

Minnesota Forest Resources Partnership
2018 Annual Report
Submitted by Chair Bob Milne

1. Significant Activities

Highlights:

- a) The Executive Committee held a retreat that focused on the mission, goals, and activities of the MFRP for the year ahead. This included development and distribution of a survey to board members asking their respective input and guidance.
- b) MFRP completed the year in a particularly financially sound position, with a balance of over \$14,000 at year's end 2018.
- c) Participated in the Bemidji School District "Career Academies" night focusing on engaging high school freshman in natural resources careers.
- d) Accepted an invitation to speak at the Natural Resources Advisory Council of Aitkin County.
- e) Participated in follow-up to the conference: Exploring Opportunities in Forest Management to Benefit Wildlife Habitat by developing proceedings from the conference and working with members to form partnerships on habitat/forestry projects.
- f) Co-hosted the Future Forest Stewards educational fair which drew over 200 high school students to learn about timber industry and forest careers.
- g) Participated in a two-day meeting with the Minnesota Forest Resources Council focused on All-Lands Management; hosted the Council at an informal social
- h) The Partnership was instrumental in the development and promotion of the "Forest Friendly Brewery" project that education staff of small craft breweries on the connection between forest management and clean waters. It assisted in the development of a training video.
- i) Mark Jacobs (Aitkin County), Dick Rossman (DNR), and Dennis Thompson (private landowner) 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:
Sustainable Timber Harvest Analysis - *The Report. The Response:* Craig Schmid, Deputy Forestry Director– Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Biennial Guideline Monitoring Report – *Results Summary:* Dick Rossman - Forestry Guideline Monitoring Program Coordinator - Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

State of the Forest Health *including overview of 2017 aerial survey results showcasing biggest forest disturbers of concern:* Michael Parisio -NW Region Forest Health Specialist – Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Ticks and Lyme Disease: *An update for those in the woods...* Rick Dahlman - Dahlman - Consulting LLC/Minnesota Lyme Association

Mass Timber: Overview, Issues & Opportunities: Tamara Lowney - Senior Business Developer-APEX

Minnesota Forest Resources Council and MFRP Dialogue: DeAnn Stish – Executive Director, Minnesota Forest Resources Council & Kathleen Preece - Executive Director, Minnesota Forest Resources Partnership

Update on Minnesota Bat Research and the Lake States Bat HCP: Rich Baker - Minnesota Endangered Species Coordinator

Logging Business owner Survey – An Overview: *Stephanie Snyder, Ph.D. Operations Research Analyst
Forest Service -Northern Research Station*

"North Central Minnesota's Forest Economy Economic Impact Analysis 10-Year Projections" - *Monica Haynes, Director - Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of Minnesota Duluth*

Mass Timber: Overview, Issues & Opportunities: *Tamara Lowney - Senior Business Developer-APEX*

Sand Plain Pines Project: *Andrea Brandon, The Nature Conservancy and Darla Lenz, Chippewa National Forest, Keith Karnes, Minnesota Indian Affairs Council*

Field tours to Sand Plain Pines Project, Cass Lake

Field Tour Potlatch/Deltic, Bemidji

Sustainable Timber Harvest Analysis: One Year Later. Implementation strategies of the STHA. *Jon Drimel – DNR Lead Forest Resource Planner/Division of Forestry*

Big Game Management in Minnesota – Deer plan and other updates. *Leslie McInenly – DNR Acting Wildlife Populations Manager*

Legislative Session Overview and Minnesota Forest Resources Council Activity. *DeAnn Stish –Executive Director – Minnesota Forest Resources Council*

Minnesota State Nursery and Silviculture Program Update/Improvements and Partnerships. *DNR Silviculture Program Coordinator Mike Reinikainen, Nursery Supervisor Kristina Somes, and Silviculture Program Consultant Paul Dubuque*