User inputted product size class limits determine the product category into which each tree will be recorded.

The advantages to using these models is the fact that the equations used are found in the STEMS growth projection system. Any updates or improvements in the volume equations for

the STEMS system can be incorporated directly into VOLCALC. Also, the use of common height and volume equations provides for a measure of compatibility between the two systems.

### Tree List Emulator with Minnesota DNR Phase II Data

The Minnesota DNR Phase II database does not have a tree list associated with each stand in an automated format. In order to obtain a tree list, the original inventory forms would have to be obtained and a tree list tallied from these forms. This task would be far too time consuming and costly to perform for thousands upon thousands of stands, so an alternative approach was used. The Phase II database contains a list of from 1 to 5 "characteristic" trees for that stand. They represent the dominant tree species in that stand. Associated with each characteristic tree is an average diameter and a measure of volume per acre for that particular tree. In the Phase II database all trees are recorded in board feet or cords per acre. These are converted to cubic foot volumes, using the following conversion ratios:

$$\begin{aligned} 1000 \text{ Board Feet} &= 200 \text{ cubic feet} \\ 1 \text{ cord} &= 79 \text{ cubic feet} \end{aligned}$$

From an independent regression equation, an estimate of total number of trees per acre is estimated. The data contained in the individual characteristic trees is then used to disaggregate the total number of trees per acre and allocate tree expansion factors or multipliers to each characteristic tree. The result is a "tree list" that is used by DTREES for processing.

The method of disaggregating the total NT into its species components is done through a simple volume-diameter ratio. It is assumed that the relationship between tree diameter and tree volume can be expressed in the following manner:

$$\begin{aligned} RVD_i &= V_i/DBH_i^2 \\ (RVD_i/SRVD) * NT &= NT_i \end{aligned}$$

Where:

- $V_i$  = volume per acre for tree<sub>i</sub>
- NT = total number of trees/acre in the stand
- $RVD_i$  = ratio of volume to diameter for tree<sub>i</sub>
- SRVD = summation of all  $RVD_i$  for this stand
- $NT_i$  = number of trees/acre for tree<sub>i</sub>

Each  $NT_i$  is then written to a tree list with associated tree diameter and species code. This is the basic tree list which RGROW requires to make its projections.

The formulation of these "characteristic" trees in the Minnesota Phase II database is of importance, because the tree list is based on these trees. The procedure is given in the Forest Survey Manual, Phase II Intensive Inventory (State of Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Forestry Division). All species that are of merchantable size are recorded, up to a maximum of 5 species or species-groups, by product type. If a species or species-group has been tallied as having both pulpwood and sawtimber volume, it requires two entries in the database. If more than 4 species or species groups have merchantable volume, the 4 predominant species are recorded, and all minor species and their volumes are recorded as the fifth characteristic tree, and given the species code corresponding to miscellaneous species.

Though this method does record all merchantable tree species and the corresponding volumes, the method has several problems. The aggregation of all minor species into a single miscellaneous species-group class means that the species groups entered into this class are of relatively low importance. While quite often this may be the case, it would be far preferable to have those species represented individually in the tree list so that any possible impact on the prescriptions and final optimization runs could be modeled. This data recording problem can defeat the logic behind some of the decision trees for the covertypes, northern hardwoods, spruce-fir, and white pine, which have different branches based on stand composition. Also, when all minor species are aggregated in this fashion, the growth simulator (RGROW) cannot accurately predict growth, since species-specific information is no longer available.

### **DTREES Modelling Parameters and Output File Size**

DTREES is designed to operate with as many stands as can be stored in the data base. DTREES will process approximately 11 stands per minute. To simulate for example the Sturgeon River State Forest data base with 2,141 forest stands required 195 minutes. DTREES produced for this inventory of 1.9 Mb an output database of approximately 10.4 MB. Sufficient hard disk space should, therefore, be available when large inventory data bases are processed.

### **DTREES Run Parameters and Error Checking**

Despite the size and complexity of the DTREES system, error trapping and error messages have been kept incorporated into the programs. In doing this, the speed of the simulation and memory requirements are compromised somewhat. However, if the codes data base (and associated parameter files on the data subdirectory) which controls the RDTREES simulation system is incomplete, or incorrect, the system may crash or produce data inconsistent with the user's wishes. Therefore it cannot be stressed in more strong terms: **Check and recheck your run parameters for completeness and correct settings!!!** While DTREES will automate a lot of the simulation process for you, there is no substitute for careful planning and use. Like any complex tool, it takes thought to produce good results.

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## APPENDIX I

### DTREES INPUT DATA

#### DTREES Inventory Input:

For any given stand your inventory database must be able to provide the following information about every stand:

- Stand Identifier: An alphanumeric code that uniquely identifies a stand from all others in the database.
- Covertime: A code which identifies the covertime for the stand.
- Age: A value for stand age.
- Acres: The stand area in acres.
- Site Index: A value for stand site index.
- Basal Area: A value for the average basal area (in sq.ft./acre) for the stand.
- NT: An estimate of the total number of trees per acre in the stand (all species).
- Stand Volume: A value for total stand volume in all species, in cubic feet per acre.
- Stand AMDBH: A value for stand Arithmetic Mean DBH.
- Stand QMDBH: A value for stand Quadratic Mean DBH.
- Inventory Date: The last 2 digits of the year in which the stand was inventoried.

You must also provide a list of representative trees (a tree list) for the stand. For each tree, you must be able to provide:

- Species Code: The code which identifies a species group
- Tree DBH: A value for that representative tree's DBH.
- NT or Vol/Acre: Either the number of stems per acre or that characteristic trees contribution to the Stand Volume (see above).

Note: If your tree list already has NT/acre, you do not need a value for Stand Volume!

### DTREES INPUT

The following are two examples of DTREES simulation on actual data. Both examples utilized a planning horizon of five, 10 year periods.

Input Example. A partial view of the ASCII file for DNR Sturgeon River State Forest

```
6906117W0210912455011014301220118214341700831400.02101085812.7401107122431007308
6906217W2610972465011015301140268414641351021700.42101106408.3413311124241109908
6905921W0312122335011015701110128414241321203300.02101095626.7283013113230001412
6905921W0510332335011015501110538414741321122600.02101096421.5314107113231006207
6906217W1611952465011015301140098414241300801300.02101095206.7281007133231001409
6906217W1410862465011014301140278413241291531700.02101084310.7991103113051007310
6906217W1412162465011014301140108413241291531700.02101084310.7991103113011007310
6906117W0611332455011015301210188315241261031700.02101117315.7000007113061009908
```

### Misc.Par file

"" ,0 Stand Identifier, Stand No - processing will start at top of file  
"SturgOut" Default file name for DTREES output data base  
"y",1,"Modell" Parameters indicating: Update to present, No. of management alternative  
and Model type  
1 Decision tree choice (1-4)

### List of PAR files on data subdirectory

TimeDat.Par file - contains information on the simulated planning horizon

"EQUAL PLANNING PERIOD LENGTHS"

5

50

1,10

2,10

3,10

4,10

5,10

0

REGEN.PAR - regeneration lists for all covertypes  
MISC.PAR - miscellaneous run parameters  
TIMEINFO.PAR - tracks beginning and end times for a simulation and stands  
completed  
COVERTYP.PAR - covertime conversion file  
SPECIES .PAR - species conversion file  
MERCHDBH.PAR - merchantability limits file  
CRITICAL.PAR - random access file of decision tree parameters  
GROWCOEF.PAR - growth coefficients for RGROW routine  
HTCOEF.PAR - height coefficients for RGROW routine

### List of MDB files on program directory

DTCODES.MDB - codes data base shell  
DTOUT.MDB - output data base shell  
DTSTANDS.MDB - stands data base shell





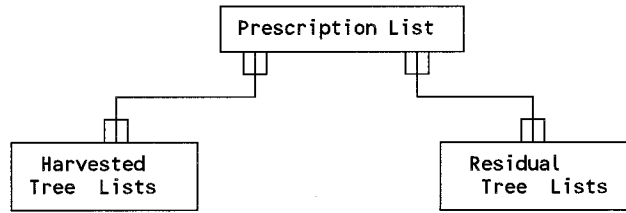






## APPENDIX III

### DTREES Output Data Base File Structure



#### File Description

**Prescription List** Describes, for each stand and each alternative, the timing of any activity over the entire planning horizon. It also gives some stand information such as age, acres, basal area, and which decision tree was used to generate the alternatives.

**Tree Lists** Description of residual or harvested trees for each record in the prescription list. Trees are averaged by species group, and so there is one record per species group, with average DBH and NT/acre provided.

**Identifier Index** The original inventory identifier is indexed to an integer value to save space and speed processing. The values are assigned sequentially for a particular identifier index file.

#### File Name: Prescription List

<u>Field</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Description</u>
New Identifier	Integer	Sequential identifier which is paired with original identifier in identifier index file.
Alternative	Integer	Value for alternative management sequence generated for a particular stand by DTREES.
Period	Integer	Period of activity
Node	Integer	Decision node value taken from DTREES alternative sequence generator.
Covertime	Integer	2 digit code from original inventory which designates covertime of stand.
Harv. Option	String	2 character code for harvest: "DN" - Do Nothing "CC" - Clearcut "TH" - Random thinning "SW" - Shelterwood cut "SC" - Selection cut
Basal Area	Integer	Stand Basal Area just prior to activity.
Removal BA	Integer	Basal area removed by activity.



Age	Integer	Stand age at end of period.
Acres	Integer	Stand size in acres.

File Name: Identifier Index

<u>Field</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Description</u>
New Identifier	Integer	Integer assigned to each stand sequentially for a given index file.
Original Identifier	String	String of alpha-numeric characters which uniquely identifies stand

File Name: Tree List (Structure same for Harvested and Residual Files)

<u>Field</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Description</u>
New Identifier	Integer	Sequential identifier which is paired with original identifier in identifier index file.
Node	Integer	Decision node value taken from DTREES alternative sequence generator.
Species Code	Integer	Original inventory species code
Residual	Integer	Gross cubic foot volume per acre Volume for this species that is above the defined top DOB (diameter outside bark) for pulpwood.
Pulpwood	Integer	Gross cubic foot volume per acre Volume for this species that is between defined Sawtimber top DOB and pulpwood top DOB.
Sawtimber	Integer	Gross cubic foot volume per acre Volume for this species that is above a 1 foot stump and below the defined sawtimber top DOB.
Average DBH	Real	Average DBH for all trees in this species group.
NT	Real	Number of trees per acre in this species group.