

# Ad hoc committee on field guide and implementation goals

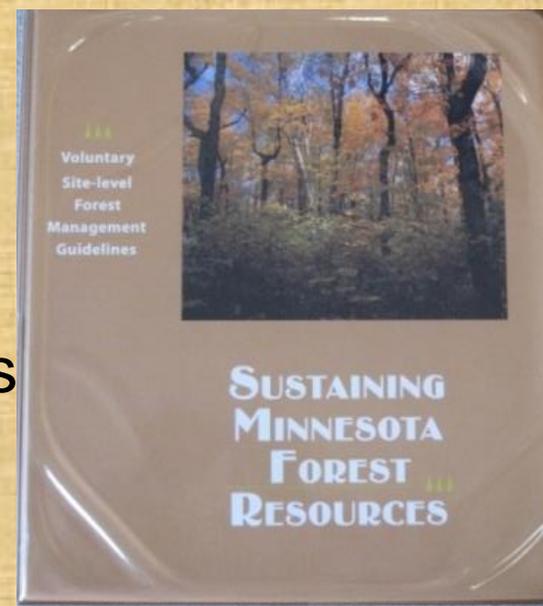
MFRC Meeting  
Shoreview Community Center  
March 20, 2013

# The situation

- Confluence of 2 tasks
  - field guide development
  - guideline implementation goals
- SL Committee evaluation in January 2013
  - overlap between the tasks
  - efficient to address concurrently
- Recommendation to convene ad hoc committee to complete the tasks simultaneously

# Field guide - recap

- Many requests for simplification of the guidebook (stakeholders)
- Development of field guide approved during revision scoping process
- Urgent need to publish revised guidelines
- P&F meeting (Dec. 2012)
  - begin development of field guide
  - solicit input (MFRC, stakeholders)
  - convene ad hoc to ID content



# Primary field guide tasks

## 1) Identify key content to be included

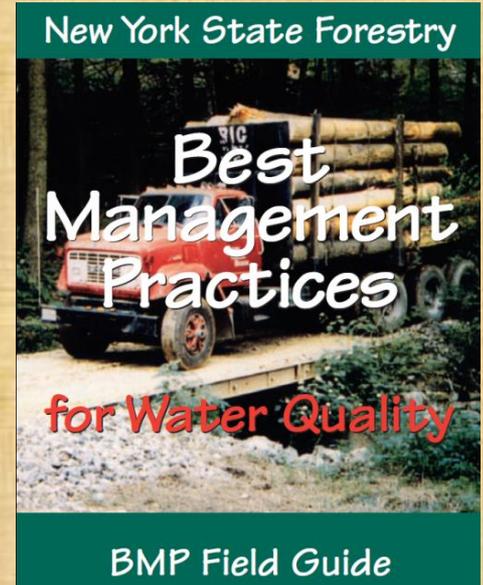
- agreement on “critical” guidelines
- stakeholder input, MFRC assessment

## 2) Modifying language appropriate for field guide

- existing language very broad (e.g., exceptions, flexibility, etc.)
- concise recommendations needed

## 3) Present content in user-friendly structure and format

- Topics, harvest characteristics, or timing of activities?
- examples, pictures, resources, associated regulations



# Soliciting Input

Request for input already made to MFRP and MLEP



- 1) Ranking of timber harvesting guidelines
- 2) Ideas on presentation of content
- 3) Suggestions on structure and format
- 4) List of useful resources



Input solicited from MFRC members in the near future  
- ranking of guideline importance

# Implementation goals - recap

Consistent trends in monitoring reports

- implications unclear
- value-driven interpretation likely

Goals needed to assess suitability of implementation & target outreach

SFRA charges (89A.05, Subd. 3. Application)

MFRC with development of goals

## Timber Harvesting and Forest Management Guidelines on Public and Private Forest Land in Minnesota



Photo Copyright 2008 MNDNR

### 2009 Monitoring Implementation Results

A report by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Respectfully submitted to the Minnesota Forest Resources Council



# Implementation goals - recap

**1998** – organizational support, awareness, commitment to application, “continuous improvement”

**2001** – Initial report on goal achievement; plan for next steps (e.g., development of goals for specific guidelines)

**2010** – discussion on guideline implementation rates

**2011** – Al Sullivan decision to defer creation of ad hoc committee

**2013** – request by Bob Stine to begin addressing development of implementation goals

# Factors in goal development

- Only a subset of guidelines will have implementation goals
- Mutual agreement is critical
  - MFRC members, stakeholders
- Key considerations
  - Existing laws and regulations (e.g., WCA)
  - Ecological, economic, operational factors
  - Accounting for flexibility
  - Current practices and conditions



## Field Guide

Solicit and evaluate stakeholder input



Identify key content



Evaluate structure + formatting options



Recommendations presented to MFRC

## Implementation Goals

Identify key guidelines



Evaluate relevant information for goal development



Recommendations presented to MFRC

Stakeholder involvement  
Is critical to these  
tasks (mutual  
agreement)

Most efficient to address both tasks simultaneously – ad hoc composed of MFRC and stakeholders

# ad hoc committee charge

## Task 1: ID content for field guide

- Utilize stakeholder input
- Focus on timber harvesting guidelines
- Language / formatting recommendations



## Task 2: Develop implementation goals

- Subset of guidelines from Task 1
- Guidance from technical experts
- Ecological, economic, operational considerations
- Utilize past monitoring data

# Committee members / process

- Membership determined by the chair
  - MFRC members
  - Reps. from MLEP, MFRP, DNR, other groups
- Decision / evaluation process determined by Ad hoc
  - guiding principles in ad hoc charge
- Monthly meetings (6-10 total)

# Timeline

<b>Task</b>	<b>Target completion</b>
Stakeholder / MFRC relevant input compiled	May 2013
ad hoc committee convened	May 2013
ad hoc committee recommendations completed	October 2013
Recommendations approved / modified by full Council	November 2013
Design and layout of field guide (contract)	February 2014
Printing of field manual (contract)	Early 2014 (dependent on funding)

# 89A.05

## **Subd. 3. Application.**

The timber harvesting and forest management guidelines are voluntary. Prior to their actual use, the council must develop guideline implementation goals for each major forest land ownership category. If the information developed as a result of forest resources, practices, compliance, and effectiveness monitoring programs.....indicates the implementation goals ....are not being met and the council determines significant adverse impacts are occurring, the council shall recommend to the governor additional measures to address those impacts.