

Wisconsin Council on Forestry: Tuesday, January 23, 2024

Rhineland DNR Service Center, Conference Room 3, 107 Sutliff Ave, Rhineland, WI

and via Zoom – [Registration for the Zoom meeting here](#)

Council Members		
<input type="checkbox"/> Tom Hittle, <i>Chair</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Henry Schienebeck	<input type="checkbox"/> William Van Lopik
<input type="checkbox"/> Matt Dallman, <i>Vice Chair</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> James Hoppe	<input type="checkbox"/> Brad Dorff
<input type="checkbox"/> Heather Berklund, <i>Chief State Forester</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> James Kerkman	<input type="checkbox"/> Adena Rissman
<input type="checkbox"/> Senator Romaine Quinn	<input type="checkbox"/> Juris Repsa	<input type="checkbox"/> Buddy Huffaker
<input type="checkbox"/> Senator Jeff Smith	<input type="checkbox"/> Jenn Youngblood	<input type="checkbox"/> Rebekah Luedtke
<input type="checkbox"/> Representative Katrina Shankland	<input type="checkbox"/> Jordan Skiff	<input type="checkbox"/> OPEN-Builders
<input type="checkbox"/> Representative Jeff Mursau	<input type="checkbox"/> Erik Rantala	
Next Meeting: March 19, 2024		

Minutes

Tuesday, January 23	Supporting Documents	Discussion	Decisions, Action Items, Assignments
9:00 AM Welcome & Member Introductions (Chair Hittle)			
9:20 AM Chair Update, 10 min			
9:30 AM Open Forum for Council Members, 30 min	Old Growth Project Page Old Growth Comment Page 2017 CoF Deer Position Paper NRCS service center locator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Old Growth on Forest Service Lands (Schienebeck): proposal is to make amendments to all forest plans. Comment period is open. Henry submitted GLTPA comments. Comments due by Feb 2. Decisions will be made at the national office, with coordination for input at the local FS offices. Dan will follow up with a link to the federal register. • Antlerless Hunt in Northern Forest (Tom): proposal in the legislature to suspend the antlerless hunt for four years to recover the northern deer populations. Have letter from 2017 on council website. 	<p>Tom and Matt draft a letter and send around to the council for approval prior to Feb 2</p> <p>Sound forestry and policy committee to provide an updated position letter on deer management. Would like DNR staff to come to a future meeting.</p>

Tuesday, January 23	Supporting Documents	Discussion	Decisions, Action Items, Assignments
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal Funding for Private Woodland Owners (Buddy/Allan Braun): have a lot resources to fund forest management on private forest lands. Through inflation reduction act. Through EQIP and CSP and other programs. Would like help in getting word out on these programs that have this additional funding. 	
10:00 AM Legislative Updates State Forester Updates National Forest Updates		<u>Legislative Updates</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture road improvement program grants, new pilot program. <u>State Forester Updates</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vacancies: FEE Section Chief, Forest Products Specialist, FH Pest Coordinator • New Certification Coordinator; Scott Lyon new Forest Products Team Leader • Will be launching Forester hire in February. • FWP division has new reporting requirement to identify priority habitat work on managed lands. Planning/reporting tied to budget cycle. • FH is expecting banner year for spongy moth because of prime conditions previous season. • Seedling sales from nursery this year are highest in last 10 years. Still working to get red pine and jack pine seed quantities. • Urban Forestry Grant Rule Process finalizing. Applications open around end of Feb, due by June. • Started 25-27 budget process; good time for council to engage with the SO is April to August 2024. • Will be challenged in upcoming years on workload in tax law due to enrollments in 1999-2001 time range. • Will be looking at some enhancements/modifications in dispute resolution process, as had first one since DRP establishment. <u>National Forest Updates</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Were able to fill 20 entry level marking positions across CNNF. Still have 20 vacancies. • Will likely be adding 260mmbf to volume (some in NEPA process). As of last week, have sold 30mmbf this year. 	
10:30 AM BREAK			

Tuesday, January 23	Supporting Documents	Discussion	Decisions, Action Items, Assignments
10:45 AM SFAP Committee Reports and Next Steps Vice Chair Dallman, 30 min		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No notes due to internet loss 	
11:15 AM COF Website Update Jim Kerkman, Bill Van Lopik, Amanda Koch (WI DNR), Kate Habrel (WI DNR), 30 min	Website Update Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looking for green light on framework on the website • Reviewed mock up of home page of website 	
11:45 AM Lunch, 45 min			
12:30 PM State Forest Harvest Report Doug Brown (WI DNR), 30 min Action item		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would like formal approval of the letter to send to the gov and legislature • Reviewed data from DNR on how long-term harvest goals are established and predicted. 	Jim made motion to approve letter; Juris accepted. Motion approved to send on letter as drafted.
1:00 PM Markets Conditions Report Henry Schienebeck, Doug Brown (WI DNR), Phil Blake & Mike Wons (Forest Data Network), 1 hr 15 min	Fs ppt Doug ppt Fdn ppt		
2:15 PM Industry Initiative Update Chair Hittle, 45 min	Tom's ppt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would like to approve a draft report/recommendation at the March meeting • Would like to understand the permitting process more • Will be looking for a funding partner/partners to help with a third party consultant on this 	Council is supportive of moving forward as proposed.
3:00 PM: ADJOURN			