

MFPC PARTNER: MICHIGAN SFI-SIC 'BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES' REPORT RESULTS POSITIVE

The report written by Dr. Larry Pederson, MSU, along with Michigan SFI partners published to public online | | JULY 15, 2013

LANSING, Mich.— The Michigan SIC (State Implement Committee) and partners, including the Michigan Forest Products Council, implemented a Best Management Practices (BMP) monitoring program. The finished results of this audit and the positive impact of BMP implementation at the state level are posted on the SFI Program website (www.sfiprogram.org).

WHAT ARE BMPs

"BMPs" refer to acceptable practices that could be implemented to protect water quality and promote soil conservation during forestry activities. A BMP can be a structural "thing" that you actually install on-the-ground, such runoff diversions, silt fence, stream buffers and ground cover vegetation over bare soil areas. Or a BMP can also be part of the "process" that you use to plan, conduct and closeout your forestry operation, such as pre-harvest planning or laying out roads in advance of construction. A full set of BMPs are located HERE.

THE COMPLETE REPORT

According the report compiled by Dr. Larry Pederson, where BMPs were audited as needed, 93% were rated as "applied correctly" and another 6% were rated as having an "acceptable variation." These estimates demonstrate dramatic improvement from audits 15 years ago, showing compliance results of 75% (1996 audit) and 82% (1997 audit).

"Overall compliance with Michigan's Best Management Practices (BMPs) has improved during the past two decades," the recently-released study states. "The high level of compliance provides evidence that Forestry BMPs and their statewide implementation in Michigan is successful and the goals of soil and water quality protection are being met."

WHERE TO FIND IT

The complete study is available <u>here</u> or through the SFI website at www.sfiprogram.org/files/pdf.michigan-sic-monitoring-of-forestry-bmps-in-michigan-fall-2011/

WHAT IS MCIHIGAN SFI STATE IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE (SIC)

It is the mission of the Michigan SFI Implementation Committee (SIC) to promote and foster an understanding of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) program, and to promote sustainable forestry practices on all forestlands, regardless of ownership.

The SFI State Implementation Committee includes representation from nonindustrial private landowners, timber harvesters, Michigan State University Extension, and the Michigan DNR, Michigan United Conservation Clubs, forestry consultants, and several major forest products industry companies

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