

MINNESOTA FOREST RESOURCES COUNCIL
Site-Level Committee
1:00 – 3:00 pm, Friday, December 3, 2021

Members Present: Kory Cease, Katie Fernholz, Deb Theisen, Rick Horton, David Wilson

Absent: Scott Pittack

Staff Present: Eric Schenck, Sadie Mathison, Dick Rossman, David Wilson

Guests: Ryan Toot

After introductions, Kory provided an update for the FMG revision literature review. Included with the meeting packet was a flowchart Kory created to demonstrate the process of the revision review (included at the end of these notes). The goal is to collect literature from a broad group of contributors, however, up to this point there have been few contributions. The RAC should be engaged to inform decision making around the literature review.

Kory thanked David and Dick for putting together the FMG application workshop at the recent Council meeting. It went well and much more time could have been spent on the topic and related topics. There is ongoing discussion about outreach and on-the-ground trainings specifically to loggers via MLEP.

Eric, along with Matt Russel, recently interviewed a graduate student to assist with MFRC programs including the Site-level literature review. The interview went well, and it looks promising to hire her via state contract. Eric also announced that the MAD contract for assistance writing position descriptions has been fully executed. This is a big step towards filling vacant positions.

Ryan Toot presented on climate change considerations for forestry operations. He discussed prior work and resources available, and his work on a guide to assist users as they adapt to the challenges presented by climate change in the utilization of BMPs. There was discussion of the options for formats of the FMGs to make them more useful for a variety of user-types and how Ryan's work might be integrated into a revision of the FMGs. There was a suggestion of highlighting within the FMGs those practices that are more affected by climate change. This should be an emphasis on existing practices rather than change to or addition of practices.

Response to the request for literature submissions has been minimal. There was discussion around what can be done to get more response from stakeholders. There was a suggestion to contact Rob Slesak to assist with kickstarting the literature review. The original email requesting literature citations should be resent to Council members and others. There was a suggestion that the request be sent via Eli Sagor to the Lake States Forestry Management Cooperative.

Meeting adjourned.