

Minnesota Forest Resources Partnership
2017 Annual Report
Submitted by Chair Cheryl Adams

1. Significant Activities

Highlights:

- a) Brought Hubbard County into MFRP membership and seating at the board of directors' table
- b) MFRP completed the year in a particularly financially sound position, with a balance of over \$14,500 at year's end 2017.
- c) Planned and executed a successful field trip, focused on water quality and including a tour by water of five Beltrami County lakes.
- d) Participated in the development of the Forest Habitat Collaborative.
- e) Co-hosted a major conference: *Exploring Opportunities in Forest Management to Benefit Wildlife Habitat*
- f) Developed a new design and printed updated copies of the MFRP brochure.
- g) Participated, via invitation, in the Minnesota DNR Ecological and Water Resources Division Strategic Planning Project
- h) Co-hosted and financially supported the convening of a major conference on the emerald ash borer.
- i) Penned a letter to the University of Minnesota CFANS in support of Howard Hoganson project Rapid Agricultural Response Fund in support of "Managing Minnesota's Forest Resource Situation."
- j) Penned a letter to the University of Minnesota CFANS in support of Matthew Russell project Rapid Agricultural Response Fund in support of Minnesota's rural forests and the expanding emerald ash borer: Landscape risks and forest management response"
- k) Board Members Alan Ek (University of Minnesota) and Rachel Peterson, executive director of the Minnesota Logger Education Program were awarded for their commitment to, and advancement of the mission of the Minnesota Forest Resources Partnership.
- l) Dick Peterson (DNR) and Dean Mackey, private consultant, were awarded for their commitment to, and advancement of the mission of the Minnesota Forest Resources Partnership.

2. MFRP hosted programs on a variety of forest ownership and management interests including:

Wood Market Opportunities: *Kristen Bergstrand Utilization and Marketing Coordinator, DNR*

Minnesota Logger Education Training, Surveys, and Strategic Planning: *MLEP Exec. Director Rachel Peterson*

Historic Data Availability & Summer EAB Conference: *Rob Slesak, Minnesota Forest Resources Council*
Rob Slesak covered a number of topics, including:

Legislative Update by Ray Higgins, *Timber Producers Association.*

Regional Forest Products Alliance: *Tamara Lowrey, APEX Business Developer*

Forest inventory: Evolution in methodology and results for Minnesota. *Alan Ek, Dept of Forest Resources, University of Minnesota*

The 2017 Minnesota Legislature: What happened? (and what didn't): *Wayne Brandt, Minnesota Forest Industries*

Northern Long-Eared Bat: An Update: *Rich Baker, Minnesota Endangered Species Coordinator - Division of Ecological and Water Resources*

Minnesota Deer Hunters Association: Habitat Protection Projects/Updates: *Craig Engwall, MDHA Executive Director*

Minnesota Deer Management Plan: An Update: *Dennis Thompson, MFRP Board Member and Management Plan Advisory Committee Member*

October 2017 Forestry and Wildlife Habitat Workshop Update. *Eli Sagor, U of M Sustainable Forests Education Cooperative*

State of the Forest (Health): *Jess Hartshorn, Minnesota DNR Forest Health Specialist*

Northeast Minnesota White Cedar Plant Community Restoration: *Dale Krystosek, Performance Review & Assistance Program Coordinator - Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources:*

Minnesota's Statewide Deer Management Plan: *Adam Murkowski, Minnesota DNR Big Game Program Leader*

Keeping Forested Lands Forested, or Drilling Down into the Watershed: PFM by PTM: *Dan Steward, Board of Water and Soil Resources*

Million Cord Study: *Jon Drimel, Forest Resources Planner – Minnesota Department of Natural Resources*

Forests for the Future: *Dick Peterson, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources*

Applied Learning Institute – A Workforce Update: *Tamara Lowrey-Senior Business Developer - APEX*

Rapids Energy Center Operations: *David Chura, Manager, Key Account and Renewable Operations - Rapids Energy Center*

Opportunities in Forest Management to Benefit Wildlife - Next Steps: *Bob Tomlinson*