

Wisconsin Council on Forestry: Tuesday, May 16, 2023

Meeting Location: Antigo DNR Service Center, Conference Room 3, 223 Steinfest Rd, Antigo, WI 54409

Tour Locations: Northcentral Technical College Wood Technology Center, 312 Forrest Ave, Antigo, WI 54409

Kretz Lumber, W11143 County Rd G, Antigo, WI 54409

Council Members		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Hittle, <i>Chair</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Henry Schienebeck	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> William Van Lopik
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Matt Dallman, <i>Vice Chair</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> James Hoppe	<input type="checkbox"/> Brad Dorff
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heather Berklund, <i>Chief State Forester</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> James Kerkman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adena Rissman
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Senator Romaine Quinn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Juris Repsa	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Buddy Huffaker
<input type="checkbox"/> Senator Jeff Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jenn Youngblood	<input type="checkbox"/> Rebekah Luedtke
<input type="checkbox"/> Representative Katrina Shankland	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jordan Skiff	<input type="checkbox"/> OPEN - Builders/Secondary Wood Users
<input type="checkbox"/> Representative Jeff Mursau	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Erik Rantala	
Next Meeting: September 13 & 14, 2023, Location TBD		

Minutes

Tuesday, May 16, 2023	Supporting Documents	Discussion	Decisions, Action Items, Assignments
9:00 AM Welcome & Member Introductions (Chair Hittle)			
9:20 AM Chair Update		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hittle will now be working on council matters on personal time 	Tom will follow up with personal email/updated contact info to council members
9:30 AM Open Forum for Council Members		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sept meeting: council's next meeting is Sept. 13 & 14 (Wed/Thu). Hosted at Aldo Leopold Foundation. Will be finalizing field trip details. • Kirsten Held has been working on an update for WWOA on the history of the council (will likely be available in Sept); can use similar communication for the Forest History Association. • Henry S. has been working on Farm Bill updates; tour logging/forest industry in northern WI for legislatures/natural resources subcommittee; timber markets are not good in MI, looking for extensions on timber sales. Billerud mill is now up and running; Billerud may be looking into biofuel production. 	

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<p>9:45 AM Biennial Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decision: review and approve for submission 	<p>Final Biennial Report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extend comments from the Council on the report through Friday, May 19 Would like to potentially reformat and shorten the report for the 23-24 biennium. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jordan Skiff made a motion to approve report as is, giving leeway to Tom and Matt to make small modifications based on comments received. Jim Kerkman seconded. Sen Quinn Abstained from voting. Motion passed.
<p>10:00 AM Committee Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Profile Committee Sound Forestry & Policy Committee 	<p>Website Statistics</p>	<p>Profile Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interest in putting more positive media out around forest industry. Will take strong partnerships to accomplish. DNR is working with IT staff to revise/pursue more opportunities for the website. <p>Sound forestry & policy committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brainstorming session around diverse forests and diverse markets. Would like to be a part of the broader conversation on marketing/communications. 	
<p>10:20 AM BREAK, 10 min</p>			
<p>10:30 AM State Forest Action Plan Alignment Discussion 15 min</p>	<p>2020 State Forest Action Plan Goals</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would like committees look at the SFAP actionable items (numbered items in shared spreadsheet) 	<p>Matt will send out the link to the 2010 minutes from when this was last discussed</p>
<p>10:45 AM Joint Chiefs Grant Funding Allan Braun (NRCS), 30 min</p>	<p>Joint Chiefs Grant Presentation Joint Chiefs Partnership</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stewardship plans are an option as part of the funding Upcoming EQIP funding cycle May 19. Often will have two applications possibilities per year, at least one being in the fall 70% cost share, rest is on landowner (materials/labor) 4 NRCS offices within the project area (contact positions are all conservationists) Allan will also be speaking at the annual WWOA meeting to spread the word. Tribal partners have been to meetings; have interest in participating 	
<p>11:15 Strategic Plan/Roadmap & Budget Follow-up 15 min</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Had opportunity to work with Scott Suder (WI Paper Council) to collaborate on a budget initiative. Strategy was to introduce entire package as individual motions 	

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a possibility there is a motion for forest products industry exports. Would be a plan we would need to work on together to report back to the legislature and governor • If any motion doesn't make it through, could continue on as separate bill (but not desirable). 	
<p>11:30 AM Legislative Updates State Forester Updates National Forest Updates 15 min</p>		<p><u>State Forester Updates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hiring: New forest genetics and ecology specialist hired. In process of forester hire; forestry tech hire later in summer. Hoping to hire a trillion tree outreach coordinator soon. • CPW plan writing training in fall • Internal forest tax audits occurred; external audits scheduled for August • Spongy moth: aerial spraying has started. • Encourage sign up for forest health newsletters from GovDelivery • IRA funding: working on revised proposal for Urban Forestry grant program. UF program works with small communities as well as large municipalities • Fire season has been mild (except for a 3-day long red flag warning). • Governor launched 2022 Trillion Tree annual report on Arbor Day. Making good progress (30% towards rural planting goal; 10% towards urban planting goal; 13% of forest conservation acreage goals). Upgraded tree planting interactive map on website. <p><u>National Forest Updates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trying to hold steady/consistent on forest production/timber sales • 2027: CNMF forest plan revision to take place (soonest possible, may be pushed back further than that due to other national priority forests). 	
<p>11:45 Northcentral Technical College Wood Technology Center Background Troy Brown, 15 min</p>			
<p>12:00 PM Lunch (45 min)</p>			

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12:45 Travel to NTC (15 min)			
1:00 Northcentral Technical College Wood Technology Center Tour Logan Wells, 1 hr			
2:00 Travel to Kretz Lumber			
2:30 Kretz Lumber Tour Troy Brown, 1.5 hrs			
4:00 PM: ADJOURN			