



Minnesota Forest Resources Council

DATE: September 4, 2014

TO: MINNESOTA FOREST RESOURCES COUNCIL

FROM: DAVE ZUMETA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

RE: PREPARATION FOR SEPTEMBER 17-18, 2014 MFRC MEETING

In preparation for the September 17-18, 2014 meeting and field tour of the Minnesota Forest Resources Council (MFRC), attached are the following materials (those related to action items are in **bold**):

1. This cover memo
2. **Draft minutes for the July 23, 2014 MFRC meeting**
3. **Draft agenda for the September 17, 2014 MFRC meeting**
4. Committee reports
5. **MFRC DRAFT resolution to approve FY 2016-17 MFRC budget restoration/change level request***
6. **MFRC DRAFT resolution to approve revised Northeast Landscape Plan***
7. Article by Shawn Perich on federal wildfire funding

Meeting Logistics

The MFRC will meet on September 17, 2014 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the North House Folk School, 500 Highway 61 West, Grand Marais. Following the meeting the Council will tour the North House Folk School, followed by a social hour, dinner, and slide presentation by Howard Hedstrom about the 100th anniversary of Hedstrom Lumber Company and current operations. A number of state and local officials have been invited to attend.

On Thursday, the Council will leave at 8:00 a.m. from either the **Shoreline Inn** (12 Broadway, Grand Marais) or the **Harbor Inn** (207 West Wisconsin Street, Grand Marais) to tour the Hedstrom Lumber Company mill (1504 Gunflint Trail, Grand Marais). The mill tour will be followed by stops at the Pincushion Mountain Recreation Area and a North Shore Forest Collaborative forest restoration site. The tour will conclude by 12:30 p.m. at a picnic area at Cascade River State Park. Box lunches will be served at the park. Additional details about the field tour will be provided at the September 17 Council meeting.

From the Twin Cities: Take I-35 N for roughly 132 miles. Take the London Rd exit (Holiday Station Store is on the corner) to merge onto Route 61. Stay on Route 61 for 103.9 miles. The North House Folk School is located in Grand Marais just past Birch Dr. If you reach W Rosebush Ln you've gone about .5 miles too far.

From Duluth, take I-35 N to Route 61 (London Rd exit). Stay on Route 61 for 103.9 miles. The North House Folk School is located in Grand Marais just past Birch Dr. If you reach W Rosebush Ln you've gone about .5 miles too far.

Meeting Agenda

Committee of the Whole: Draft resolution to approve FY 2016-17 MFRC budget restoration/change level request*– Bob Stine will make introductory remarks about the MFRC budget restoration/change level request. Dave Zumeta will summarize the request's contents, and Forrest Boe will describe the status of the request relative to approval processes being conducted by the DNR Commissioner's office and the Governor's office. A formal vote will be taken on the resolution.

Draft resolution to approve revised Northeast Landscape Plan* – Shaun Hamilton will introduce Lindberg Ekola, who will provide a brief overview of the contents of the proposed final Northeast Landscape Plan revision. The plan has undergone public review and revision in response to comments that were received. A formal vote will be taken on the resolution. Northeast Landscape Plan revision materials will be sent in a separate mailing on September 5, 2014.

Proposed federal Wildfire Disaster Funding Act – Shawn Perich, with assistance from Dave Zumeta, will provide an overview of the proposed federal Wildfire Disaster Funding Act and the issues that led to the act being written. The outcome of this discussion is anticipated to be a formal action item at the next MFRC meeting on November 12. A recent article Shawn wrote about this issue is attached.

Potential effects of climate change on northern Minnesota forests – Shawn Perich will introduce Casey McQuiston, USDA Forest Service – Superior National Forest. Casey will provide a summary of a recent publication that he coauthored with staff from the Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science in Houghton, Michigan.

Status of Southeast Landscape Plan revision – Shaun Hamilton will introduce Lindberg Ekola, who will provide a brief overview of the contents of the proposed revision to the Southeast Landscape Plan. After the revised plan undergoes public review and revision in response to comments that are received, a formal vote to approve the final revised plan will be taken at the next MFRC meeting on November 12.

Erosion control using toe wood structures on the Flute Reed River – Shawn Perich will introduce Jim Hall, Supervisor, and Kerrie Berg, District Manager, Cook County Soil and Water Conservation District. Jim and Kerrie will describe an erosion control project recently undertaken by their SWCD on the Flute Reed River.

*Denotes action item