

**WI Forestry Practices Study Ad Hoc Team**  
**Project Scope**  
**July 2017**

**Introduction**

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In 2013, the Great Lakes Timber Professionals Association (GLTPA) and Wisconsin County Forests Association (WCFA) received a state grant for \$600,000 over a two year period to complete the Wisconsin Forestry Practices Study. GLTPA and WCFA utilized a consultative process with the Wisconsin Council on Forestry to guide the research. The goal of the study was to obtain research results to help guide decisions and policy development for investment in forest-based manufacturing industries in Wisconsin, while ensuring that social and ecological benefits provided by Wisconsin's forest remain viable for future generations.

In 2016, the results of the studies were shared and sub-committees were formed to review the studies and develop findings. The next step was for three implementation committees to review the findings and develop specific recommendations. Those recommendations were shared with and accepted by the Council on Forestry (CoF) in May 2017.

This current Forestry Practices Study Ad Hoc Team is the next step in the process to translate the recommendations into specific actions and tasks and determine the party to which to refer the ask. This work is expected to be completed by August 2017.

**AdHoc Team**

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The Ad Hoc Team will be comprised of a representative from each of three implementation committees, the DNR Silviculturist on the Silviculture Guidance Team, and the DNR Forestry Field Operations Deputy Division Administrator. The Deputy Division Administrator will chair the Team.

**Assignment Objective**

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The Ad Hoc Team is being asked to develop specific actions and tasks as well as identify the party to which to refer these items in order to accomplish the recommendations prepared by the three implementation committees and accepted by the CoF. The expectation is to utilize existing Advisory Committees, Specialist Teams, Agencies, or other groups and integrate a specific recommendation(s) into their work plans (if appropriate).

**Activities within the scope of the Assignment Objective:**

- Support the charge from the Council on Forestry to develop specific tasks and actions based on the recommendations from the Forestry Practices Study Implementation Committees on accepted by the CoF.
- Recognize the responsibility of the WDNR Division of Forestry to develop and implement programs that protect and sustainably manage the state's forest resources.
- Be respectful of other Committee members' viewpoints.

- Attend and be an active participant in meetings. Be prepared for meetings by having read or reviewed necessary materials or drafts.

#### **Activities outside the scope of the Assignment Objective:**

- Make decisions regarding or pass judgment on the recommendations
- Develop tasks or actions that are more prescriptive than the recommendations (such as if the recommendation is to develop a marking guide, the Ad Hoc Team is not to develop the guide, but rather identify who the task should be given to)
- Recommend formation of new teams or groups to address the recommendations

#### **Ad Hoc Team Meetings:**

- Initial Meeting
  - Review background information, objective, and activities in and out of scope
  - Review and edit proposed actions and tasks
  - Determine responsible parties for referring actions and tasks
- Subsequent Meetings
  - Review subsequent edits to proposed actions and tasks
  - Reach key decisions through consensus
- Final Meeting
  - Review final document
  - Approve document to be sent to Chief State Forester and Council on Forestry

#### **Decision-Making Process:**

The Ad Hoc Team will reach decisions via a system of team consensus, during which every member has the opportunity to express their views, divergent views are fully addressed, and, ideally, a satisfactory level of general agreement emerges.

- Consensus is an agreement, but not necessarily complete agreement. It is an outcome which is "close enough" to be acceptable. All or most team members can support it, and few or no members totally oppose it. Often, when a team achieves general agreement, no one is completely satisfied, but everyone accepts or "lives with" the group's prevailing view.
- Consensus is not a unanimous decision. Unanimity essentially gives each team member veto power.
- However, in the event that the Team is unable to reach consensus on some issues, those issues will be brought to the Chief State Forester for a decision.

#### **Ad Hoc Team members:**

- A member of the Outreach and Training Implementation Committee: **Mark Rickenbach**
- A member of the Seasonality Implementation Committee: **Ken Price**
- A member of the Silvicultural Guidelines Implementation Committee: **Tom Hittle**
- DNR Silviculturist sitting on the Silviculture Guidance Team (SGT): **Brad Hutnik**
- DNR Forestry Field Operations Deputy Division Administrator: **Heather Berklund**

**Timeline:**

The goal of the timeline is to have tasks and actions in place for implementation by October 2017.

Date	Activity
July 2017	Invite Ad Hoc Team members
July – August 2017	Ad Hoc Teams meets to review scope and develop tasks and actions
August 2017	Ad Hoc Team shares team updates and progress at Aug Council on Forestry meeting
September-Oct 2017	Ad Hoc Team shared results of assignment with the Chief State Forester and Council on Forestry Co-Chairs
October 2017	Specific tasks and actions are shared with parties identified as responsible entity