

2007-2008 ANNUAL REPORT

Forest Management Review Commission

Pursuant to Section 7, Article 24, Chapter 5 of the Code of West Virginia, the West Virginia Forest Management Review Commission (FMRC) makes the following report to the Joint Committee on Government and Finance for the period of June 2007 through January 2008.

June 2007

Senator McCabe and Noelle Starek, Senate Committee Counsel, presented Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 83, regarding taxation of managed timberland, to the committees.

Wade Thompson, Director of the Division of Property Tax, made a presentation to the committees and answered questions. Senator Helmick spoke and answered questions.

Randy Dye, Director of the Division of Forestry, made a presentation to the committees and provided the committees with a handout regarding the Division of Forestry's involvement with Managed Timberlands.

Frank Jeziero, Director of the Division of Natural Resources, made a presentation to the committees and provided the committees with copies of his comments and a handout regarding hunting and other recreational uses of Managed Timberlands.

July 2007

In lieu of having a committee meeting, the members went on a visitation of a tree farm nursery in Mason County.

August 2007

S. Clark Haynes, Assistant Director of the Forest Health Protection Programs, presented to the committee a slide show regarding the gypsy moth in West Virginia, information on other forest pests including the hemlock woolly adelgid, syrex wood wasp, emerald ash borer and sudden oak death and beech bark disease.

Steve Hannah, Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture, spoke and answered questions about state and federal funding regarding the gypsy moth problems in West Virginia.

September 2007

In lieu of having a committee meeting, the members went on a brief visitation to the Cacapon State Park to see damage to the trees from the gypsy moth. The members then went on a tour of Caperton Furniture Works. Gat Caperton, President and CEO, took the members on a step-by-step tour of how the furniture is made.

October 2007

John Crites, Allegheny Wood Products, discussed with the committee the issues facing the wood products industry in West Virginia. Questions and comments followed.

Greg Cook, Deputy State Forester, discussed with the committee the current fuel conditions. Questions and comments followed.

November 2007

Mr. Rob Jones, Jim C. Hamer Company, discussed with the committee the issues facing the wood products industry in West Virginia.

December 2007

Mr. Tom Inman, President, Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers, discussed with the committee the issues facing the appalachian hardwood industry from a market perspective. Mr. Inman presented a slide show and handouts are on file.

January 2008

Mr. Randy Dye, Director Division of Forestry, presented to the committee the 2007 Division of Forestry Annual Report and provided handouts. A question and answer session followed.

Mr. Roger Sherman, spokesman from Mead Westvaco, spoke and answered questions.

Respectfully submitted,



Walt Helmick,
Senate Cochair



Gerald Crosier,
House of Delegates Cochair

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