

Governor's Council on Forestry: November 17 & 18, 2021

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

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"/> Michael Bolton
<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 Janet Bewley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kenneth Price	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Buddy Huffaker
<input type="checkbox"/> Senator Mary Felzkowski	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paul Strong	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rebekah Luedtke
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Representative Beth Meyers	<input type="checkbox"/> Jordan Skiff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jason Sjostrom
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Representative Jeff Mursau	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Erik Rantalla	
Next Meeting: January 12-13, 2021		

Agenda

Wednesday, November 17 th	Supporting Documents	Discussion	Decisions, Action Items, Assignments
2:00 PM Welcome (Chair Hittle)			
2:05 PM Project ideas, industry initiatives, grant proposals Purpose: Better understand the recent project ideas, how they fit together, who's involved, and what the Council's role can be			
1) Build Back Better Regional Challenge Grant (Stacey Johnson, Vice President for Forestry, Transportation & Workforce Relations, WI Paper Council)	Build Back Better Presentation	"A WI forest products cluster: a catalyst for sustainable, enduring transformation" – grant was submitted. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phase 1: \$500,000 – 50-65 recipients from 536 applications, announced 12/8. Grant application submitted • Phase 2: \$98 million grant to complete Phase 2 proposal, 30 recipients. Work is actively underway; 7 independent projects included in 1 transformational proposal 	
2) Maple Wood Markets' Transformation (Paul Fowler, Executive Director WI Institute for Sustainable Technology, UWSP)	Maple Wood Markets Presentation	Reviewed challenges and opportunities in WI's forest markets. Discussed fiber and non-fiber products, marketing (domestic & exported), and sustainability.	

Wednesday, November 17 th	Supporting Documents	Discussion	Decisions, Action Items, Assignments
<p>3) Advanced Manufacturing Engineering Technology and Apprenticeship Center, Mid-State Technical College (Bobbi Damrow, Vice President of Workforce & Economic Development, Mid-State Technical College; Ryan Kawski, Dean, School of Advanced Manufacturing & Engineering and Transportation, Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Construction)</p>	<p>https://www.mstc.edu/partner#project</p>	<p>Learned how Mid-State Technical College is expanding opportunities, addressing the workforce shortage, and supporting state and national economic recovery.</p>	
<p>3:00 PM Break</p>			
<p>3:10 PM Wood Innovation Grants and New Markets for WI Wood (Patrick Rappold, Regional Wood Utilization Specialist, US Forest Service)</p>	<p>Wood Innovations Grants and New Markets Presentation</p> <p>FY22 Wood Innovations Webcast Recording</p> <p>Wood Innovations Project Search Tool</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussed current funding priorities in eastern region's forest markets • Discussed market challenges and opportunities: composite wood (structural and non-structural panels) opportunities, pulp challenges, softwood lumber challenges in conjunction with mass timber production. • Wood Innovations Program FY22 Timeline: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oct 2021 - Request for proposals announced; Jan 19, 2022 - proposal submission deadline; May 2022 - announce recipients 	
<p>3:40 PM Updates on Mass Timber Building Codes in WI (Jennifer Garrett, Communications Director, Department of Safety and Professional Services)</p>	<p>Mass Timber Task Force Presentation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learned about what the Department of Safety and Professional Services (DPS) and its work on updates to commercial/residential mass timber building codes. • Launched Mass Timber Task Force in Sept 2021, who are tasked with developing a set of performance-based guidelines to facilitate innovative mass timber projects • DPS goal is to demonstrate to the forest products industry that there is administrative support for mass timber by adopting safe but permissive building codes. 	
<p>4:00 PM End of Meeting</p>			

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"/> Michael Bolton
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heather Berklund, <i>Chief State Forester</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> James Kerkman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adena Rissman
<input type="checkbox"/> Senator Janet Bewley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kenneth Price	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Buddy Huffaker
<input type="checkbox"/> Senator Mary Felzkowski	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paul Strong	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rebekah Luedtke
<input type="checkbox"/> Representative Beth Meyers	<input type="checkbox"/> Jordan Skiff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jason Sjostrom
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Representative Jeff Mursau	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Erik Rantalla	
Next Meeting: January 12-13, 2021		

Thursday, November 18th	Supporting Documents	Discussion	Decisions, Action Items, Assignments
8:00 AM Welcome & Member Introductions (Chair Hittle)			
8:20 AM Chair Update		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Looking forward to opportunities through Build Back Better Regional Grants 2022 schedule out, also on Council Website 	
8:30 AM Open Forum for Council Members		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussed Park Falls Mill, and what more could have been done by the COF (or could be done in the future) to help support mills. Family Forest Carbon with American Forest Foundation is studying carbon sequestration, comparing different forest practices and which would be most ideal for carbon sequestration. Data to come in December. Discussed MFL, legislation changes, mandatory practices and what more can be done to adapt to changes in markets. 	<p>Council Members: Email Chair Tom Hittle with what you would like to hear/learn more about regarding carbon markets.</p> <p>Heather Berklund, Buddy Huffaker, and Ken Price will discuss MFL concerns further, including Ron Eckstein (WI Green Fire)</p>
9:00 AM Council Profile Committee Update (Kerkman, Van Lopik)	Draft Communications Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed draft communications plan; looking for input on highest priorities Interest in working with partners to gain more visibility, know better (and advertise) when upcoming forest-related events are, utilize more social media platforms, working more with partners on grants. 	Jim Kerkman and Bill Van Lopik will look in to listing companies/affiliations for committee members

Thursday, November 18th	Supporting Documents	Discussion	Decisions, Action Items, Assignments
<p>9:30 AM Support, Develop, and Diversify Wisconsin's Forest Products Industry: (Hittle, Samuel Pratsch – UW Extension) Purpose: review and discuss outcomes from the Listening Sessions; discuss how the Council moves the outcomes toward the variety of initiatives (e.g., REDS, Road Map) and Council actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listening Session Outcomes Update – Review and Discussion Next Steps 	<p>Draft Listening Session Summary</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed Draft Summary of the May REDS Listening session, containing themes that came out of the listening sessions. Looking for feedback on anything that seems to be missing from the themes, anything that should be included that would help public consumption, and anything that might be missing from the report. Discussed ranking the REDS priorities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Next step is to identify REDS-specific items, bring it back to EDA, and then identify non-REDS items and establish who would be able to take on the opportunity, prioritizing shovel-ready ideas. 	<p>Listening session report will be finalized some time in December, and will work with WEDC staff to assist in polishing up the report, establishing who can move each item forward, and what would be good fits for the council to address.</p> <p>Would like to review REDS priorities at January council meeting</p>
<p>11:30 AM Legislative Updates</p>	<p>Legislative Updates Nov 2021</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Looking to increase threshold for smaller timber sales - AB640 Bill to be put on floor calendar soon Park Falls Mill Bill did not move forward Will reintroduce the 2019 AB 856 bill as amended and will try to get public hearing scheduled soon. 	
<p>11:45 PM State Forester Updates (Berklund) CNNF Updates (Strong)</p>	<p>Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Funded List</p> <p>Nov Forest Service Report</p>	<p>State Forester Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategic Direction Recommendations coming in Jan 2022, will be asking partners/COF to provide input Staff still accomplishing work in field while under telework agreements. Diversity, Equity, Inclusion goals are embedded into Strategic Direction process; have been broadening outreach for positions; will be working on a project to focus on creating an inclusive place to work. Trillion Tree effort is still ongoing. So far, have tracked 4.8 million trees planted in 2021. https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/forests/trillionTreesPledge Will soon be hiring Urban Forestry Coordinators Majority of timber sales continue to sell; winter hardwood sales bids have decreased. Forest Service is funding 48 projects through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative this year. Northeast Midwest State Forester Alliance meeting in MN: Region 9 reps had good discussion on federal infrastructure bill. 	

Thursday, November 18th	Supporting Documents	Discussion	Decisions, Action Items, Assignments
		<p>Could be \$7 billion coming to the forestry sector; unclear how money will flow to the states.</p> <p>CNNF Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest Service offices remain closed to the public; non-field staff remain in telework status, with normal field operations are continuing. • There will likely be areas in the NE states with priority areas for fire prevention, but will pale in comparison to western priority areas. • Looking to sell 150 MMBF of CNNF timber for FY22. 	
<p>12:00 PM: End of meeting</p>			