

# MEETING SUMMARY

## NE REGIONAL LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE

September 20, 2001

**Members Present:** Don Ferguson, Mark Reed, Tom Martinson, Milo Rasmussen, Bob Kirsch, John Stegmeir, Tim O'Hara, John Kohlstedt, Paul Stegmeir, Kara Dunning, Tom Duffus, Chel Anderson, Clyde Hanson, Terry Brown, Duane Kick, Jan Green, Dick Olson, Dave Anderson, Lawson Gerdes, Meredith Cornett and Jim Larson

**Staff Present:** Dave Miller, Chad Skally, Julie Heinz, Mark White (NRRI Staff)

**Guests:** Vince Vukelich

Dave welcomed everyone and welcomed new member: *John Stegmeir, DNR, and guest-Vince Vukelich* (who is the Acting Deputy for the Superior National Forest).

### **DUANE KICK'S GROUP PRESENTATION**

Discussion included:

- Alternative 1-leaves system as a whole in a fairly old class.
- More to natural variation than just spatial arrangement taken.
- Discussed by using Frelich's info, did we factor in natural disturbance? It was determined that it was "crudely".

### **TOM MARTINSON'S GROUP PRESENTATION**

Discussion followed regarding harvest at the rate of 6% per decade.:

- It was discussed it would be useful to see what the DNR is doing in this area.
- Regeneration issues-how to replace the stands that are removed...factors to consider.
- Going to involve money/person power.
- Public lands vs private lands (focusing on public lands)

### **JIM LARSON'S/MEREDITH CORNETT'S GROUP PRESENTATION**

Discussion:

- Meredith commented on the landscape pattern that the document Chad had worked on (size and patterns of disturbance in eqo system) was very helpful.
- Discussion of defining what the Spacial Analysis Group is doing?
- Challenges of a "Model System", limitations to achieving it and build in current rate of natural disturbance.

- Discussion on % of replacement in age ranges.
- Discussion on need for clarification, being site specific, level of composition of where and what is going.

### **LAWSON'S GROUP PRESENTATION**

#### **Discussion:**

- Lots of Disagreements
- Concluded-May NOT be as far away as we think
- Realistic to develop broad Goals
- Data Reliability Discussion
- Mapping same age, cover type, teasing ourselves that we have that same capacity

### **GENERAL QUESTIONS/CONCERNS:**

- How do we propose to measure the impacts?
- Discussed “let’s not forget why we are using R&V?”...it is a representation of forest composition and the species that depend on it before settlement—serves as a baseline for measuring change.
- Discussion that economic and social may not allow us to go to RNV as a goal.
- Need to integrate the eco and the economic...desired condition; Is it feasible to get there? What are the economic/social trade offs?
- Need to get all on the same page, using the same format for the information presented today.
- Discussion of moving forward by picking some ranges of actions, agreeing to just test, run data and see what the heck it is going to tell us. To play the scenario, low in R&V, to test the theory, just play it out and check it.
- It was suggested to give these four reports to the Coordination Committee and let them figure it out. Discussion as whether this would be a good choice or not. It was decided to try it. Basic type of data amount of acres we would be able to harvest in 10 yr period over the entire landscape. Some members felt that we should achieve at least the minimum in all categories.
- How do we go about getting spatially distributed on the landscape? Number of acres planning to move through the stages and how/what processes do we use to figure out the acres?

### **AGREEMENTS REACHED:**

After discussion it was clear that some members did not agree on the use of RNV as a tool and that economic considerations need to be analyzed. The group agreed to do the following:

- Put the small group reports in a common format, check the numbers and make as consistent as possible between the four groups. Format will include: acres harvested over a 10 yr. period; restoration/conversion acres for 10 yrs; spatial knowledge; and ownership classes. Need to consider the successional pathways to the late successional stages
- Use the alternatives in the reports as scenario's to analyze economic impacts in short and long term.
- Coordination group review common format data to determine if short term acreage objectives are feasible.
- Coordination group will report to the Regional Committee the results of their review.

#### **Timelines**

- Staff will prepare common format document and network to small groups for comment – week of Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>
- Staff sends common format to Coordination group – Nov. 2.
- Coordination group meets Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>
- Regional Committee meets Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>.

**NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2001 AT DEWITZ  
SITZ BUILDING 3<sup>RD</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM, DULUTH  
FROM 9:30-3:30.**