

Small Forest Landowner Office Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

March 20, 2019

Present: John Henrikson, Tami Miketa, Chris Conklin, Mark Hicks, Rich Weiss, Bill Kemp, Jeffrey Thomas, Phil Hess by phone.

Additional attendees: Ken Miller, Dick Alescio, Tony Cramer – WFFA

Dave Sweitzer – Hardwoods Commission

Teresa Ann Ciapusci – Forest Practices Operations

Review 01/09/19 SFLOAC Meeting Notes

Accepted as written

Updates on FY 19-21 SFLO Budget Requests and legislative Proposals

Tami discussed the FY 19-21 budget request for the SFLO and an overview of the Governor’s and draft legislative budgets.

| | <u>Agency Budget Request</u> | <u>Governor’s Budget</u> | <u>Legislature Budget</u> |
|-------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| FREP | \$17.3 million | \$3.5 million | \$2.5 million |
| FFFPP | \$20 million | \$6 million | \$ 5 million |
| RHOSP | \$6 million | \$1.5 million | \$ 1 million |
| Technical Assist. | 4 Full Time Staff | 0 Full Time Staff | 0 Full Time Staff |

The WA Farm Forestry Association bill that includes a trends analysis to report on certain impacts to small forest landowners since the implementation for the Forests and Fish Law 20 years ago is still moving.

Discuss List of Potential Low Impact Harvest Prescriptions

WAC 222-12-040(2) states: *The legislature has found in RCW 76.13.100(2) that small forest landowners should also have the option of alternate management plans or alternate harvest restrictions on smaller harvest units that may have a relatively low impact on aquatic resources. These alternate plans are intended to provide flexibility to small forest landowners that will still provide protection of riparian functions based on specific field conditions or stream conditions on the landowner's property.*

Committee discussed where the concept of “low impact” occurs on the FEMAT curves. It was agreed that the inflection point on the FEMAT curves seems to be the point of diminishing returns, and some members viewed this as a logical place to assert as low impact. John Henrikson will write up a draft documenting the concept of using FEMAT curves to identify “low impact harvests” to be discussed at our next SFLOAC meeting.

Low impact prescriptions could be those that have a minor short term impact that is needed to achieve a long term gain in riparian condition and aquatic habitat condition, i.e., hardwood conversion, fire salvage, etc. The committee discussed the question - how does one handle a hardwood dominated riparian area that has historically always been hardwood dominated? Under the current FP Rules, it is not allowed to be harvested

Updated Long-term Forest Practices Application

Chris Baus, with the Forest Practices Operations Team presented the updated Forest Practices Application. The major change pertaining to small forest landowners is the addition of the following questions to the application:

Are you a small forest landowner per RCW 76.09.450?

No ___ Yes ___ If yes, Check all that apply:

___ My entire proposed harvest area is on a single contiguous ownership consisting of one or more parcels.

___ My proposed forest practices activities are within an area covered by an approved Forest Stewardship Plan or Forest Management Plan developed in cooperation with DNR.

___ I received technical assistance from a DNR small forest landowner Stewardship and Technical Assistance Forester in preparing this FPA/N. I have participated in a Washington State University Extension Service and/or DNR-sponsored Forest Stewardship Coached Planning course.

___ I have attended a Washington State University Extension Service and/or DNR-sponsored Family Forest Owner Field Day.

Phil Hess mentioned to the Operations Team the considerable difficulties in using Appendix A, Water Type Classification Worksheet for Eastern WA. See attached memo from Phil.

The next SFLOAC meeting will be held on May 21, 2019 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at the NRB in Room 362.

Meeting Adjourned