

## **Northern Forest Futures Project (NFFP) Implementation Team Charter**

Name: NFFP Implementation Team

Chartering Authority: NFFP Steering Committee comprised of members from each of the commissioning partners (NRS, NA, FPL, R-9, NAASF).

Duration: 3 years

Goal: To forecast how known and emerging natural resource and societal trends will change the character of tomorrow's forests and how the resulting changes will alter the ability of forests to contribute to the well-being of people and communities.

Approach: A team of natural resource professionals and scientist will be convened to implement the futuring project outlined by the NFFP Framework Design Team. A "Core Team" pulled from the commissioning and other contributing partners will be the primary decision-making body responsible for planning, orchestrating, and delivering the NFFP. Core members will have leadership, managerial, and technical skills in project planning, communications, large-scale forest analyses and assessments, forest inventory, urban forestry, social science, modeling, and technology transfer. The work of forecasting forest futures will be logically divided into 3 phases: scoping of known and emerging natural resource and societal issues and trends that are likely to impact future forests; projecting possible forest futures under various scenarios designed around scoping input; and assessing how forecasted changes in future forest conditions and services will alter the ability of forests to contribute to the well-being of people and communities, and how insights into those possible futures might better inform today's policies and practices. Work on each phase will be conducted by a sub-team of experts, and each sub-team will be led by a core team member. The sub-teams will work concurrently, synchronizing as necessary to move the whole effort forward. Additional sub-teams may be created as the project progresses.

Core Team Membership/Affiliations/Roles: The Core Implementation Team is currently composed of the following members:

Northern Research Station

- Dennis May, lead and liaison to the Steering Committee
- Steve Shifley, co-lead and large-scale assessments
- Sue Stewart, social science
- Dave Nowak, urban stewardship
- Deb Dietzman, communications and Steering Committee member

- Mark Twery, modeling and tech transfer
- Keith Moser, forest inventory

#### Other Forest Service Partners

- Barb Tormoehlen, Northeastern Area and Steering Committee member
- Ken Skog, Forest Products Lab and Steering Committee member
- Greg Nowacki, National Forest Systems Region 9

#### Other Partners

- Gus Raeker, Missouri Department of Conservation and NAASF Forest Resources Planning Committee Representative
- Francisco Aguilar, University of Missouri Forestry Department

Core team members will collectively plan and deliver the project. Each member will be expected to liaison to and from their respective partnering entity and its constituencies. For continuity each member will be expected to dedicate a portion of their time for the duration of the project, and bring additional talent/resources to the table as necessary to ensure each commissioning partner's best contribution to the whole.

Sub-teams leaders and membership: Currently the sub-team leads are: Deb Dietzman (Scoping); Keith Moser (Projecting); and Steve Shifley (Assessing). Sub-team leads will be responsible for developing a workplan and delivering their task with support from/through the other Core Team members. Sub-team membership will be open to any interested party from within or external to the commissioning partners that is willing to help accomplish sub-teams goals. These individuals would be non-managing members of the implementation team and their numbers would fluctuate given the size and complexity of the tasks at hand at any given time. Their time could be contributed as an in-kind contribution by a partnering entity or it could be hired through a variety of mechanisms to accomplish the work of the sub-teams.

Communications: The Core team will have monthly conference calls augmented as necessary by additional calls and face-to-face meetings. Calls are currently scheduled on the last Thursday of the Month at 2:00 central time. The Core team will update the Steering Committee periodically, timing the updates to coincide with milestone achievements and with the summer and winter meetings of NAASF. Sub-team leaders will have monthly coordination calls with the Core-team leader. Sub-teams will set up calls/meetings as necessary to forward the detailed work. A web presence will be developed to forward awareness, input, and support of the project and to share progress, products, and knowledge.

Resource Requirements: Contributed time and travel from partners, with infusions of hard money to hire dedicated expertise and talent.

Products:

- Charter
- Deployment Plan
- Website
- Issues scoping
- Scenario development
- Projection data
- Projection statistical summary
- Projection data distribution tool
- Baseline assessment of current condition
- Comparative assessment of future conditions
- Implications of future and insights for today
- Synthesis products for broader audience
  - Comparative indices
  - Model the model results
  - Teaching curriculum