

PROPOSAL: Governor's Forest Economic Summit 2013

Background

There are many issues and opportunities currently facing members of Wisconsin's forest products industry. Many groups are actively engaged in working hard to address both broad and focused agendas which impact their day to day operations. At past meetings, the Council on Forestry has discussed the value of an economic summit to bring interested parties together. The desire is that through shared conversation, constructive solutions arise to address some of the economic issues facing forest industry.

Proposed Summit Overview and Goals

Wisconsin proudly boasts a healthy forest resource which in turn provides a variety of services for citizens and businesses alike. Sustainable forest management sets the stage for realizing economic, social, and ecologic success not only for today- but also for the needs of the future. "Sustainability and issues of the day" are often viewed differently depending on the hat one is wearing. By bringing multiple stakeholders and the diverse perspectives they offer to a central discussion, it is hoped that a broader understanding of our industry's current needs and how groups might collaborate in clear and effective ways can be achieved. The goal would be to create synergy toward solutions.

To this end, it is proposed that the Governor's Council on Forestry sponsor a one or two day summit in the fall of 2013.

Making the Summit a Reality

To make the summit a reality, it is proposed that a sub-committee comprised of 4-5 individuals be assembled. The sub-committee would be tasked with identifying the topics of interest, clarifying the meetings timing and scope, and articulating what a successful agenda and meeting outcome looks like. Based on the desired outcomes, the sub-committee would also decide on who would participate.