



Virginia Department of Forestry

Forest Landowner Education
Workshop



Harvest Information 2009-2012

- ✔ Patrick and Henry Counties – average 100 new logging operations per year
- ✔ Only 10-15% of those got professional advice from VDOF or used a Consulting Forester to sell their timber.
- ✔ We are conducting workshops like this so that we can reach more landowners that fall into that 85-90% category.



Landowners can make bad decisions because:

- ✓ They get bad information from friends and neighbors
- ✓ Think their timberland is worth very little
- ✓ Think clear-cutting is bad
- ✓ Don't realize they have options
- ✓ Don't realize what services VDOF and consulting foresters provide



Initial call to VDOF

- ✔ Landowners call my office weekly with questions regarding their properties
- ✔ Our goal is to help landowners make wise decisions that keep your land productive, sustainable, and most importantly – generate \$\$



High value hardwood stand





Low value hardwood stand





Diameter limit harvest in hardwood stand





Diameter limit harvest





Diameter limit harvest





High quality hardwood stands start from a clear-cut





Young yellow poplar stand





Young yellow poplar stand





Alternative to diameter limit harvest – “marked hardwood thinning”





Marked hardwood thinning





Virginia pine stand





Loblolly pine stand





Biomass Power Plants

- ✓ Meadwestvaco and Dominion Power biomass boilers will go online this fall
- ✓ Will create markets for stands of timber that were either too young or small to harvest
- ✓ Reduce the amount of residual logging debris that is left on cutover tracts



Whole tree chipper





White pine





20 year old Virginia pine stand





20 year old loblolly pine





Silvicultural systems

▼ Questions??



Forest Management Plans

- ✔ If you own a tract of timberland (regardless of size), you should have some type of plan for the future.
- ✔ For small tracts (1-50 acres) - a simple one page letter and a map may be enough.
- ✔ For larger tracts, (50-1000+ acres) – landowners should have a detailed Forest Management Plan.



Forest Management Plans should:

- List landowner objectives
- Divide the tract into parcels based on timber type and age and make recommendations for each one
- Address wildlife, endangered species, invasive species, soil types, water quality, and historical sites



Forest Management Plans should:

- ✔ Include a timeline that tells you what year certain practices need to be done
- ✔ Include a detailed map
- ✔ Include Consulting Forester, Timber Buyer, and Logger lists if timber harvesting was recommended in plan



Virginia Department of Forestry
Protecting and Developing Healthy, Sustainable Forest Resources



Map By: Kevin W. Keith

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Forest Management Plans

- ✓ VDOF – Forest Stewardship Plans for \$1.50 /acre or \$200 minimum
- ✓ Consulting Foresters – Forest Stewardship, Tree Farm, or Conservation Activity Plans (CAP 106 Plan) for a fee
- ✓ Landowners can receive cost share assistance money from the NRCS for the CAP 106 Plans (deadline for 2013 is 3/15)



Other Benefits

- ▼ A current Forest Stewardship, CAP 106, or Tree Farm plan is required for the following:

Certified Tree Farmer

Riparian Buffer Tax Credit

Is required before harvesting timber on tracts that have a conservation easement



Other Benefits

- ✓ If you are applying for cost share funding through NRCS's EQIP program, you will receive extra points for practices that were recommended in the plan.



Reasons landowners harvest timber

- ✓ Generate income
- ✓ Loggers tell them their timber is dying and going down hill
- ✓ Following recommendations in their plan
- ✓ Improve wildlife habitat
- ✓ Converting land to other uses



Timber sales

- ✓ Once in a lifetime event
- ✓ Normally thousands of dollars at stake
- ✓ One chance to do it right
- ✓ Your Forest Management Plan can help guide you through this process



Consulting Foresters – can handle your timber sale for a % of the sale

- ✓ Cruise your timber and calculate what it worth
- ✓ Mark your boundary lines and stream buffers
- ✓ Send out timber sale notices
- ✓ Assist with the timber sale contract
- ✓ Monitor the harvest



Landowner handled sales

- ✓ Decide how many acres that you want to harvest and flag/paint the boundary
- ✓ Call and set up appointments with timber buyers and set a date that bids are due
- ✓ Decide what type of harvest is appropriate: clear-cut or thinning
- ✓ Try to avoid “diameter limit” types of harvest if possible



Landowner handled sales - continued

- ✓ Need to decide before selling if you are going to reforest any of the harvested areas in pine – not all loggers will clear-cut
- ✓ Are you going to sell it lump sum or per unit?
- ✓ Can the boundary lines and corners be found?



Contacts

- ✔ Patrick/Henry – Kevin Keith: 276-957-1319
- ✔ Franklin County – Travis Rivers: 540-483-5330
- ✔ Floyd County – Dennis Anderson: 540-745-2616
- ✔ Carroll/Grayson – Donnie Garman: 276-236-2322

Questions?



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