

SMALL FOREST LANDOWNER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Notes July 23, 2024

Present:

WA. Farm Forestry Association (WFFA) representatives: Chair: John Henrikson, Bill Kemp, Phil Hess, Rich Weiss

Tribal Representative: Jeffrey Thomas

WA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife (WDFW) representative: Brandon Austin

WA Dept. of Ecology (DOE) representative: Chris Briggs

DNR: Karen Zirkle

Additional attendees:

DNR: Holly Haley, Todd Olson, KelliAnne Ricks, Donelle Mahan, Tom Chandler, Noah Nequette, Martin Pillow, Daniel Hevezi, John Schmeltz, Leah Harper, Brent Haverkamp

Private Landowner: Dave Roberts

Contractor: Kathryn Boyd

Review 04/22/2024 SFLAC Meeting Notes

Accepted as written.

SFLO Updates

Tami announced that our Conservation Easement Forest Check Cruiser, Kellen Salseina, left the agency and we are currently recruiting for this position. The FRE Program has a new Conservation Easement Forester, Mike Gilgunn, and the SFLO is working on the budget for the FY 25-27 biennium.

fpOnline Update

Donelle Mahan gave an update on the status of fpOnline. The contract with VisualVault has been signed which is a major milestone so fpOnline is now officially under construction!

fpOnline Advisory Committees will provide targeted feedback based on where we are in the configuration. VisualVault will be sharing “playback demos” showing specific pieces of the application.

The first Change Champion Forum will kick off in early July and will focus on what the role is, and how to be effective with your colleagues and peers. We’re focusing our work with VisualVault to produce an intuitive and user-friendly interface, with a bug-free final product.

During the Discovery and Configuration phases, we will start building up expertise within our internal DNR staff so we can help external users understand how to use the system. VisualVault will continue working with us for three months after fpOnline’s launch to address any issues. We encourage you to be an end-user tester. If interested, contact us at dnrrefponline@dnr.wa.gov

Signing of the SFLAC Charter

DNR’s Forest Regulation Administrative Assistant will soon be sending out the SFLAC Charter to the members and asking to sign via DocuSign.

Bill language referencing the SFLAC periodically reviewing the FRE Program

The idea is to have the topic of FREP review semi-annually on the SFLAC agenda. This is where we review any landowner complaints, administrative processes, potential rule recommendations, and related issues for advice on potential improvement of efficiencies and effectiveness of the FRE program.

Draft FREP Board Manual Section 17 Stakeholder Process

Maggie Franquemont provided information on the stakeholder process that will be taken for the review of the Draft Board Manual Section 17 Forestry Riparian Easement Program. This document will be sent out to the Advisory Committee members. There will be three stakeholder meetings that will be held between now and the end of September. This will be where the committee members can provide edits and comments on the draft document. Maggie will be scheduling those meetings very soon.

Discuss Carbon Work Group Report

John gave an update on the Carbon Work Group Report. The Report is currently on the WFFA website. One of the pathways to enhanced carbon sequestration is implementing legacy forest management activities where the main objective is to increase long-term tree volume on sites where regular harvesting is not planned or allowed, like RMZ's. The concept is to have perpetual easements where you're paid to grow carbon using specific prescriptions.