

Montana Forest Council

June 25, 2014

Present: Jim Kranz – *Plum Creek*, Paul McKenzie – *Stolzte*, Rich Lane – *Willis Enterprises, Inc.*, Gordy Sanders – *Pyramid Lumber*, Peter Kolb – *MSU EF*, Bryan Lorengo – *MT Logging Assoc*, Keith Olson – *MT Logging Assoc*, Chuck Roady - *Stoltze*

Chairman's Welcome: Jim Kranz

Anti-Trust Statement

Minutes: February 19, 2014, approved as presented

Spring 2014 Logger Training Follow up:

Jim extended a HUGE MFC THANK YOU to everyone who participated in providing this spring's logger training opportunities. It was truly a team effort that yielded great results. Keith provided a summary of all the workshops which is attached and made part of these minutes. Some additional subjects discussed for possible inclusion in 2015 training were prescribed burning for loggers (including DEQ regulations), green building update, changes in MSDS requirements, technology advances for logging & trucking and logging contractor & private landowner contracting. We will be discussing 2015 preliminary workshop ideas at our next meeting.

SFI Standard Revision:

Jim provided a brief update on the SFI Standard Revision process. The SFI Resources Committee is reviewing and tweaking the current draft. The next draft available for public review will be released at the SFI Annual Meeting in September which will be followed by a final 45 day review period. The SFI Board will vote on the final version in November and the new Standard will be launched January 1, 2015 providing a one year transition period.

Montana Tree Farm Presentation:

The Montana Tree Farm Program was having a two day strategic planning meeting in Missoula which overlapped the MFC meeting. Mark Boardman, Montana Tree Farm Chair and Rita Hite, Executive VP for Woodlands & Policy with the American Forest Foundation took time to come to the MFC meeting to update the membership on the strategic issues facing Tree Farm and to get feedback. Montana Tree Farm is considering one or a combination of three possible options:

- Certified Program
- Recognized Program with no certification
- Independently Managed Group (IMG), which would have certification

We had a good discussion and Tree Farm welcomes all of our ideas and suggestions. Montana Tree Farm hopes to make a decision right after the 2014 Annual Tree Farm Meeting. If anyone has additional thoughts please contact Mark Boardman.

Other Updates:

- Reminder – with State BMP audits this year there is an opportunity for loggers to attend and get credit.
- Willis Enterprises is planning an “Appreciation Day” this fall, either October 19th or October 12th.
- Peter is going to e-mail out a Timber Sale Contract Template.
- As part of the Montana Forest Products Industry Week celebration the Montana Society of American Foresters are promoting a Habitat for Humanity blitz build on October 17th in Stevensville, MT. The theme will be “Forests for Humanity”. We discussed the possibility of MFC-SFI as a participant and have asked SFI, Inc. if there might be any sponsorship money available. Gordy Sanders and Scott Kuehn are lead organizers.
- **Next MFC meeting will be October 15th.**