

Utilization & Marketing Program Update

FMAC Meeting October 5, 2016

MDNR's U&M Program provides information and technical assistance to industry and the public on the forest products industry and forest resources in Michigan. Most of the reports listed below are available at www.michigan.gov/forestproducts.

Recent work:

- [2014 Mill Survey](#) completed in December 2015 – report published in May 2016
- [Active Mill Map](#) updated based on 2014 survey – published in May 2016
- Current industry surveys in progress:
 - Timber Producers Survey (Loggers & Truckers)
 - Secondary Manufacturers Survey:
 - Received a \$69,000 federal Wood Innovations Grant to support.
 - Expected completion date May 2017.
 - Currently – up to a 20% response rate from land mail forms
 - Phone calls & site visits planned via a private contractor in Oct.- March.
 - Forest Products Industry Directory Re-design Survey – still accepting input [here](#).
- Economic Analyses – Dr. Larry Leefers, Associate Professor Emeritus, MSU Forestry Dept.
 - [Forest Products Industries Economic Contributions to Michigan's Economy: 2016 Update](#) published in July 2016
 - DRAFT regional report based on the Forest Products Industries Economic Contributions to Michigan's Economy: 2016 Update – expected publication in October 2016
 - Economic contributions of the DNR's State Forest timber sale program – in progress, expected publication in November 2016.
- Michigan Wood Innovation Team launched in September 2016
 - MDNR, MSU, MTU & Renewable Resource Solutions (Don Peterson) received a \$250,000 grant to develop a statewide team
 - Will focus on developing new markets for wood products, providing assistance and information to industry, and use of hazardous fuel reduction treatment wood from National Forests in Michigan.
 - Team advisory board first meeting is scheduled for October 21.
- Firewood Producers' Survey – in partnership with MSU Department of Forestry
 - MSU received a \$66,000 Michigan Invasive Species Control Grant in partnership with MDNR to do a census of major firewood producers
 - The survey is Phase 1 of a larger project; Phase 2 will be a separate grant application for targeted outreach and education on firewood BMPs, processing/heat treating, and business management for firewood producers.
- MDNR U&M Program internal and external newsletters initiated in 2016. Both well received.
 - Next internal newsletter due for distribution in mid-October.
 - External newsletter sent out in June; next version likely in December.
- Future work:
 - Industry liaison meetings are being planned to help connect FRD managers with local forest products industry leaders on a regular basis.
 - The primary mill survey will be repeated in January 2017 for mills active in 2016
 - MDNR is leading the development of a grant application for a regional economic analysis of the forest products industries contributions in the 20 northeastern states.