

MFC

March 10, 2017

Attendance: Gordy Sanders – Pyramid Mountain Lumber, Keith Olson – MLA, Lorrie Woods – MLA, Lorin Hicks – Weyerhaeuser, Jim Kranz – Weyerhaeuser, Jared Richardson – Weyerhaeuser, Peter Pocius – MT Tree Farm, Gary Ellingson – Northwest Management, Doug Mote – Mote Lumber, Paul McKenzie – Stoltze Land and Lumber, Roger Ziesak – MT DNRC

By phone: Rich Lane – Willis Enterprises

Administrator: Julia Altemus

Anti-Trust Statement: Gordy Sanders

November 17, 2016 Notes: Jim made motion to approved as presented, Paul second, approved.

MFC/SIC Response to Boise Paper: Gordy talked about the MFC response to Boise Paper. Gordy drafted and worked with Roger. He wanted to make sure everyone had a copy. Paul wanted to know if he had a response. Gordy said he had not. Gordy asked Rich if he had received a response. Rich said the response he got was Boise Paper believes MFC does do a good job, but wanted to make sure there was continued effort for improvement on the two issues raised in their letter, but they do not have any specific complaints about the MFC program. Gordy asked Rich to fill folks in on the transition from working with Boise to working with Clearwater Paper. Rich said nothing finalized and couldn't really give any details. There may be an opportunity for Clearwater Paper to come to a meeting in the future.

Forestry Forum Recap: There was a good turn out with more legislators at the November forum than the December forum. The presentations were good and well worth the effort.

SFI Regional MOU: Idaho, Washington, Oregon, California, Montana, Central Rockies SICs are okay with the MOU. Jim said the draft is better than the first draft but still like the original better, but Weyerhaeuser is ok. Paul made a motion to have Gordy sign the agreement, Doug second, approved.

National SFI Training Template: Gordy talked to Amy Doty regarding a proposed national logger-training template. Gordy suggested that each state is different and wouldn't want to see a national template. Amy said currently there is not a national template. There is a spring SFI regional meeting in Seattle on June 7, and it would be good for someone to attend to make sure our concerns are addressed. Jim shared that he is not supportive of having a national template other than what is already in the standards. Gordy wanted to know if it would be beneficial to craft a letter on behalf of the MFC and send it to the Regional meeting. Lorin said he would continue

to monitor concerns that have come up with an eastern SIC that may influence a national template effort. Gordy said that if there is a point in time that it makes sense to craft a letter, that we can do so in the future.

2017 Spring Workshops: Lorrie Woods is under contract with MLA to help develop the training workshops. John and Bryan are working on training videos that will be incorporated in the training sessions this year. They are going to offer an intensive log yard training. She is going to get a note out to state people and the firewise program. Some of the training subjects this year are Drugs, Alcohol and Solutions!, Bear Spray – Be Effective!, Log Yard Safety, Splicing and Rigging, Electronic Log Book and Log Scales, Active Sustainability. Regarding the electronic logbook, there is a regulation going into effect December 18, 2017. The rule may be extended, but want to make people aware. She wants to include state and federal people in the logbook training. Lorrie is going to be working with the MLA loggers to regarding the delivery of the education program, like maybe night workshops. Also, there is a review of the forest stewardship workshop and how to better work with other forest stewardship workshops that is being offered. Gary suggested connecting loggers with people who have land to work on developing a management plan. Doug wanted to know if they have looked at using the webinar as a delivery mechanism. Lorrie is looking at trying a webinar on the Drug and Alcohol workshop. Lorrie looked back at the workshops in the past and found that there were 49 different workshops delivered over the years. They were great workshops, but were only offered once. Roger said that offering something new and fresh is critical to participation. Rich, three groups that we interact with are Sage Grouse, NWTF, and RMEF, maybe a class offered could be around vegetative removal to improve habitat. Roger suggested including landowners in the workshops. Gordy suggested to target Tree Farm and asked Peter when their newsletter will go out. Peter said probably this spring. Lorrie will check with the loggers to see which classes could be open to the public. Roger suggested developing a calendar of workshops that are open to the public and get it distributed. Lorrie said to let her know if there is anything missing.

Spring Training Schedule:

March

10-11 MLA Spring Quarterly Meeting – Helena
14-16 1st Aid/CPR & Fire – Missoula
16-17 Drug & Alcohol Awareness & Bear Spray – Missoula
20 Drug & Alcohol Awareness & Bear Spray – Kalispell
21-23 1st Aid/CPR & Fire – Somers
24 PLH Trucking – WY and C Falls Log Yard
28-31 1st Aid/CPR & Fire – Libby/Plains/Missoula

April

03-04 Splicing & Rigging – Kalispell
05-07 Intermountain Logging Conference – Spokane, WA
11 Drug & Alcohol Awareness & Bear Spray – Bozeman

12 Stoltze Contractor Meeting
12-14 1st Aid/CPR & Fire – Big Timber/Deer Lodge/Sun Mountain Lumber
18-19 1st Aid/CPR & Fire – Seeley Lake/Stoltze
21 NW Management Landowner Workshop – Helena
25-26 Electronic Log Book & Active Sustainability – Missoula
27-28 Electronic Log Book & Active Sustainability – Kalispell

May

01-04 BMP/SMZ – Libby/Kalispell/Missoula/Lewistown
10-11 FTPC Meeting – Spokane, WA
19-20 MLA Annual Meeting - Bozeman

Education Bat Brochure Update: Lorin presented the text for the bat brochure. Lorin met with Nate and came up with outline of what they want in the brochure and brought Janina Hobday for the graphic design of the end brochure. They are still working on fine-tuning of the information and suspects there will be finer - tuning over the next couple of months before they go to print. Layout consists of:
Introduction

1. Why bats?
 - a. Social stigma: fear and fascination
 - b. Ecological value
2. Diversity: world-wide and Montana
3. Bats in trouble: WNS etiology and spread
4. ESA listing
5. Brochure objectives

What do bats need?

1. Seasonal habitats
2. Structural habitat
3. Species-specific
4. Migratory behavior

How are bats studied?

1. Recording echolocation
2. Telemetry
3. Ongoing studies: ours and MHP

Bat habitat elements to consider in forest management activities

1. Schematic diagram
2. Snag retention
3. Defective green trees
4. SMZ's
5. Proximity to cliffs and talus

What else can be done to benefits bats?

1. Bat houses
2. Keeping bats out of cabins and houses

Where can I find out more about bats in my areas?

1. Montana Heritage Program
2. Bat Conservation International

3. USFWS

Visual materials included:

1. Schematic figure of the bat habitat components at the stand scale
2. 2 spectrograms
3. Acoustic array in field
4. Tree roost
5. Rock cliff roost
6. Transmitter on bat
7. Bat houses
8. Bat photos
 - a. Hoary
 - b. Silver-haired
 - c. Little Brown Myotis
 - d. Townsend's Big-eared
9. MHP Field Guide-Hoary

Need to add Stoltze, Stimson, MLA and MFC to the back page identifiers. Rich suggested this information be provided to the Lewis and Clark Caverns since 50,000 people go through the caverns a year. Gary said he would really like to see "How bats are studied" stay in the brochure because it is important. Lorin said it would come down to page real estate. Will print 5,000 copies and have it available electronically.

MFC Financial Report: Keith said that everyone that is a participating member is current with their dues. He received a call from Tom Agens at Boise and he suspects that Boise may be dropping out because of Clearwater. Boise has paid for 2017. Expenses to date are \$2,910.00. We are waiting for numbers relative to in-kind contributions.

Member Updates: Mote Lumber - just wrapped up first Forests in Focus project. Keith suggested sending a letter to the Governor on the project. Roger said they might want to do a tour when the weather improves. Northwest Management - Landowner conference is in April with great support from various sponsors. There will be a silent auction that will benefit the Forest Stewardship Foundation. There is a website up with all the information and ways to be involved. Weyerhaeuser - SFI audits this summer on timberlands and fiber sourcing and the log yard safety workshop is mandatory for all log haulers working with Weyerhaeuser. There is supplemental training material if a hauler is not able to attend. The Forestry Expo is in May. Timberlands may have a contractor meeting. Montana Tree Farm - Peter provided an update sheet. Tree Farm voted to remain certified. Will be assessed \$10.00 per tree farmer at the national level to cover the cost of the audits, which will start in 2019. They were selected by the national tree farm to be audited by Price Waterhouse Cooper to audit 15 different tree farms. They had their national leadership conference in February. They received a grant to fund a part-time administrator. The steering committee voted to adopt an annual membership fee of \$30 starting January 2018. The \$30 will offset the \$10.00 assessment and help fund the part-time administrator position. Stoltze will have an audit again this year and

their contractor meeting is April 12. Closed on another conservation easement 7,000 acres. DNRC – Had a few HRA takeovers. Have a couple new service foresters and a couple service foresters may retire this year. Will be naming a new Forestry Assistance Bureau Chief. Pyramid – Will have an SFI audit in October.

The SFI annual report is due by the end of March.

Next Meeting: June 21, 2017 Missoula