



SFMA Advisory Committee Meeting, May 1, 2015.
IF&W Building, Bangor. 10-2.

Attendees:

SFMA Advisory Committee: Joe Wiley (C), Barrie Brusila, Rob Bryan, Allison Kanoti, Gordon Mott, Craig Troeger, Aaron Weiskittel, Emily Meacham, Bob Seymour, Ken Laustsen, Andy Cutko, John Bryant, Jim O'Malley.

(Dibble, Ahrens, Wilson were not able to attend)

BSP Staff: Jensen Bissell, Eben Sypitkowski, Dee Braace George, Kevin Osborne

Meeting called to order by Wiley at 10am. Sypitkowski neglected to send minutes to advisory members to be approved. Will do so by email.

Introductions and Admin:

Three members expressed interest in continuing on committee; Wiley, Dibble, and Ahrens, in emails to Sypitkowski prior to the meeting. These will be approved by the Authority during that meeting in May. Wiley expressed interest in stepping down as chair and being replaced this coming fall.

Update on Park:

Bissell gave a brief update on a few wider-Park issues. There were no major injuries that required rescue this winter. The Park conducted an analysis of the Park's search and rescue data, and found, among other things, that most folks who need rescue are older and male. Only 7 of 100,000 people require substantial rescue efforts. Abol will be a major trail relocation project this year, and the Park is moving to a new model wherein we hire Maine Conservation Corps trail crews to perform this sort of work, as well as typical trail maintenance. This will be paid for through the Baxter Park Wilderness Fund as part of the Trauttmann Trail Improvement Initiative. The Park is in the process of making a few rule changes as well, one where bikes are permitted in the SFMA, and another that specifically restricts the use of unmanned aerial vehicles (drones).

Update on SFMA:

Sypitkowski gave an update on the last year's harvest, which was quite low due to several breakdowns, many weeks off in the fall, and a late start in the winter. Sypitkowski explained the various methods of communication with the processor operator, including ribboned blocks and in-cab mapping using tablets. Production was much higher in the one stand where irregular group shelterwood gaps were created, suggesting a greater efficiency for the operator there.

*susceptibility = likelihood infestation will happen
vulnerability = likelihood of mortality and loss

Some discussion followed the concerns over the future of Chamberlain Bridge and other infrastructure in the north Maine woods. Members suggested the connection to the Huber road is a good thing to keep pursuing.

Advisory members briefly discussed the progress on the financial analysis and it was decided that an interpretation of the deeds of trust relevant to the SFMA be formulated. Likely a long process, this will start with a first stab by Bissell, to come in the next year or so. A n assessment of financial responsibilities will derive from this process.

Our favorable position of having few stands with a significant fir component was explained and lauded as a great example of managing between outbreaks. Some discussion followed about what the SFMA might do in case of an outbreak. This led into the presentation of an idea to organize a trip for those interested to visit the defoliation in Quebec, which has been ongoing since 2006.

Meeting was adjourned by Chair Wiley, about 2:15.

Humbly submitted,

Eben Sypitkowski

Joe Wiley Chair SFMA Advisory

Eben Sypitkowski, BSP Resource Manager

Date: _____