

# Landscape Stewardship Approaches for Private Woodland Management

Minnesota State Technical Committee  
NRCS

St. Cloud, Minnesota  
March 8, 2012

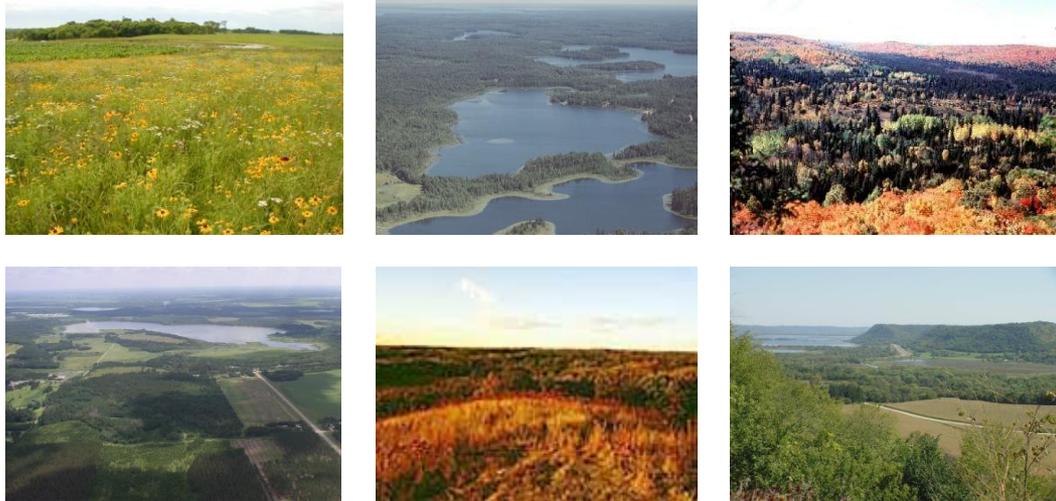


# Presentation Outline

1. MFRC and the Landscape Program.
2. Collaborative project and funding development.
3. Introduce landscape stewardship.
4. Initiate discussions – how to strengthen partnerships needed to better serve private woodland owners.

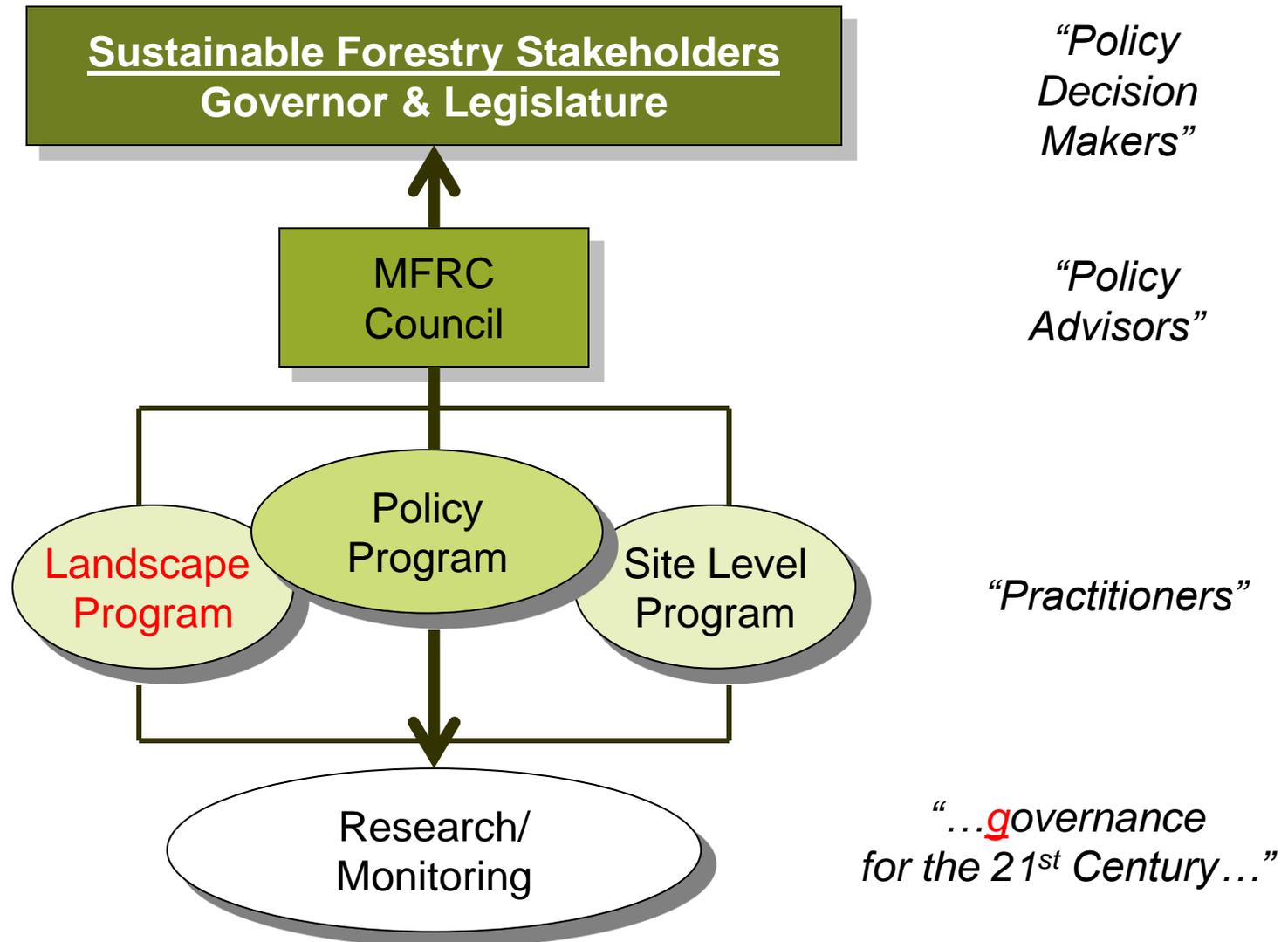
# Context: Minnesota

Minnesota, a big state, with lots of diversity...



*Landscapes are defined by ecological, economic, and social patterns...*

# MFRC: Linking Policy & Practice



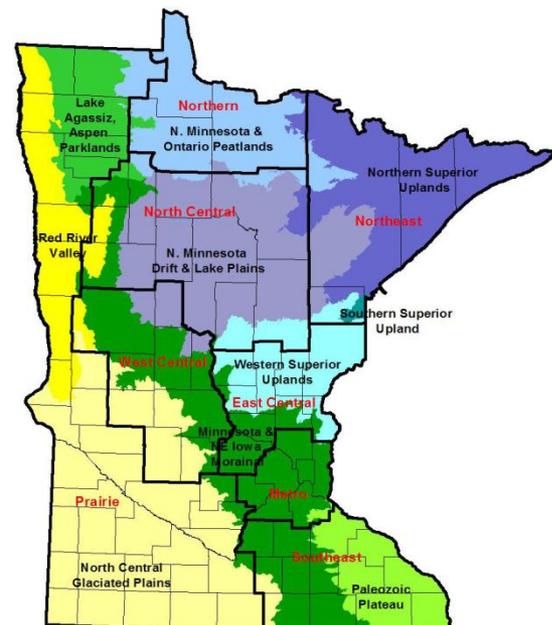
# Landscape Management

Four basic phases or stages:

- Planning.
- Coordination.
- Implementation.
- Monitoring & Evaluation.

## Six Forested Landscapes

- East Central (4.0 M ac.)
- Northern (4.4 M ac.)
- North Central (8.3 M ac.)
- Northeast (7.4 M ac.)
- Southeast (4.9 M ac.)
- West Central (5.1 M ac.)



*“Landscape” = “Region”*

# Current Status

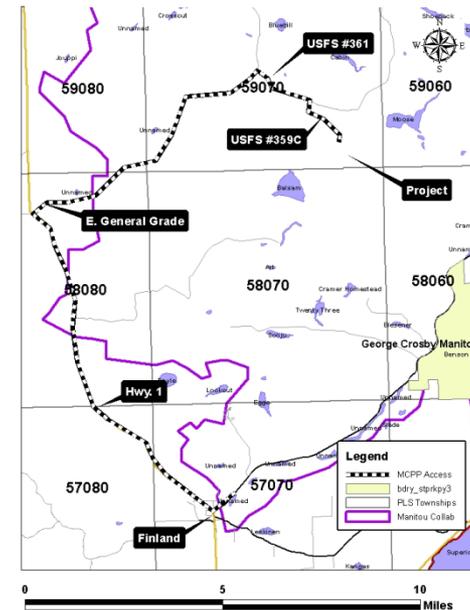
	Regional Committees	Planning	Coordination	Implementation	Monitoring & Evaluation	
1 <sup>st</sup> Gen.	All six regions N, NC, NE EC, SE, WC	All 1 <sup>st</sup> generation landscape plans have been completed and approved.	Each region has an active coordination committee.  Committees meet quarterly.	Each committee has completed two or more projects.  Each committee has three or more projects underway.	Basic monitoring protocols established.  Enhanced monitoring systems under development.	1997
2 <sup>nd</sup> Gen.	NE and SE regions	2 <sup>nd</sup> Generation plans are being developed	To be developed.	To be developed.	To be developed.	2011
	EC, N, NC, and WC regions	To be developed.	To be developed.	To be developed.	To be developed.	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Gen.						2021

*Landscape management is an ongoing and generational endeavor...*

# Collaborative Work Areas

Over the past 8 years, committees have identified cross boundary topics

- Forest management.
- Wildlife habitat.
- Recreation.
- Water resources.
- Land management.
- Economic development.



Manitou Collaborative  
Northeast Committee

*Regional committees set directions for collaboration...*

# Types of Committee Projects

Regional committees have developed three types of projects to demonstrate innovative ways to implement landscape plans:

- Outreach & education projects.
- Research & development projects.
- Opportunity area projects (aka pilots, demos).



Safe Harvest Workshop  
Southeast Committee



Leech Lake Pines Collaborative  
North Central Committee

# Project and Funding Dev't

Since 2007, the MFRC and its regional committees has helped partners:

- Develop over 30 collaborative forestry projects.
- Obtain over \$15 million in federal, state and private sources for forestry projects.
- Obtain 4 grants from US Forest Service for promoting landscape stewardship through projects that proactively support private woodland management.

*The regional committees are convening **forums** to get more good things done...*

# Prioritization Efforts

Over the past 6 years, all six committees have developed priorities for the following:

- Landscape plan DFCs, goals and strategies.
- Regional landscape committee projects.
- Timber Productivity (MFRP).
- Forest research topics(RAC).
- Forest policy issues (MFRC).
- **25-Year Forest Habitat Vision (LSOHC).**
- **MN State Forest Action Plan (DNR – US FS).**

*These priorities are the foundations to successful funding proposals...*



# Private Woodlands

3-year averages timber harvest volumes (2007-2009) in Minnesota:

- Federal lands: 150,000 cds
- State lands: 750,000 cds
- County lands: 700,000 cds
- Industry lands: 350,000 cds
- **Family forests: 950,000 cds**

Private woodlands provide multiple public benefits: timber production, water quality, habitat, etc.

*Private woodlands play a critical role in landscape management  
in every region of the state...*

# PFM Funding: 2000 - 2011

*PFM = Private Forest Management*

*PFM Program – state's private woodland management program (MN DNR)*

**General Fund:** State of MN – \$2 million

- Paid for PFM forester's time, office, vehicle, etc.

**Core Grant:** USFS – \$300,000 - \$400,000

- Helped pay for Consultant contracts to do PFM work.
- Paid for I&E grants.

**LCCMR and Miscellaneous Grants:**

- Paid for intermittent State cost-share opportunities.

*Funding in this decade was significantly less than in the 1990s...*

# PFM Funding: 2011 - 2013

**General Fund:** State of MN – \$500,000

- 75% reduction.

**Core Grant:** USFS – \$180,000 - \$230,000

- 30% reduction (since 2009).
- Now goes toward DNR PFM Forester's salaries.

**LCCMR and Miscellaneous Grants:**

- Harder to obtain without targeted applications.
- Most grants looking for multiple agency coordination.

*The hard realities of further declining budgets...*

Water Quality

Wildlife Habitat

Air Quality

Fisheries

Timber Production

Recreation

Landscape Manager

PFM Coordinator

RC&D Councils

NRCS/BWSR



6 MFRC Regional Landscape Committees

Landscape Forester

Landscape Forester

Landscape Forester

PFM Forestry Teams  
DNR - SWCD - Consulting

Policy & Direction

Landscape Plans

Conservation That Works

Forestry Strategic Initiative

State Forest Action Plan

Landowners



# Discussion – Q/A

- Mike Greenheck, private landowner
- Gary Michael, MN DNR Forestry
- Lindberg Ekola, MFRC
- Dave Zumeta, MFRC