State Forest Managers Meeting
Pasadena Office
March 12, 2020
10am - 3pm

ATTENDANCE

1. Kenneth Jolly (DNR-MFS, Acting Director/State Forester)
2. George Eberling (DNR-MFS, WMD Regional Forester)
3. Matt Hurd, (DNR-MFS, EMD Regional Forester)
4. Sean Nolan (DNR-MFS - SRSF)
5. Scott Campbell (DNR-MFS - PGSF)
6. Mark Beals (DNR-MFS – GRSF)
7. Mike Schofield (DNR-MFS - CF/PSF)
8. Alex Clark (DNR-MFS – CF/PSF)
10. Dan Rider (DNR-FS - Utilization/Forest Stewardship)
11. Marian Honeczy (DNR-FS - Urban & Community Forestry)

AGENDA

1. **Maryland Forest Service Program Updates** – Kenneth Jolly
   - MFS has access to the excise tax funding available through the purchase of ORVs. This fund provides about $45k/month, $540,000/yr for the development of new ORV trails. This funding can be used for ORV projects, equipment but we are not sure if it can be used for staffing. This is a new funding source for us. The Off-Road Coalition will be meeting with the DNR Secretary soon.

2. **State Forest Website Updates** – Marian Honeczy
   - If State Forest manager have issues with utility tree trimming they should come to Marian.
   - State forest trails will be also added to the DNR app. It has been missing and we are not sure why.
   - The state forests websites will be getting an update with map locations. This will be similar to other land units.

3. **Marketing Initiatives** – Dan Rider
   - MFS has received an EDA grant for $100k plus $50k (DNR in-kind). The purpose is to do a re-evaluation of the Maryland forest products industry.
   - Maryland must be aggressive in attracting new forest products industry, other states have.
   - FIA tells us about the state-of-the-forest and now we might use this information to attract new industry.
   - Salisbury State University uses FIA data to answer important questions of the industry, resources, markets, schools, accessible timber resources and more.
   - Local zoning offices have been an issue in new industry coming to our state. We are now working with county zoning to access negative zoning issues.
• Tim Thomas (WMD) is working to establish a chip export market in Europe of 900,000 tons. The Verso mill that closed in 2019, used about 1 million tons / yr.
• Tom Johnson has a potential pellet mill in development.

4. Forest Certification

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<td>Pesticide reporting</td>
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<td>Fuel leaks</td>
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5. Review of Certification Standards & Compliance

6. Streamside Management Zones - the revised statewide standard has modified the SMZ guidelines changing the buffer width from the 50’ + 4’ / %slope to 50’ + 2’ / %slope. The buffers on state forests harvests have been following the 50+4 rule which was justified with SCS a few years ago. The idea of adopting the 50+2 rule has been discussed with SCS but no formal request has been made. It was suggested that we now ask for that review.

7. High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) designations were made during the early years of our forest certification program. As we have come to have a better understanding of forest certification requirements and how HCVF functions, it has been proposed that we reconsider our designations to better align with current forest management practices and goals.

8. SFI Annual Reporting – deadline to SFI March 31

9. 2020 Auditors - Beth Jacqmain (SCS/FSC), Michelle Matteo (NSF/SFI)

10. State Forest Metrics & Quarterly Reports

11. REMINDER: AWP approval procedures (no printed copy, just signature page)

12. Next SFM meeting date - Wed, September 23, 2020


FOREST CERTIFICATION AUDIT PREP

Please have the following documents and/or information prepared for the evaluation, to be reviewed onsite:

• Training records (e.g., workshops, conferences, safety courses, etc.);
• Recently completed or active timber harvest planning and monitoring documentation;
• Complaints received;
• Controversial issues (stakeholder input);
• Accident records;
• Operational plan(s) for the next 12 months;
• Inventory records;
• Chemical use records (including quantitative data on the use of pesticides, any chemical use forms, target pests);
• Records of sales of FSC-certified products; this includes copies of invoices, bills, shipping documents, as well as log load/trip tickets, timber sale contracts, and relevant bill payment documents; and
• Records of logo use approvals by SCS given in any prior year.