

Status of 2008 Stewardship Contracting Inquiry Team Recommendations April 28, 2010

Recommendations Implemented:

- Increased the number of training modules and updated the stewardship contracting training information on the Stewardship Contracting website.
- Policy and templates for stewardship agreements have been finalized and on website.
- NFF led five peer learning calls. The first four were geared towards “learning” and “mentor” forests. The final call was open to all national forests and focused on stewardship agreements. NFF co-hosted with R3 an additional peer learning call at the regional level.
- R3 held a line officer training call on stewardship contracting.
- The stewardship contracting brochure is available.
- Resolved policy issue of timber disposal under stewardship agreements.
- R6 guidebook is available on their website if others would like to use it.
- R8 has started yearly Regional Forester’s awards for stewardship contracting.
- Development of stewardship agreements training.
- Regions have various levels of stewardship contracting training developed and will continue to offer training at the regional level.

Recommendations in progress:

- Creating new success stories for the website.
- Create contract for non-convertible forest products (R5 recently drafted, WO will review).
- Continue to engage on cancellation ceiling for multi-year contracts.
- Regional Foresters, Forest Supervisors, WO and RO Directors promote and recognize stewardship contracting as an integrated tool for land management.
- Create a simplified stewardship contract.
- Develop suite of key messages and sound bites.
- Stewardship contracting handbook is being revised.

Recommendations under consideration:

- Increase flexibility in determining appropriate methods of product appraisal (relates to all contracts involving timber).
- Have agency leadership address the differences in approach to stewardship contracting across the country (i.e. Make allowances for areas that don’t have “something to sell” (no “goods”) and therefore feel that they aren’t in a position to use the authorities).