

Update: WACD Forestry Committee  
July 10, 2009

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I. WADE Forestry Sessions

- A. **Al Craney (Skagit CD)** did an exceptional job as track chair offering more forestry and related sessions in the 15 years I have been associated with CDs than I have seen before. He provided topics on a wide array of topics.
- B. Through the Society of American Foresters, we were able to obtain **SAF continuing education credits** for 12 sessions on day 1 and for all of day 2. Continuing education credits go towards maintaining a professional forester's credentials. Credentialing has been brought up in the 2008 and 2009 legislatures and probably eventually will be a requirement to do certain forestry work in WA. Being able to provide services by an SAF certified forester will enable CDs to provide more and better client services.

II. WACD in 2009

- A. **Carolyn Kelly** and I are working on a forestry component. We will be 'touching' many others!
- B. We hope to provide an overview of forestry and fire-related management to the entire WACD.

III. WACD Forestry Committee work

- A. After sending a survey on issues/priorities and training to all districts, and also a questionnaire on forestry skills on each district, we are doing phone call follow-up. **Monica McMackin** (Stevens County CD) is contacting the northern tier of districts east of the Cascades; **Garth Davis** (Spokane County CD) is contacting the CDs in the SE quadrant. **Jake Anderson** (Underwood CD) is contacting those west of the Tri-Cities to the Cascades and I (Thurston CD) am contacting those districts on the west side.

Combining the telephone follow-up with what we have already will give us a good idea of the forestry issues, priorities, implementation strategies, and perceived training needs.

Next steps. Collate the information and identify issues, priorities, and needs on a state-wide basis while leaving opportunity for initiative by individual districts.

- B. WACD **forestry website is up** and running on the WACD website under "Committees".
- C. **Training Needs.** **Andy Perleberg, WSU** extension forestry lead, agreed to work with me (Doug) to come up with a curriculum – training program – based on the needs the CDs identified and things we and the committee see.
- D. **Coordination of efforts.** I have contacted the WA Farm Forestry Association, WSU extension, Family Forest Foundation to see what we can do about combining our efforts and complementing our efforts in forestry, particularly for small acreages. We will see what their ideas are – maybe we can identify some opportunities.

IV. Miscellaneous

- NACD Forestry Resource Planning Group (AKA committee) – August 2-4 in Denver. **Garth Davis** (Spokane County CD) will be there on behalf of NCDEA and Doug Rushton will be there as the NACD western forestry representative,