

Site-level Committee Meeting Summary

Interagency Fire Center, Grand Rapids, June 17, 2010, 10 am – 2 pm

Present: Dave Parent (Chair), Dale Erickson, Bob Lintelmann, Shawn Perich, Mary Richards, John Rajala

Absent: Gene Merriam

Staff: Rob Slesak

2009 monitoring report

The meeting opened with some discussion regarding the 2009 implementation monitoring results. Most of the discussion focused on initial interpretation of the findings and committee member views, and how the report may be viewed by stakeholders and the general public. The committee decided to devote a substantial portion of the next meeting discussing the report and evaluating the recommendations made by DNR to improve implementation for those guidelines with low rates.

Scoping discussion

Rob reviewed a summary of scoping comments that had previously been sent to the committee members, and then distributed a rubric for evaluation of the comments. Rob noted that riparian guidelines would not be discussed as they were already included in the revision scope. The committee began with evaluation of recommendations to simplify the guidelines, weighing benefits and drawbacks to overall simplification of the existing book versus development of an additional simplified field manual. The committee decided to recommend keeping the existing detailed format, and create an additional field guide focused on key aspects of the guidelines associated with harvesting and stand establishment. The remaining scoping comments were largely evaluated according to the rubric which evaluated inclusion depending on whether the comment was related to an existing or potentially new guideline. Comments regarding leave trees were generally not recommended for the scope because of a lack of new research or information relating to their effectiveness. Biomass guidelines were recommended for inclusion in the scope, with committee members generally agreeing that the current “one size fits all” approach should be modified to more site-specific conditions if possible. Climate change related comments were not recommended for inclusion in the scope because the committee felt that potential approaches or recommendations to address climate change impacts would not be applicable at the site scale. Rutting definition and acceptable soil disturbance/scarification was recommended for inclusion, as committee members were interested in determining if the metric that the DNR uses during monitoring is appropriate. Many other recommendations associated with informational aspects of the guidelines were recommended for evaluation and potential inclusion in the detailed book format if appropriate.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:15 pm.