

SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY CONFERENCE

APRIL 16, 2015





Forest Advisory Councils

- Department level
 - Natural Resources Commission
- Forest Resources Division
 - Timber Advisory Council
 - Forest Management Advisory Committee





Natural Resources Commission

- Exclusive statute authority
- Regulate taking of game and sportfish
- Advise the director on conservation issues





Forest Management Advisory Committee

- Started 2005
- Diversity of perspective
 - Timber, recreation, conservancy, academia, logger, Sierra Club
 - Goals and objectives
 - Assist in balancing environmental, social, economic issues
 - Advisory for FRD priorities
 - Identify long-term threats to forests
 - Identify economic and environmental opportunities
 - Address management problems across all ownerships



Forest Management Advisory Committee



- Identify partnerships that affect Michigan resources
- Provide active participation in forest planning and certification



Timber Advisory Council

- Started 2012
- Majority forest products industry
 - Timber, paper, sawmill, logging, manufacturing, conservancy, commercial landowner, academia, forestry consulting, biomass
- Goals and objectives
 - Enhance communications between DNR and forest products industry
 - Explore DNR forest practices
 - Identify forest investment opportunities
 - Governor's 2013 Forest Products Summit





Timber Advisory Council

- Provide advice and counsel to the Governor, the DNR, MEDC and MDARD on policy, procedure, issues and concerns related to timber management.
- Provide advice on how to foster the growth of the timber industry to help improve the state's rural economy.
- Assist in improving the working relationship between the timber industry and the DNR.
- Alert the state forester and the DNR director about emerging issues, areas of concern and accomplishments.
- Serve as a sounding board for legislative proposals.



Forest Products Summit

Priorities:

- Increase the economic impact of the forest products industry on state and regional economies from \$14 billion to \$20 billion.
- Increase the export of value-added forest products by 50%.
- Increase forest products related career jobs by 10%.
- Encourage regionally based industry development.





Benefits & Challenges of Advisory Committees

Benefits:

- Increase communications, public forum
- Reduce groupthink and increase perspectives
- Public opportunity to interface department
- Enact science-based solutions
- Aid in vetting proposals
- Aid in developing support





Benefits & Challenges of Advisory Committees

Challenges:

- Appointees may not have subject-matter expertise
- Influenced by strong personalities
- Costly, time-consuming, Michigan has 184 advisory committees
- Can be slow to react
- Limited authorities
- Political
- Volunteers





QUESTIONS?

