

Small Forest Landowner Advisory Committee Meeting

Notes

February 20, 2014

In attendance: Vic Musselman, Phil Hess, Terry Jackson, Ken Miller, Mark Hicks, Carol Cloen, Tami Miketa, Cindy Beckett, Doug Hooks, Tammie Perreault (by phone) and Jeffrey Thomas (by phone). Marc Engel briefly attended the meeting for a discussion about what landowners could do to reduce the potential for an appeal of their FPA.

Cindy Beckett introduced herself as a Master Watershed Steward and is interested in attending the SFLAC meetings in the future.

Committee reviewed the SFLAC meeting notes from 12/19. No comments or edits identified.

The committee requested Marc Engel to lead a discussion about what landowners could do to reduce the potential for an appeal of their FPA. The discussion found the best thing for any landowner to do is to follow all of the forest practices rules in the lay-out and subsequent harvest as approved in their FPA.

Develop workable list of options to implement for improving 20-acre exempt compliance

The SFLAC agreed that Vic will draft a letter for review at their next meeting to include the following recommendations to improve compliance to FPAs with the 20-acre exempt RMZ:

1. Recommend landowners request a pre-review of their proposed FPA before submitting to DNR for approval. This field review with a Forest Practices Forester will assure the proposed activities comply with the 20-acre exempt rule.
2. Emphasize requirement for landowners to comply with the FPA required condition to give 48 hour notification to the Forest Practices Forester before commencing activities.
3. Remind landowners the 48 hour notification allows the Forest Practices Forester to conduct a field review not only with them but also the operator before beginning operations, including tree felling.

The SFLAC will determine how these recommendations will be delivered to DNR at the next SFLAC meeting.

Current status of WADNR forest fire assessment refund program

Ken Miller wanted to know if DNR was aware that fire assessment refund notifications to landowners are posted online and no notification is sent to them via mail.

DNR is aware that these notifications are now just being posted online instead of through the mail. This is a standard procedure that most all counties are going paperless and just

posting the notifications on line. For more information contact Nicole Dixon in DNR's Resource Protection Division.

How to better liaison with forestry and natural resource oriented groups and stakeholders

The SFLAC discussed the committee's role as liaison includes how to help landowners be better stewards of their land. This discussion included the potential development of a strategic plan for the SFLAC. It was decided the SFLAC will conduct a review of the statutes and rules referencing the committee and its role. The committee also decided to:

- Invite the DNR Urban Forestry Program Manager to attend the next SFLAC meeting to address the proximity of small forest landowner properties to urban areas.
- Invite Julie Sackett to attend the next SFLAC meeting to discuss what she has been seeing as landowner's concerns, issues and insights.
- Request DNR to provide status updates of Long- Term Forest practices Applications (LTA) including all steps of implementation. Tami Miketa, DNR SFLO manager, will provide will provide this information at the SFLAC meeting following each Forest Practices Board meeting.
- Request DNR provide updates on the types of alternate plans small forest landowners are submitting with their FPAs. This will allow the committee to see trends in the types of harvests proposed by small forest landowners in alternate plans and LTA's. Tami will research the feasibility of getting this information and will discuss the potential to provide periodic reports at the next SFLAC meeting.
- Request DNR provide the status of the Small Forest Landowner RMAP report to the Legislature. The document is in draft form and is being reviewed by Forest Practices managers. The SFLAC would like to review it before it is submitted to the legislature.

Meeting adjourned

Next SFLAC meeting is scheduled for April 24th from 12:00 – 4:00 and will be in **room 330** instead of room 461.