

January 18, 2022

Montana Forest Council

Present: Gordy Sanders, Bryce Smith, Scott Kuehn – Pyramid Mountain Lumber, David Brummer and Bruce Rowland – Stimson Lumber, Cameron Wohlschlegel – FH Stoltze, Coleen Michael, Bryan Lorengo & Tim McEntire – MLA, Zach Miller – Weyerhaeuser, Tom Agens – Packaging Corp of American

Notes taken from recorded zoom meeting – Julia Altemus

Welcome and Anti-Trust Statement: Gordy Sanders

Notes: November 9, 2021, Gordy on page 2, carbon markets NCX

SIC Role in 2022 SFI Standard Revisions: There was a webinar last week for SIC chairs and coordinators. Covered activities that SFI does and has to offer. Members link on the SFI website; Forest.org/sic gets to several different topics. There is section on carbon. Interactive graphs that are helpful. Planning three different webinars this spring. 1. Climate smart forestry, 2. Fire resilience, 3. Biological diversity. All three will be done by early May. These topics will be covered at the annual meeting in June. Also, Community Grants that are available, grant submissions due February 1. Talked about state SICs taking a coordinating role in these topics at the annual meeting. Aren't real good examples yet within these topics. There isn't a lot of information to go by.

Forests of Exceptional Conservation Value: Performance Measure 1.2. Indicators:

1. SFI-certified organizations shall conduct an assessment, individually and/or through cooperative efforts involving SFI Implementation Committees, of Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value, defined as critically imperiled and imperiled species and ecological communities, within their wood and fiber supply area(s) and make the summary of the assessment available to wood producers.
2. Program to address for all harvest operations through fiber sourcing activities such as:
 - a. Use of qualified logging professionals, certified logging companies and qualified resource professionals, or
 - b. Training program for qualified logging professionals on how to recognize and protect FECV or,
 - c. Through in-the-forest verification by certified logging companies, or
 - d. Forest landowner outreach, or
 - e. SFI Implementation Committee involvement in the assessment of FECV, and development of recommendations for conservation.
3. SFI certified organizations shall conduct and incorporate the results of a FECV assessment to promote conservation of FECV for purchased stumpage.

The MFC could take our Forests of Exception Conservation Value and write an assessment. MFC needs to frame what this looks like. How we will implement this and coordinate with all the mills, so everyone isn't doing their own thing. Bruce, Stimson is just starting their process. Cameron, just started talking about it. He and Paul discussed the SIC establishing a list of already designated sites, such as Wild and Scenic Rivers, GNP or wilderness areas, rather than having someone else tell us what FECV are. Zach, Chad at the corporate level is working on it, but nothing final yet. Gordy suggested to look at the

language, the more detailed we get the more problematic becomes. Better to take a higher-level view. Scott wanted to know if there is an official list that we could piggy-back on. Gordy said he didn't think so. Gordy, another topic is old growth. Gordy wanted to know if within the WY HCP if there is something in there. Zach said not really, right now they are looking at the MTNHP data, which has been helpful for the Tree Farm program. Gordy, felt it would be easy to write an Old Growth assessment on state lands, etc. Bruce said they have HCP on Stimson's Lincoln County lands and conservation easements. These could be considered for FECV. FECV are at the stand level and on the watershed level. Gordy, what if we develop components that include conservation easements (this is how landowners are meeting different management objectives). Also, someone write a component of the SMZ law in MT. Gordy suggested that Cameron write a component that includes Wild and Scenic Rivers, Wilderness and National Forests. Cameron wanted to know how we would report to the SFI if we go down the track of developing components that help advise management on private lands. Gordy said we don't want to get into language that complicates performance measures. Zach, critically impaired and impaired species, is this G1 and G2 species. Gordy thought they are. Bruce suggested taking a look at the Natural Heritage website and talking to them about how to incorporate information. Gordy suggested to look at MTNHP and Nature Serve for information but not get not too much into the weeds. David, the Idaho group is also trying to digest this new standard. Struggling a little with what an assessment looks like and what will satisfy the auditor. Idaho doesn't have a lot of G1 and G2 in riparian zones and focus outreach for landowners on this topic. Not sure what SFI wants. Cameron, if they use G1 and G2 as a filter, Stoltze fee lands have critically impaired species. How they address this with the separate tree farm areas, they have a separate set of BMPs. Maybe there is an opportunity to address critically impaired species and develop a statement how we can manage lands with the presence of critically impaired species. Need language that address this topic on a broad level. Higher level of analysis. Gordy suggested that Bruce/David craft language that generically talks about conservation easements. Gordy asked Cameron to craft generic language regarding FECV, we can talk SMZs and BMPs and asked Zach to work on this topic. Gordy will take a look at landowner outreach and talk about the biodiversity brochure. Timeline, February 16 (next MFC meeting)

Educational Brochure Update: Roger and Peter were not available for an update.

Spring 2022 Training Program: Tim McEntire, sent a draft of the training schedule.

1st AID/CPR RT-130 Refresher

3 days Libby

6 days Kalispell

2 days Missoula

2 days Seeley Lake

Thompson Falls, St. Regis, Deer Lodge, Harlowton & Belgrade

SMZ/BMP

Libby, Kalispell, Missoula and Deer Lodge

Forest Management Practicum (Advanced SFI)

Lubrecht & Kalispell

Forest Stewardship Workshop

April 12th-14th MLA Office

OTHER ALP CLASSES

Basal Area & Timber Cruising- Tentative to be at Lubrecht

Instructors - Beth Dodson & Scott Kuehn

Basic overview of Basal Area and hands on use in the field

Tentative to be at Lubrecht

Planning for the Future for You and Your Employees-Kalispell

Instructors – Alistair Stewart & Joel Schumacher MSU Extension

Erica Potts MLA

Jon Jordan Edward Jones

Highlight succession planning, retirement options for small businesses, health care plans and health savings accounts.

Staying Safe in the Workplace-Kalispell

Instructors- Bridger Kelch WFPD Chief of Police

Drug Force Task Team

Dept. of Labor

Derek Breedlove VestigeView Solutions

Recognizing drug use in your employees, implementing a drug policy, dash cams and roundtable discussion on theft deterrent.

Proper Log Manufacturing-Kalispell

Participants-Weyerhaeuser

Stillwater Post & Pole

Pyramid

Open to whomever wants to participate

Opportunity to talk about what is the perfect log for your mill. Not so much a pure scaling class but more what mills are looking for in a delivered log.

Logging Safety Conference

May 20th – Butte

The MLA is proud to present 2022 Logging Safety Conference. It will take place the morning before our annual membership meeting at the Copper King Hotel in Butte. Participants will hear presentations on several safety issues that are topical to today's contractors. ALP credits will be available.

Tentative Topics

Work Comp 101-
Understanding the true costs or work-related accidents

Steep Slope Technology-
Presentation of what it is and what it is doing to change how we log steep slopes

Trucking-
Preparing for a DOT audit. Recruitment and Training

Intermountain Logging Conference
"Roadmap for the Future"
April 6th-8th Mirabeau Park Hotel, Spokane Valley, WA

After a two-year hiatus due to Covid restrictions, the conference is back! Several topics spread over 2 ½ days. We have a very good program in the works. ALP credits will be offered.

Project Learning Tree: Cindy not available for an update.

MFC Financial Report: Coleen provided the financial report. Total income from SFI participants is \$35,000 which includes \$23,750 cash and \$16,250 in in-kind contributions. FY'22 Logger Training & Education Budget is Administration - \$10,000, Database - \$10,315, Education Outreach - \$3,600 for a total expenditure of \$23,915.00

Member and Partner Updates: Scott - full yard of logs, need more frozen weather, Zach - issues with employee retention and COVID protocols, Brian H – now working for Green Diamond as of Jan 1. Four contractors working in the woods presently. Will have a mid-April contractor meeting. Wants to cover SFI and safety and supplier. Bryan – working with the BLM regarding alternative logging practices. Tom – getting ready to inaugurate two new truck tippers on site, still getting fiber from Bonner by rail, have a 3rd party audit in June for fiber sourcing and chain of custody. David – have a recertification audit for fiber sourcing and forest management in 2022 and will audit to the new standard, probably July or August. Cameron – running 2 shifts at the mill and recently installed a new trailer loader. Bruce – 6 contractors going in Lincoln County and hoping the roads stay in good shape. Gordy – recertification audit in October under the new standards.

Next Meeting: February 16 on zoom at 9:30am