

COUNCIL ON FORESTRY MEETING

Date: 1/14/21

Location: Virtual via Zoom

| Council Members: | | Guests: | | |
|---|---|--|--------------------|-------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Hittle, <i>Chair</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kenneth Price | Faye Bokelman, <i>DNR</i> | Richard Wedepohl | Matt Carothers |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Matt Dallman, <i>Vice Chair</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dawn Laybolt | Rebecca Diebel, <i>DNR</i> | Nancy Bozek | Ann Calhoun |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heather Berklund | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jordan Skiff | Mike Warnke, <i>DNR</i> | Randy Cooper | Cory Bruce |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Senator Janet Bewley | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jason Sjostrom | Collin Buntrock, <i>DNR</i> | Ron Eckstein | Phil Blake |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Representative Beth Meyers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> William Van Lopik | Andy Stoltman, <i>DNR</i> | Tim Eisele | Gretchen Marshall |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Representative Jeff Mursau | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Bolton | Kori Schroeder, <i>DNR</i> | Michelle Paduani | Barbara Richards |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Henry Scheinebeck | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adena Rissman | Brad Hutnik, <i>DNR</i> | Tony Johnson | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> James Hoppe | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Buddy Huffaker | Sam Ridders, <i>WEDC</i> | Brian Roy Lockhart | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> James Kerkman | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rebekah Luedtke | Next Meeting: March 24-25, 2021 | | |

| Agenda Item | Decisions | Assignments/Follow Up |
|--|-----------|-----------------------|
| <p><u>Council Business Updates:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change Task Force Report & Rural Prosperity Task Force Report Council 2019-2020 Biennial Report Process Earth Day Update Regional Economic Diversification Summit (REDS) Update <p>Presenter: Chair Hittle</p> | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change Task Force Report & Rural Prosperity Task Force Report The Council on Forestry contributed to both the Climate Change Task Force and Rural Prosperity Task Force reports. Council 2019-2020 Biennial Report Process | | |

Chair Hittle and Vice Chair Dallman are working with the DNR on the 2019-2020 Biennial Report process. The team plans to have a draft for the Council to review and approve at the May council meeting.

- **Earth Day Update**

Nels Huse from Menominee Tribal Enterprise reached out to the Council late last year to discuss possible Earth Day events. Nels has altered his plan to consist of a peace tree initiative where pine trees would be planted at the state Capitol, in Washington D.C., and in communities around the state on Indigenous Peoples Day.

- **Regional Economic Diversification Summit (REDS) Update**

Chair Hittle, Vice Chair Dallman, and Chief State Forester Berklund are working with the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WECDC) and others tasked with developing initiatives to enhance and diversify Wisconsin’s forest products industry that would be suitable for the U.S. Economic Development Administration’s Regional Economic Diversification Summit (REDS) process . This group created a white paper on their effort, which will be circulated on Council letterhead to inform stakeholders on the effort and process.

WI Forest Products REDS Vision – Draft:



WI Forest Products
REDS Visioning DRA

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| Forest Regeneration Monitoring Discussion <u>Presenter:</u> DNR | | |

At the 1/13/21 Council on Forestry meeting, Collin Buntrock, Brad Hutnik, and Brian Anderson from the WI DNR Division of Forestry gave a presentation to the Council about Forest Regeneration Monitoring (FRM). In this session, the Council asked questions and discussed the information presented at the 1/13 meeting.

FRM Project Update PPT – from 1/13



FRM Update
20210113.pdf

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|---|--|--|
| <p>Committee recommendations on DNR Research Priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding - <i>Hoppe</i> • Profile – <i>Kerkman/Van Lopik</i> • Sound Forestry & Policy - <i>Rissman</i> • Utilization – <i>Skiff</i> | <p>The Council on Forestry approved the reprioritized list of research needs with the agreed upon edits.</p> | <p>Hittle & Dallman - make the approved edits to the research needs document and send it to the strategic committees</p> <p>Strategic Committees – gather stakeholder input on the prioritization of the research questions and send your results to Tom and Matt</p> <p>Hittle & Dallman – compile results from the committee’s stakeholder input gathering and bring the list to the March council meeting for approval</p> |

In November 2020, the Division of Forestry asked the Council for help in updating and prioritizing the division’s list of research needs, which is used to develop the DNR’s Research Agenda. The problem statements in the list were divided among the Council’s strategic committees (Profile, Budget & Funding, Sound Forestry/Policy, and Utilization) according to topic. Each committee was tasked to review their assigned problem statements and rank the research questions therein in order of importance.

At this meeting, the Council reviewed and discussed the rankings assigned by the committees, combined or replaced questions where necessary, and edited language where needed. A motion to approve the recommendations with the agreed upon edits was made by Jordan Skiff, seconded by Bill Van Lopik, and unanimously approved by the Council members present.

Chair Hittle and Vice Chair Dallman will make the approved edits to the document and send it to the committees, who will utilize stakeholder input to prioritize the research questions. The committees are to send the results they gathered to Tom and Matt, who will compile them and bring the list to the March council meeting for final approval.

2019-21 Forestry Research Agenda – Committee Rankings:



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| Legislative Updates | | |

Representative Jeff Mursau told the Council that 140 bills did not get passed and will have to be reintroduced due to the COVID delay. He is currently drafting on a Managed Forest Law (MFL) bill and work on the state budget will commence after the Governor’s budget address on 1/16/21.

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| State Forester Update Presenter: Heather Berklund | | |

Wisconsin Chief State Forester, Heather Berklund updated the Council on Wisconsin’s 2020 Forest Action Plan, the DNR’s Division of Forestry FY23-27 Strategic Direction, the DNR Deer Stakeholder Committee, and the 2021 Northern Hardwood Conference.

State Forester Report 1/14/21:



SF Report 01-14-21
CoF Mtg.pdf