

Legacy Forest Visions

A newsletter on the science and sustainable management of all forest values

THE LEGACY FOREST'S MISSION AND VISION STATEMENTS

At the last Steering Committee Meeting, the mission and vision statements were finalized and approved. They made their first official appearance on a poster displayed at the XII World Forestry Congress in Montreal, Quebec.

Vision Statement

It is our shared vision that, in the future, the Legacy Forest:

- ❖ Will be comprised of a large and diverse partnership – literally hundreds of principal investigators spearheading research in forest management science, and dozens of associate members assisting our mission through advisory and networking roles.
- ❖ Will have established effective relationships with decision and policymakers on forest management – throughout Ontario, Canada, and beyond.
- ❖ Will collect and share the world's largest and most comprehensive collection of data required for sustainable forest management.

- ❖ Will provide the basis for understanding what constitutes a diverse and healthy forest.
- ❖ Will become a global model on how effectively to manage a forest sustainably through knowledge and communication.



Mission Statement

Our mission statement is designed to answer the following five questions:

Who we are?

- ❖ The Legacy forest is a network of organizations and researchers.

Whom do we serve?

- ❖ Serving decision-makers, policymakers, and forest researchers with an interest in understanding and implementing sustainable management practices on the boreal forests of Canada.

What do we do?

- ❖ Through our landbase and our collection and sharing of data, we facilitate research on forest development resulting from intensive forest management and natural processes.
- ❖ Through our communications program, we will transfer our new knowledge to decision-makers, forest managers and the public.

How do we do it?

- ❖ We believe that, only through increased knowledge and communication can a sustainable balance of social, economic, and ecological objectives be achieved in Canada's boreal forests.

Where and why?

- ❖ The project's focus is upon Quetico Park and the Dog River-Matawin Forest because the juxtaposition of a large established park and active commercial forest provides important and unique research opportunities.



PRESENTING...



Genevieve Wiens became the new Project Officer for the Legacy Forest on August 25, 2003.

She coordinates research projects, seeks new ones and is concentrating on finding future funding for the Legacy Forest.

Genevieve was born and raised in Thunder Bay and attended Lakehead University. She graduated from the Faculty of Forestry and the Forest Environment in 2000.

After graduation, she went on to work for J.D. Irving, Limited, in NB, as Silviculture Forester. After starting her family, she returned to Thunder Bay where she worked for KBM Forestry Consultants Inc., as Operations Supervisor.



EXAMINING RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN ROAD ACCESS AND ANGLING BEHAVIOURS

Many residents of northern Ontario use logging roads to access areas to conduct recreational pursuits. As a result, there has been some research devoted to understand how the use of logging roads by recreationists impacts fish and wildlife populations. There is, however, almost no research that examines the benefits that accrue to resident recreationists from the provision and maintenance of logging road networks.

This study was developed to provide information about the benefits that anglers receive from their use of northern Ontario's road networks. While other recreationists also use logging roads, the narrowed focus on fishing is warranted since fishing is one of the most popular activities pursued by northern Ontario residents. The study will examine the benefits that resident anglers from the Wawa and Thunder Bay areas receive from using logging roads to access fishing sites during the open water fishing season. By examining these two populations of resident anglers, we will be able to assess whether differences exist in the benefits obtained by individuals from these two diverse areas.

The project has received direct and/or in-kind support from the Living Legacy Trust, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources,

the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters and Wilfrid Laurier University. Efforts are currently underway to secure more project partners and additional financial and in-kind support.

The study works from a simple premise. The fishing sites chosen by anglers reveal important aspects about anglers' preferences for fishing sites. By observing enough choices by anglers, it is possible to determine anglers' preferences for all sorts of aspects of fishing sites including the availability and quality of road access. This choice modeling approach also allows us to assess trade-offs that anglers may make between desirable and undesirable aspects of a fishing site (e.g., a willingness to travel through difficult terrain to access a place with a high quality fishery).

During this past year, we conducted two data collection efforts. First, field crews inventoried numerous access points and roads in the Thunder Bay and Wawa areas. In total, 375 access points in the Thunder Bay area and 165 access points in the Wawa area were inventoried. Second, field crews conducted over 70 qualitative interviews with anglers from the Thunder Bay and Wawa areas. These interviews were conducted to understand better the processes that anglers use to select a fishing site.

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DECISION SUPPORT FRAMEWORK WORKSHOP

The next strategic planning workshop for the Legacy Forest, entitled Decision Support Framework is scheduled for January, 2004. The goal of the workshop is to expose forest managers and researchers in government, industry and academia to the types of models and decision support tools used outside of Ontario. The workshop will also be used as a benchmarking exercise to explore the models and tools utilized in other jurisdictions throughout North America and Europe, and evaluate their attributes in relation to forestry in Ontario.

Models and decision support tools represents a large and varied information base. We have begun the planning process by narrowing the field of topics into three sections: landscape planning, including SFMM, Patchworks, FES and other optimization tools; landscape biology, including animal (fish and wildlife) and plant (succession); and, economic/recreation, including timber production (growth & yield/inventory) and carbon credits (Kyoto commitments). The Legacy Forest, in partnership with the Ontario Forest Research Institute, hopes to assemble experts in these fields to discuss the models and decision support tools utilized in their respective jurisdictions.

To organize a workshop of this size and scope, the Legacy Forest has assembled an expert Workshop Planning Committee, including:

- ❖ Jim Baker – Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
- ❖ Wayne Bell – Ontario Forest Research Institute
- ❖ Kevin Crowe – Lakehead University
- ❖ Dirk Kloss – Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
- ❖ John Pineau – Forest Research Partnership
- ❖ Rob Rempel – Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
- ❖ C.T. Smith – Texas A&M University
- ❖ Genevieve Wiens – Lakehead University.

The workshop will be held in the ATAC building on Lakehead University's campus. As with previous Legacy Forest workshops, we are hoping to have participants from government, industry, First Nations and environmental groups. With the availability of new and increasingly complex models, this workshop is timely and of great importance for sustainable forest management in Ontario.

If you would like more information about the workshop, please contact Genevieve Wiens, Legacy Forest Project Officer, by phone at 807-343-8595 or e-mail genevieve.wiens@lakeheadu.ca.



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ANGLING BEHAVIOURS

In 2004, a larger sample of anglers from the Wawa and Thunder Bay areas will be asked to participate in an angler diary program. The diary will ask anglers to record various aspects about any fishing trips they undertake between April and October of 2004. After this data collection, the information from the diaries will be used to determine the importance of aspects such as the quality of roads to anglers. The study will also test the importance of habits at influencing the fishing site choices made by anglers.

The results from this study will assist resource managers in at least two ways. First, the models will help to forecast the expected spatial redistribution of angling effort resulting from management changes such as the closure of logging roads to vehicular traffic. Second, it is possible to use the models for economic valuation purposes. For example, it is possible to determine the change in the economic value of resident angling associated with a closure of a road.

Both of these sources of information will provide much needed information to resource managers. The information about the spatial distribution of angling effort will enable managers to understand how decisions at one site may impact fisheries at other sites. The information on economic values will permit man-

agers to determine how their decisions may impact the value of the resident angling product.

For specific information about this project, contact:

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EVENTS

Data Gaps Analysis Workshop August 25-26, 2003

The second Legacy Forest planning workshop was held at Quetico Centre near Atikokan. The objective of this *Data Gaps Analysis* workshop was to identify potential research projects that will expand the information needed for sustainable forest management.

Five speakers from government, industry, First Nations and academia discussed current shortfalls in research data in their respective areas. The speakers were Michael Gluck – Forest Policy Section (OMNR), Jean Paul Gladu – National Aboriginal Forestry Association, Ryan Zimmerling – Bird Studies Canada, Roger Barber – Bowater Forest Products Division and Reino Pulkki – Faculty of Forestry and the Forest Environment (Lakehead University).

Preparation for the next workshop has already begun. The workshop, titled *Decision Support Framework*, is scheduled to take place in early January, 2004.

Steering Committee Meeting September 17, 2003

The Steering Committee finalized and approved the Legacy Forest's Vision and Mission Statements. Please refer to the front page of the newsletter for a copy of the statements.

Living Legacy Trust Tour September 18, 2003

The Living Legacy Trust Board was in Thunder Bay touring the programs and research projects to which they contributed funds. Dave West and Ulf Runesson highlighted the Legacy Forest in a presentation held at the Bowater's Division Office.

XII World Forestry Congress September 21-28

Reino Pulkki and Ulf Runesson, accompanied by several graduate students, attended the XII World Forestry Congress, in Quebec. They not only represented the Faculty of Forestry and the Forest Environment, but also represented the Legacy Forest and displayed a poster outlining current research projects.

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