

Silviculture

Topic	Recommendation	Assigned Party	Assignment #	Assignment	Implementation Notes	Estimated Delivery Date	WFPS Advisory Team Priority	Comments on Progress
Northern Hardwood Mgmt.	Provide training to foresters marking single tree selection harvests to increase knowledge on management designed to foster development of crop trees. Multi-stakeholder involvement with developing and providing the training in accepted methods to promote crop trees will be important to ensure a range of sustainable practices are considered.	United States Forest Service, UWSP	4.2	The USFS, UWSP, WDNR, and stakeholders are currently working to develop a northern hardwood marteloscope (i.e. tree marking training site) at the USDA-FS Argonne Experimental Forest. This hands-on marking site will give public and private foresters experience implementing a variety of northern hardwood management prescriptions reflecting varying landowner management objectives.	Potential exists to expand marteloscopes to other parts of the State and explore the creation of a hardwood marker certification program based on marteloscope training.	March-2019		From Christel Kern at USFS in Rhinelander: a marteloscope is being established at Argonne Experimental Forest. Coordinates & tree inventory data has collected on site. Currently they are verifying data and determining whether more information/plots needs to be gathered. the goal is to have the site up and functioning by the fall of 2018. Funding assistance has been provided by SAF.
		UW-Extension, WDNR	4.3	The WDNR SGT and UW-Extension in cooperation with partners will explore the creation of on-line training modules on basic northern hardwood silviculture. This training component could be coupled with the hands-on marteloscope for in-depth forester training.	Resources (staff and funding) and IT expertise would be needed to develop these training proposals.	June-2019		UWEX continues to be an active partner with DNR addressing the highest priority educational outreach needs. UWEX recognizes new opportunities working with the Department and forestry partners to collaborate on the Forest Practices Study recommendations. Currently, the Department is exploring funding options to complete the work. The Forestry Division's contract with UWEX for the natural resource educators could be one way to prioritize and complete some of the work, but additional funding resources will be needed to complete the projects.

Seasonality

Oak Wilt Restrictions	Request that the DNR provide training to all DNR foresters, by January 1, 2018, on the changes to the Oak Wilt restrictions and support their implementation . DNR also to make training available to Cooperating Foresters.	WDNR Forest Health Team, UW-Extension	8.1	The WDNR Forest Health Team in partnership with The UW-Extension will develop an oak wilt guidelines training program which reviews current guidelines and changes since the previous recommendations. This training should also aid conversations about risks associated with management. It will be open to WDNR Foresters (required), consulting & industrial foresters, and County forestry staff.	This is meant to address a goal of educating land managers on the cumulative effect of restrictions and barriers on forest management. Though not referenced here, follow up to gauge success will be needed. Note: this training could be delivered in MFL Recertification meetings, regional meetings, webinars, etc. Note: The Team working on this should review the Demchik etal WFPS report or have it presented to them by authors - for background and scale of seasonality topic.	December-2018	High	To meet immediate needs, training was offered to the DNR Foresters at the DNR Statewide, January 23-25. Additional training opportunities, which are focusing on the flexibilities in the oak wilt guidelines, are being sought with WCFA, cooperating foresters, and WWOA meetings. Development of a more formal "training program" needs to be discussed with UWEX.
Oak Wilt Restrictions	Request that WCFA provide training to all County foresters, by January 1, 2018, on the changes to the Oak Wilt restrictions and support their implementation.							
Oak Wilt Restrictions	Request that FISTA and WOOA provide similar training for Loggers and Landowners.	WDNR Forest Health Team, UW-Extension	8.2	The WDNR Forest Health Team in partnership with The UW-Extension will develop an oak wilt guidelines training program which reviews current guidelines and changes since the previous recommendations. This training should also aid landowner understanding of risks associated with management. It should be open to any attendees.	Similar to training proposed for foresters and forestry staff, the goal is a better understanding of current oak wilt management guidelines. Note: this training could be delivered in diverse ways (FISTA class, WWOA Statewide Meeting, misc. meetings, webinars, etc.).	December-2018	High	
Rutting	Recommend that research is performed (by University or other) into the ecological effects of rutting and develop new guidelines and rutting definition based on the most recent science. (Perhaps based on soil types).	Wisconsin Council on Forestry	9.1	The Wisconsin Council on Forestry (COF) will ask The WDNR Division of Forestry to include rutting as a research priority. The COF will also commission a small panel to review current and past research on ecological effects of rutting and the WDNR definition of rutting (i.e. sensitive to the difference between soil disturbance and rutting).	This could also benefit from a check in with the WDNR BMP Advisory Committee.	December-2018		This will be a future agenda item on the Forestry BMPs for WQ Advisory Committee meeting. The AC will review three literature reviews/white papers previously prepared by the Department and provide recommendations on what is needed moving forward. A report summarizing soil disturbance monitoring on state and county lands is expected in February 2018.
NHI Restrictions	Again – an education (training/communication) is needed on the procedures for compliance in regard to NHI (i.e.. If hit exists – still have option to determine if 'hit' exists and then have additional option to determine if harvest will impact 'hit'). We did not specifically ID who provides this training but most likely similar to 'Oak Wilt' where it is combination of State, County and FISTA.	WDNR Natural Heritage Conservation Forestry Liaison	11.1	The WDNR Natural Heritage Conservation Program will review NHI Assessment as a part of WDNR forestry classes. These classes will also be provided to County forestry staff and consulting foresters. As necessary, WDNR staff will alter training to review how to assess hits using the public portal as well as strategies to mitigate hits, in addition to recognizing the impact of cumulative restrictions on forest management.	Foresters in general need a better handle on how we handle NHI / archeological hits and understanding both how to assess hits using the public portal as well as strategies to mitigate hits.	March-2018	High	NHI trainings are currently offered to public and private foresters. The Department will be evaluating that training to determine how to best address the request.
NHI Restrictions	Request new legislation that mandates a review and update of the NHI & Archeological database. (purpose here was to remove outdated items. Example at the meeting was the 'glass lizard' that was seen almost 100 years ago – therefore NHI hit still exists - is that really warranted?)	Wisconsin Council on Forestry, WDNR Natural Heritage Conservation Forestry Liaison, WDNR Tax Law NHI Subcommittee	11.2	The WDNR Tax Law NHI Subcommittee will assess options for improving access to The NHI database, what reviews of NHI data have occurred or are occurring, and what role the WI Forestry Community has and should play in this. The review will identify components of the current NHI review process that impact the ability to update and maintain the database and limit user access. If necessary, The WI Council on Forestry, with this review in hand, can assess advocating legislation to address desired efficiencies.		June-2018	High	The Department will be evaluating options as to best conduct this review.
NHI Restrictions	Request new legislation that would allow access to the NHI and Archaeological / Historical databases by Cooperating Foresters.							
NHI Restrictions	Request that a DNR Forester or other forestry professional be assigned as part of the 'team' that develops guidelines for NHI hits.							
Weight Restrictions	Develop science based guidelines & share/communicate to townships and counties to provide more consistent practice (or more practical implementation based on current year weather condition) for posting or removing postings for roads.	Wisconsin Council on Forestry	12.1	Develop science based guidelines & share/communicate to townships and counties to provide more consistent practice (or more practical implementation based on current year weather condition) for posting or removing postings for roads.		December-2019		
EAB Restrictions	Request that DATCP implement EAB Quarantine to Waupaca, Waushara and Green Lake counties.	Wisconsin Council on Forestry	13.1	None (already quarantined)				Completed
EAB Restrictions	Request that EAB transport restrictions are reviewed and modified so that Ash/HW can be hauled from a Quarantined county to a Quarantined County AND pass through non-Quarantined counties with allowance for emergency or refueling stops only in the non-quarantined county.	Wisconsin Council on Forestry	13.2	Request that EAB transport restrictions are reviewed and modified so that Ash/HW can be hauled from a Quarantined county to a Quarantined County AND pass through non-Quarantined counties with allowance for emergency or refueling stops only in the non-quarantined county.		June-2018		Within Wisconsin, Aphis has engaged the tribes in a discussion of a statewide quarantine. Most of the tribes are not in favor; however, support has been voiced from forest industry.
EAB Restrictions	Request that a Cost/Benefit study is performed that evaluates the benefit of not-Quarantining the entire state at this time – vs the potential costs. (i.e.. a case study could be done to ID the costs associated with the current county by county approach where EAB is found on opposite ends of major transport corridors – with a non-quarantined county in the middle of that corridor (i.e. Hwy 13, I-29, etc.)	Wisconsin Council on Forestry	13.3	COF will approach WDNR and UW-Madison to determine if a cost/benefit study is feasible and/or should be performed to evaluate the benefit of not-quarantining the entire state at this time.		February-2018		At a national-level, Aphis is beginning a discussion of deregulating EAB. A decision on this is not expected for at least a year.

Outreach and Training

Landowner Outreach	Outreach is a challenge to fund. The elimination of WEEB grants and increasing budget constraints with public entities (e.g., WDNR, UWEX) have and will continue to limit landowner outreach capacity and programming innovation. What constitutes adequate funding is beyond the team's scope, but new resources will be needed to ensure impact, as will funding cycles that permit experimentation and risk-taking (i.e., > 1 year). Expanded partnerships with programs such as the SFI SI Committee's grant program, which includes a public outreach section, has potential.	Wisconsin Council on Forestry	14.1	Following the completion of the legislative fiscal audit on the Forestry Account, The Wisconsin Council on Forestry will consider priority funding for public and landowner outreach needs.		December-2018		Discussion pending result of Forestry Account audit.
Landowner Outreach	Coordination has long been sought, but never achieved because it is no one's job. Shared information might yield insights into geographic coverage, timing, and intended audiences toward gaps in program offerings, creation of a speakers' bureau, etc. Council should work to identify an entity or entities to investigate the feasibility of greater coordination.	WDNR Division of Forestry, UW-Extension	15.1	The WDNR Division of Forestry and UW-Extension will create a Team to review current outreach efforts in WI and how / if coordination might enhance outreach effectiveness. This Team would also analyze the priority of outreach needs.	WDNR Private Forestry Outreach Specialist will lead WDNR Forestry efforts on this assignment. Wisconsin Private Forestry Advisory Council could have involvement as well.	June-2018		The Division is engaging WPFAC in this discussion.
Forester Economic Training	In planning future events, engage WFPS investigators to ensure training content includes their findings, thus maximizing the translation of research into practice. It would be particularly useful to have investigators participate in trainings when possible.	Wisconsin Council on Forestry	18.1	The Wisconsin Council on Forestry will create a summarized report of main contact leads for WFPS authors.		March-2018	High	The CoF website is being updated and this information may be added to the WFPS webpage.

Forester Northern Hardwood Training	Develop research-based tools and curriculum to give foresters (public and private) confidence to implement northern hardwood prescriptions across a full range of options targeted toward meeting landowner objectives. This would include fostering a nuanced understanding of the market and product implications of different sized and aged trees. Real and/or virtual demonstrations of varied management techniques that were within the silvicultural guidelines by timber type would be highly desirable in such trainings.	WI Marteloscope Collaboration Partners	19.1	"WI Marteloscope Collaboration Partners" will investigate the possibilities for a National or Lake States Northern Hardwood management symposium. See Assignment 4.2	This could also include a wider range of partners (UW institutions, UWEX, COF, SFI, ACF, WCF, etc.)	June-2019		See assignment 4.2
Forester Northern Hardwood Training	Implement trainings that foster dialogue across forester "types" to include field- and mill-based components that move guidelines into practical demonstrations. The WDNR's Forest Products Team could be a strong partner along with expertise within UWEX. However, the team felt that DNR staff may not be the best facilitators given their oversight role.	WDNR Forest Products Marketing and Utilization, UW-Extension	20.1	See Assignment 17.1		March-2019		The Department is incorporating forest industry and economics training into the DNR's new forester training. Additional opportunities to provide cross-training are being investigated.