

MINNESOTA FOREST RESOURCES COUNCIL

Site-Level Committee

1:00 – 3:00 pm, Friday, June 3, 2022

NOTES

Members present: Katie Fernholz, David Wilson, Kory Cease, Scott Pittack

Members absent: Deb Thiesen, Rick Horton

Staff present: Eric Schenck, Anna Stockstad, Sadie Mathison

Guests: None

Anna presented the results of summarizing the current bibliography/collection of FLG research to the group. There was consensus that the Site Level Committee begin review of all available information (survey, monitoring report, literature review) at the August SLC meeting. This information should be organized in a universal way to make it easier to compile specific recommendations or comments on the FMGs as there will be a standardized process to assess potential needs for revision. The goal will be to incorporate the literature review into the current categories that are included in the survey and monitoring reports to create a complete document containing all current information related to the revision process. This will also aid in identifying topical areas that may warrant further need for relevant research.

There was discussion on potentially bringing in outside expertise at a future SLC meeting on climate adaptation, on potential SLG impacts to entering carbon markets, or for help to fill in any possible gaps of research. There was also discussion on how/when to engage the Research Advisory Committee to weigh in on the literature review.

The group determined that scheduling an in-person meeting for the August SLC meeting would be most productive to move the review/revision process forward.

The need for a field trip to review the application of the biomass harvesting guidelines was brought back up from a previous meeting. The purpose, scope, and audience for the field trip should be clearly identified, and it would likely be beneficial for the full Council to attend.

There were two public concerns submitted this fiscal year (draft PCRP report). The PCRP process has been reviewed by MFRC staff. Less than five public concerns have been submitted each year.

David shared historic monitoring data and presented information related to the 2020 and 2021 Monitoring Implementation Report. Overall, 181 sites, 14,536 acres, and 846 waterbodies (majority were non-open water wetlands) were monitored during. The need to improve the implementation of erosion control on approaches and slopes was identified. Further education would improve implementation of on-site infrastructure, since the report identified many sites where a landing was located on a RMZ, filter strip, or water body. Education/outreach may also be useful to improve the use of written plans on non-industrial private lands.

Meeting Adjourned