

WFPS Seasonality Subcommittee Accomplishment Report

Update 2: March 28 – May 31, 2018

Previous accomplishment reports can be found at:

Topic: Oak Wilt

Accomplishments during the Reporting Cycle:

Becky Gray, Forest Health Team Leader, participated in the conference call regarding an overarching need for training on timber sale set-up and administration with representatives from the other WFPS Seasonality Topic Areas. Refer to the Prescription Writing Topic Area for more detail on this effort.

Next Steps:

Refer to the Prescription Writing Topic Area for next steps.

Topic: Rutting

Accomplishments during the Reporting Cycle:

The WFPS recommendations and assignments were discussed at the April Forestry BMPs for Water Quality Advisory Committee meeting to garner feedback on how to proceed.

Forest Hydrology program staff also participated in the conference call regarding an overarching need for training on timber sale set-up and administration with representatives from the other WFPS Seasonality Topic Areas. Refer to the Prescription Writing Topic Area for more detail on this effort.

Next Steps:

The Division of Forestry will incorporate into its 2019-2021 Research Agenda the research needs identified in this topic area. The Division's Research Agenda is presented to the Council on the Forestry for their feedback. The timeline for development of the Division's Research Agenda is pending Department guidance.

Refer to the Prescription Writing Topic Area for next steps on training.

Topic: Prescription Writing

Accomplishments during the Reporting Cycle:

In April, a conference call was held to coordinate with the Forest Health, Silviculture, Forest Hydrology, NHC, Public Lands and County Forest programs on their assignments related to prescription writing and flexibility in guidelines. The group identified issues that needed to be addressed related to their specific WFPS topic areas and brainstormed other ideas, including development of a resource with case studies to demonstrate how various limitations on timber sales affect marketability and economics. There was also recognition of how regional differences impact various seasonal restrictions and a need to convey those issues and potential solutions to new foresters.

Following the conference call, it was confirmed with Division staff that the Division's contract with Basin Educators could accommodate assistance with this project. An initial contact was made with Bill Klase to discuss the project and affirm that this was an area that Basin Educators could assist the Division.

Next Steps:

A face-to-face meeting will be scheduled with staff handling the WFPS Seasonality topics, as well as additional program staff identified in the initial conference call. The meeting will be facilitated by a Basin Educator to identify the key learning objectives. Then the group will work with the Basin Educators to determine the best way to deliver and provide the training to meet those learning objectives. The goal is to have the training plan updated and implementation underway by the end of the year.

Following development of the training plan for foresters, the group will also investigate options for providing training and resources to landowners so that they can understand how various limitations placed on timber sales affect the marketability.

Topic: Natural Heritage Inventory

Accomplishments during the Reporting Cycle:

Drew Feldkirchner provided an update to the Council on Forestry at their March meeting on the latest efforts in NHC. He summarized the recommendations resulting from WFPS studies and how the NHC Program has been addressing the issues raised.

In April, Sarah Herrick, NHC Forestry Liaison, participated in the conference call regarding an overarching need for training on timber sale set-up and administration with representatives from the other WFPS Seasonality Topic Areas. Refer to the Prescription Writing Topic Area for more detail on this effort.

Next Steps:

Refer to the Prescription Writing Topic Area for next steps.

Topic: EAB (Assignments Completed)

Accomplishments during the Reporting Cycle:

At March 2018 Council on Forestry meeting, the Council agreed no further action was needed on this topic. DATCP issued a statewide EAB quarantine effective March 30, 2018.

Next Steps:

The Division of Forestry, while not a specific assignment, will incorporate into its 2019-2021 Research Agenda the research needs identified in this topic area. The Division's Research Agenda is presented to the Council on the Forestry for their feedback. The timeline for development of the Division's Research Agenda is pending Department guidance.