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## Wisconsin Statewide Forest Plan Newsletter



November 2005

Issue1<sup>i</sup>

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### **Minimizing the Threat of Invasive Exotic Species to Wisconsin's Forests**

The Invasives Leadership Team has taken great strides in addressing an issue that has been identified as one of the most dangerous threats to Wisconsin's forests. One such initiative has been a proposal to develop best management practices (BMPs) for invasive species in Wisconsin forests. As a comprehensive approach, the BMPs in forestry provide a framework for (1) evaluating an environmental threat, (2) identifying associated user groups whose behavior can help mitigate the threat, (3) bringing the best available science and technological understanding to the issue, and (4) building a framework for appropriate actions that can be adopted by those users.

The proposal for BMPs was formally and unanimously adopted by the Governor's Council on Forestry at their June 21<sup>st</sup> meeting. A copy of the proposal can be viewed at:

<http://www.wisconsinforestry.org/pdf/WI-Forestry-Invasives-BMP-Proposal.pdf>

### **Enhancing Assistance to Wisconsin's Private Forest Landowners**

Recent initiatives by this Leadership Team include a formal letter to Patricia Leavenworth, State Conservationist, to highly recommend that agricultural forests and forest lands owned by agricultural producers be included as part of the farm planning process. In addition, the Leadership Team also recommended that a permanent representative of forest landowners be appointed to the EQIP committee in each county. A copy of this letter can be viewed at:

<http://www.wisconsinforestry.org/pdf/PFL-team-letter-NCRS-7-2005.pdf>

As a result, a response from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) was received (posted below) and in it a clarification that according to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) that membership on the EQIP Committee is only limited to Federal, State, County, Tribal or Local governmental representatives. However, citizen participation is strongly encouraged and this is where woodland owners can have an impact on the decision-making process. (See FACA links below for further detail.)

<http://www.fido.gov/facadatabase/>  
<http://www.usdoj.gov/04foia/facastat.pdf>

The Leadership Team will also be meeting in mid-November to discuss the NRCS reply (posted below) and future actions. In addition, funding opportunities for a market research study to better

identify ways of engaging non-participatory, non-industrial private forest (NIPF) landowners, will be discussed.

<http://www.wisconsinforestry.org/pdf/PFL-NRCS-reply-10-2005.pdf>

### **Minimizing Recreational Use Conflicts in Wisconsin's Forests**

Theme Champion and Professor of Urban and Regional Planning at UW-Madison, Dave Marcoullier, and Jeff Prey, Senior Planner at the Wisconsin DNR, have begun a project to address recreational use conflict issues that were identified at the 2004 Governor's Conference on Forestry. It is hoped that an analysis of recreational conflicts in a multi-faceted way will help to identify (1) types of recreational conflict, (2) levels of compatibility, (3) factors that affect recreation conflict, (4) forms of management approach, and (5) forms of appropriate dispute resolution techniques. A current literature review on this research project can be found at:

<http://www.wisconsinforestry.org/pdf/Assessing-Recreational-Conflict-lit-review.pdf>

### **Maintaining Wisconsin's Forest Based Economy**

Earl Gustafson has recently been named as the new Champion for the Forest Based Economy Leadership team. Earl brings a wealth of experience to his new position of Champion. Currently the Vice President of Energy, Forestry and Human Resources, Earl is tasked with administering the Wisconsin Paper Council's involvement in energy, forestry, contractor safety and unemployment insurance issues impacting the state's pulp and paper industry, as well as developing and administering special projects designed to protect and promote the industry. He is currently forming his Leadership Team to address issues pertinent to the Forest Based Economy.

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“Wisconsin Statewide Forest Plan Newsletter” is a quarterly electronic publication highlighting recent initiatives and activities of the Statewide Forest Plan Leadership Teams.

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