

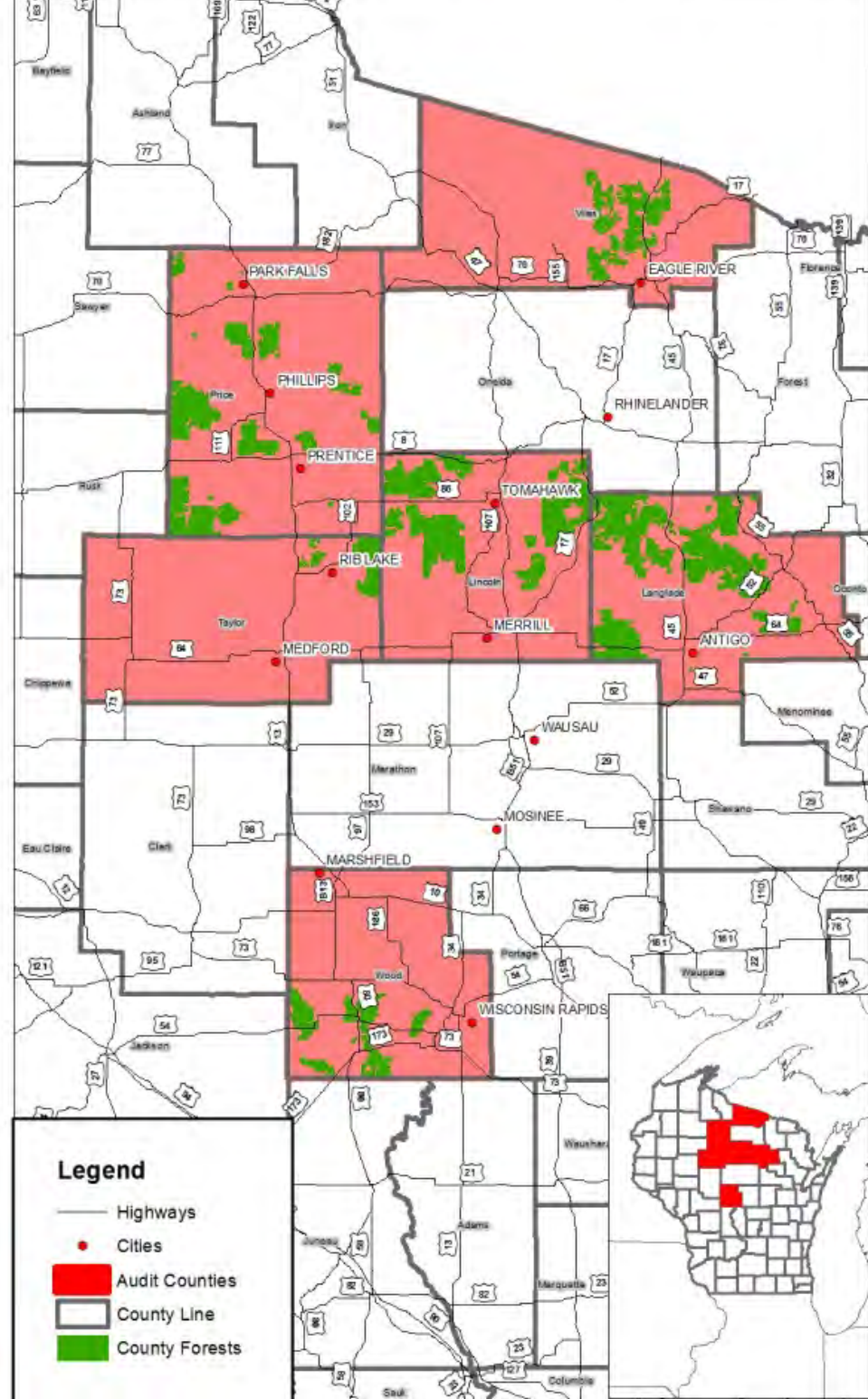
2012 Forest Certification Audit & Other County Forest Issues



Certification Audit August 7-10, 2012

Langlade – SFI
Lincoln – SFI & FSC
Price – SFI & FSC
Taylor – SFI & FSC
Vilas – SFI
Wood – SFI & FSC

SFI – Full Recertification
Audit
FSC- Surveillance Audit



Audit Preparation

- Information requests - SFI & FSC
- Audit Prep Meeting
 - Well Attended!
 - Great Discussion and Preparation
- Next Year's Prep
 - Earlier request for info
 - General guidance to accompany request

Review of 2011 SFI Findings

- No Non-conformances in 2011 😊
- OFI – Improve system to document road and trail conditions for planning & maintenance
- OFI – Improve the pace at which information about regeneration is made available to field.

Review of 2011 FSC Findings

- CAR 2011.1 - Safety Language in Contracts
 - Updated contracts – THANKS.
- CAR 2011.3 – Legacy Tree Definition
 - Silviculture Handbook Update – additional guidance shared
- Obs 2011.2 – Old Growth definitions
 - DNR Old Growth Handbook & Crosswalk
- Obs 2011.4 – Chain of Custody Documentation



Vilas County – Deep in thought about the complexities of forest management



Looking at BMP buffers along streams and wetlands

Langlade – Steve Jackson entertains the crowd



Lincoln – Active sale



Certification Specialist Mark Heyde looks for widow-makers, while Kevin Kleinschmidt shows auditors what multiple-use forest management should look like.

2012 SFI Findings

- No Non-conformances in 2012 – 2nd year 😊
- OFI – Improve process for monitoring natural regeneration
- OFI – Improve efforts to consider cover types, age & size classes, & habitats across landscape
- OFI - Ensure that the WDNR Silvicultural Field Trial reporting system is utilized effectively

2012 SFI – Group Response

- OFI – Improve process for monitoring natural regeneration
 - No Changes. Currently have systems to track regen and are exploring ways to improve natural regen.
- OFI – Improve efforts to consider cover types, age & size classes, & habitats across landscape
 - DNR will provide FIA data to show diversity on landscape.
- OFI - Ensure that the WDNR Silvicultural Field Trial reporting system is utilized effectively
 - DNR will get web page repaired. Will add additional studies if available. County's now all aware of system.

Review of 2012 FSC Findings

- CAR 2012.1 - All County Forest employees and contractors must demonstrate a safe work environment.
- Obs 2012.2 – County Forests should be more explicit and/or consistent in presenting desired future conditions in plans.
- Obs 2011.3 – Examine plan revision process and determine if the FSC requirement for a full revision of management plans every 10 years will be adequately addressed by 2016.

2012 FSC – Group Response

- CAR 2012.1 - All County Forest employees and contractors must demonstrate a safe work environment.
 - Each county forest administrator will request a written opinion from their corporation counsel as to whether the county forest can/should in anyway enforce safety standards through sale administration.
 - I will work with Jane to word-smith the question to be asked and I will distribute to CFAs.
 - I will provide the 29 written opinions to the FSC Auditors next year.

2012 FSC – Group Response

- Obs 2012.2 – County Forests should be more explicit and/or consistent in presenting desired future conditions in plans.
 - County Forest Administrators, with the support of liaisons, will include 2 additional items with the annual work plan:
 - A brief description (couple of sentences) of the desired future conditions of forest composition.
 - WisFIRs report 207 – Past, present, future condition report.



Forest Structure - Past, Present, Future

Print Date: 11/1/2012

Report 207

3800 - MARINETTE COUNTY FOREST

Timber Text	Acres Past	Acres Present	Acres Future
	(1977)	(2012)	
ASPEN	96,169	97,808	96,707
BALSAM FIR	0	493	5,079
BLACK SPRUCE	3,344	4,049	3,537
BOTTOMLAND HARDWOODS	217	262	262
FIR SPRUCE-*OLD CODE, RECODE	5,287	1,635	1,547
HEMLOCK	1,028	1,226	431
JACK PINE	13,300	8,177	8,413
MISCELLANEOUS CONIFEROUS	0	198	141
MISCELLANEOUS DECIDUOUS	0	18	18
NORTHERN HARDWOODS	22,277	23,821	25,374
OAK	11,250	10,332	9,623
RED MAPLE	0	2,244	2,008
RED PINE	11,180	13,656	14,485
SCRUB OAK	4,087	8,314	7,898
SWAMP CONIFER-*OLD CODE, RECODE	6,015	2,561	1,801
SWAMP HARDWOODS	12,419	13,003	12,731
TAMARACK	290	783	760
WHITE BIRCH	3,992	1,390	1,192
WHITE CEDAR	5,899	8,407	5,942
WHITE PINE	0	2,291	2,780
WHITE SPRUCE	0	325	397
Total :	196,754	200,993	201,126
CAMPGROUND	0	31	31
DEVELOPED USE	0	171	170
EMERGENT VEGETATION	0	531	531
HERBACEOUS VEGETATION	527	445	445
LOW - GROWING SHRUBS	501	308	308



2012 FSC – Group Response

- Obs 2011.3 – Examine plan revision process and determine if the FSC requirement for a full revision of management plans every 10 years will be adequately addressed by 2016.
 - Annual Work plans will be enhanced by response to CAR2012.2 – and may provide enough to convince auditors that the plan is sufficiently updated annually.

Thanks to everyone that participated in the 2012 Audit

- FSC- “County foresters and DNR foresters in Wisconsin show an uncommon level of regard for protecting resources on harvest site.” & “The Wisconsin County Forest Program has done an excellent job of responding to revised FSC standards and previous corrective action requests. The decision to recommended continued certification was an easy one for the audit team. Auditors were impressed by close working relationships among county forests, local industry, and various user groups.”
- SFI - “The Wisconsin County Forests provide an exemplary array of recreation opportunities; forest management is implemented to enhance these.” & “The county forests provide a model for local citizen participation through the county forest committees.”

Other Certification Topics

- FSC Product Claim – FSC-100%
- Tree seed available from state nursery
- FSC Advice Note – Nursery guidance
- Council on Forestry – Forest Certification Review
- Chain of Custody issues

Other County Forest Issues

A scenic view of a forest landscape. In the foreground, there are bare, dark tree branches. A winding stream flows through a field of dry, brown grass. In the background, a dense forest of green trees surrounds a calm lake under a clear blue sky.

- Time Standards status FY13
- Stewardship Funding
- Sustainable Forestry Grants
- Project Loans
- Variable Acreage Loans
- Administrator Grants
- Time Standards Review FY14-18
- Time Standards Grant

FY13 Time Standards Status

- Currently at 10,574 hours -- 23%
- 28/29 liaison positions are filled
- New Liaisons
 - Marinette – Dan Mertz
 - Florence – Henry Sullivan
 - Jackson – Matt Wappler
 - Clark – Andy Sorenson

Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Funding

- MOA Status –
 - required in order to apply –
 - no obligation to participate
- 12 signed & returned
- 4 pending Secretary signature
- 1 on the way
- 11 have not heard from

Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Funding

- Applications can be submitted continuously
- Deadline of May 1 – to be considered for coming FY funds (available July 1).
- October 15th – Mid-year assessment. If any funds are available will re-rank new parcels along with previous batch.
 - If any “gems” are submitted may reassess spending plan.

Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Funding

- FY11
- Grants awarded - \$1,432,540
- Acres purchased - 1908
- 9 out of 9 county projects funded (5 Counties)

- FY12
- Grants awarded - \$1,167,081
- Acres purchased - 1293
- 1 Grant ranked but not approved for funding - \$381,842
- 5 out of 6 county projects funded (5 Counties)

Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Funding

- FY13
 - Grants awarded - \$763,045
 - Acres purchased - 160 --- Acres Pending - 714
 - 1 Grant ranked but not approved for funding - \$381,842
 - 3 out of 4 county projects funded (3 Counties)

- Mid-year projects being re-ranked ~\$400,000 remain available for SF & CF

- County Forest Stewardship Totals FY11-13
 - 8 Counties (17 out of 18 projects funded)
 - \$3,362,666
 - 4,075 Acres

Sustainable Forestry Grants FY13

- Ashland - Reforestation - spruce budworm \$12,794.00
- Clark - BAF scope/dendrometer & rangefinder \$3,377.00
- Florence- LTE Forester - Oak wilt, budworm, regen \$19,280.00
- Iron - Timber mats \$9,300.00
- Polk - PJ Reforestation – Diplodia/drought \$40,000.00
- Sawyer - Access Rd Improvement \$18,740.00
- Washburn - Reforestation site prep - '11 blowdown \$50,000.00

- Total FY13 -
\$153,491.00

- Dec 1st – Second round of applications due

Project Loans – FY13

- Forest County – Land Acquisition - \$500,000
- Dec 1st – Second round of applications due

Variable Acreage Loans

- Up to \$.50 /acre for the purchase, development, preservation and maintenance of the county forest lands.
- County Board resolution by Dec 31st.

Administrator Grants

- Materials due by January 31, 2013.

Time Standards Review FY14-18

County

- Jane Severt, WCFA
- Steve Jackson, Langlade
- Jake Nichols, Burnett
- Fritz Shubert, Wood
- Jeremy Koslowski, Polk
- Greg Peterson, Sawyer

DNR

- Joe Schwantes
- Joseph LeBouton, Bayfield
- Ryan Severson, Oconto
- Kyle Young, Burnett
- Steve Grant, Wood
- Mike Lietz, Team Leader
Lincoln & Langlade

Time Standards Review FY14-18

- 46,000 hours – based on SD and last Time Standards revision
- Review Worksheet
- Address other time standard hour issues
- Consider implications of TS Grant

Time Standards Grant

- Result of Strategic Direction
- Offer flexibility for Counties to decide the best mix of services from DNR
- Will allow trading of time for grant money and vice versa
- Team to convene in near future
 - Jane Severt, Joe Schwantes, Joe Vairus (Iron), Josh Pederson (Clark), Jim Zahasky (Jackson), DNR Liaison & DNR team leader.

Potential DNR Liaison & CF Administrator Statewide Meeting

- Many requests
- Lots of new players
- Lots of new topics

Happy Belated Halloween



Questions?