

State Forest Planning for SFM Certification

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***Northeastern Forest Resource
Planners Association***

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The Plum Line Partners

- *Charles Levesque*

Innovative Natural Resource

Solutions, Antrim, NH

- *Bill Rockwell*

Strategic Resource Systems

St. Johns, MI

- *Network of partners*



The Plum Line Services

- Consulting
- Training
- Third-Party Auditing
- Public Service
 - SFI® Auditors' Forum
 - SAF (E6) Sustainability & Certification Working Group



Outline of Presentation

- Potential Scope of Certification
- Purposes for Certification
- State Forestry Agency Roles
- Application of Certification Programs



State Forestry Agency

Planning for Certification of:

- State Forests
- County Forests
- Family Forests
- Forest Stewardship Programs
- Forest Cooperatives
- FLEP, CRP, WHIP, EQIP
- Forest Managers
- Property Tax Laws
- Forest Practices Acts
- Loggers
- Chains of Custody
- BMP Monitoring
- Biodiversity Planning



Why certify?

- Management endorsement
- Market access
- Assistance to industry
- Support for forestry



Can certification help?

Sector→	State forests	Family forests	Consulting foresters	Loggers
Purpose				
Management endorsement				
Market access				
Industry assistance				
Support for forestry				

Can certification help?

Sector→	State forests	Family forests	Consulting foresters	Loggers
Purpose				
Management endorsement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Market Access	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Industry assistance	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Support for forestry	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Could a state forestry agency have a role to play?

Sector→	State forests	Family forests	Consulting foresters	Loggers
Purpose				
Management endorsement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Market Access	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Industry assistance	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Support for forestry	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Programs to Consider

- FSC
- ISO 14001
- SFI®
- Tree Farm
- Green Tag?



Potential Program Applications

- State & County Forests (6)
- Family Forests
- Loggers & Brokers
- Chains of Custody
- BMP Monitoring
- Biodiversity Planning



State (& County) Forests

- FSC – buy into program
- ISO 14001 – *all* aspects & impacts
- SFI® - broad program participation
- Tree Farm – a question of size



State (& County) Forest Planning (why you invited me here?)

- Consistent with size & scope
- A plan vs. policies & procedures
- No significant guidance in standards
- Professional judgment of auditors



State (& County) Forest Planning Common Elements of Standards

- Maps, GIS, etc.
- Chemicals
- Legal compliance
- Recreation
- Special sites
- Timber flow, regen/etics
- Water quality
- Wildlife/biodiversity

State (& County) Forest Planning Special Emphases of Systems

- FSC – ecological & social;
& public involvement
- ISO 14001 – e.g., fuel use, waste paper
- SFI® - aesthetics, BMPs, utilization
- Tree Farm – *none*



State (& County) Forest Planning Professional Judgment of Auditors

- What professions & specialties?
- How professional (vs. academic)?
- Auditing expertise?
- How local (including reviewers)?
- Philosophical orientation?



Family Forests via FSP, FLEP (etc.), Co-ops, Consultants, Tax Laws, FPAs, etc.

- Need for forest plans covering the basics
- At least policies with landowner objectives
- Tree Farm Group Certification
- FSC co-ops & certified foresters
- ISO a distinct possibility
- Possibility via SFI
- Dependence on qualified professionals



Loggers & Brokers

- State logger training programs
- Master Logger Certification Program(s)
- ISO 14001 – at least one in MN
- SFI® for Brokers – “CoC” monitoring
- Importance to all systems
- Need to include road maintenance



Chain(s) of Custody

- FSC-specific program
- State laws for bill of sale or trip ticket
- Relation to logger training & certification
 - & BMP monitoring
- Important to SFI procurement monitoring
- Timber-theft issue



BMP Monitoring

- State efforts
- SFI procurement efforts
 - Individual program participants
 - Private collaborative effort(s)
- Avoidance of duplication
- Need for standard protocols
- Beyond water quality



Landscape/Biodiversity/Wildlife Planning

- Needs for inventory, interpretation, priorities, & coordination of management
- Role of NatureServe (co-op with SFI)
- Role of state agencies?
- Role of USAD-FS, USDI-F&WS, & EPA?
- New wildlife planning funds?
- Importance to all SFM & certification systems



Bottom Line

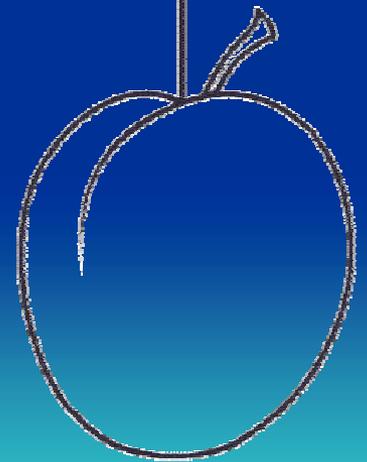
- Practice good forestry
- Use qualified professionals
- Collaborate
- Get creative
- Exert leadership



Need help?

The

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