

MISSOURI SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS

2020 FALL NEWSLETTER

Vol. 36, No. 2



May You Live in Interesting Times!

By John Kabrick, MOSAF Chair

“May you live in interesting times” is the saying that is sometimes printed on the little slip of paper baked into fortune cookies. Although some believe that this saying is a Chinese proverb, a little research reveals that it was of British origin and later popularized in a speech by Robert F. Kennedy. Regardless of its origin, I think that we all would agree that we are living in interesting times.



When we were together at the 2020 MNRC, I could not have predicted that I would spend much of the year in the office in my basement staring into my computer monitor and meeting with my colleagues with Zoom and Teams. The pandemic has been a game changer for all of us and for MOSAF as well.

Due to concerns about COVID-19, the MOSAF spring technical tour and business meeting were cancelled. With the uncertainty associated with shelter-in-place orders in some communities and wide-spread agency travel restrictions, it just was not feasible to plan for—let alone hold—a technical tour and business meeting.

However, foresters are as resilient and adaptable as the forests that we manage. We successfully held the fall technical tour and business meeting virtually, for the first time in MOSAF history! The technical tour was in webinar form and comprised four presentations on topics important to forestry in Missouri. Read more about the presentations on page 3. The technical webinars were outstanding thanks to the efforts of Mike Bill for organizing the webinar, to Sarah Kendrick who shared her Zoom webinar expertise and wisdom, and to our great speakers. We recorded them but, unfortunately, we later learned that we are unable to post a workable link to the presentations.

After the technical tours, we held the fall business meeting with about 34 members attending. At the meeting, members voted to advertise the \$1,000 MOSAF Student Scholarship separately from the Ed Stegner forestry award. The main reason for this is that the MOSAF Scholarship is only for SAF members. Members also agreed to update the wording of the scholarship by specifying that it is awarded to a student at a Missouri

college or university majoring in natural resources with an emphasis in forestry or forest resources. Please see the draft business meeting minutes on page 8 for more details. These are also posted on the MOSAF website.

I attended my first House of Society Delegates (HSD) meeting this fall, also a virtual meeting. Declining membership was an important topic and Steven Glover, SAF Membership Director, gave an insightful presentation about this issue. Some things that caught my attention were that student membership is strong but we tend to lose them when they graduate from college; there is declining employer support for membership; and SAF needs to do more to engage its members after they join. Our Executive Director, Terry Baker, conveyed that resolving membership issues are extremely important to him and that he is working to identify solutions to better attract and retain members. Expect more information about this during the next few years as Glover's assessment of membership issues is completed. Baker also announced that SAF is filling critical staff positions to replace those who have retired during the past few years. I have invited Tim Phelps, District 9 Director, to the winter business meeting to provide an update about HSD and other SAF news.

As most of you know, the SAF Convention was virtual this year. I must admit that I enjoyed it more than I expected. Via Zoom, I was able to view several presentations made by colleagues and friends from all over the country and to attend social events virtually. The SAF Convention App on my phone made it easy to keep track of presentations and events. Networking is important at meetings and although I was not able to meet in person, I had many virtual conversations with friends and colleagues via chat boxes and instant messaging. My only complaint is that one session that I viewed had poor video quality due to the moderator's low bandwidth. However, this was quickly resolved by SAF staff. The talk at our leadership reception was that future Conventions will likely feature both in-person and virtual options.

That's all for now. I look forward to seeing you virtually at the MNRC and the winter business meeting. Remember, it's a great day to be a forester! It's a great day to be a MOSAF member!

Fall Technical Tour Held Virtually

By Michael Bill, MOSAF Chair-Elect

MOSAF has a history of conducting excellent spring and fall technical tours which allow foresters to view statewide forestry issues and learn more about what is happening with forest management across the state. These tours are also a great opportunity for members to network with other professionals. This year, however, our spring tour was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. But this afforded us the opportunity to rethink how we can continue providing relevant and up-to-date forestry related presentations to our members. Along with the rest of the world, MOSAF was able to adapt and find new ways of networking and sharing information with our members. We determined that our best option for a fall technical tour was to go virtual. Although most foresters would prefer to be in the woods on a crisp fall day, it was the option that kept members safe and still allowed us to continue to provide technical forestry information. Four different topics were covered during the 3-hour webinar that included an update on the feral hog partnership, MDC's SFI® certification, the reintroduction of the brown-headed nuthatch, and Pioneer Forest's pay-by-weight method for selling timber.

First on the agenda was Jason Jensen. Jason is the Incident Commander of the feral hog partnership and he provided an overview of the program. In his presentation, he



Feral hogs in trap. Photo credit: MDC.

discussed the history of feral hog eradication in Missouri and the current extensive efforts that MDC and the agencies and organizations in the partnership are taking to eliminate feral hogs from Missouri. Jason stated that we are having great success with the partnership and the new incident command structure and are reducing the number of watersheds where feral hogs are known to occur.

The second presenter was Marty Calvert, MDC Forestry Program Certification Specialist, who provided an overview of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® certification program. MDC has over 600,000 acres of the forests they manage certified in the program for the past four years. Marty described the certification process, how MDC is using SFI®, and the benefits to MDC being certified in the program. More information on MDC's SFI certification can be found at <https://mdc.mo.gov/trees-plants/forest-care/forest-certification>.

Sarah Kendrick, MDC State Ornithologist, presented on the brown-headed nuthatch reintroduction to pine-oak woodlands in southern Missouri. This is an effort by a

consortium including MDC, the USFS Northern Research Station, USFS's Mark Twain National Forest and Ouachita National Forest, the University of Missouri, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, and Florida's Tall Timbers Research Station. Brown-headed nuthatch are native to Missouri but were likely extirpated during the great cutover at the turn of the twentieth century. However, due to forest management efforts in the Ozarks, crucial habitat is now available for the reintroduction of these birds. The first reintroduction of approximately 50 birds occurred this fall on USFS ground in southern Missouri. Sarah reported that the birds seem to be doing very well so far. The "squeak" has returned to Missouri. Another 50 birds are planned to be released next year.



Brown-headed nuthatch. Photo credit: Sarah Kendrick.

Brandon Kuhn, Chief Forester at Pioneer Forest, described the benefit of moving to a pay-by-weight method for timber sales. Pioneer Forest implemented the pay-by-weight method after the 2009 derecho, which blew down several million board feet of timber on Pioneer lands and needed to be quickly salvaged. They have since implemented this method for all their timber sales. This has greatly improved the efficiency of their timber sales while maintaining accurate measures of the volume harvested.

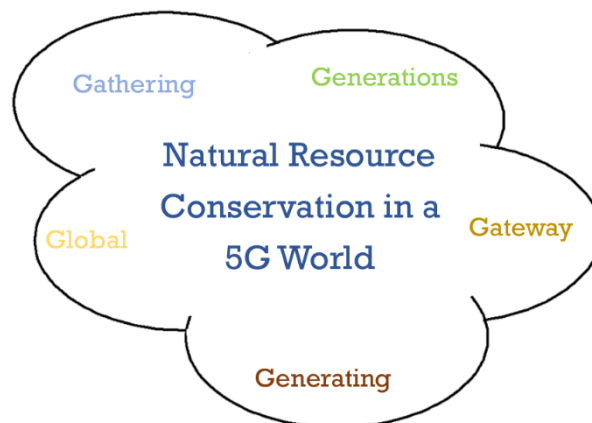
As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to unfold, we will continue to evaluate how best to bring information to our members. Please send me any topics that you would like to see discussed at our spring technical meeting. Don't forget MNRC is virtual this year. The forestry-directed workshops will be related to the adaption of new forest management technologies. I hope to "see" you at MNRC and the spring field technical tour!

2021 Missouri Natural Resources Conference: “Natural Resource Conservation in a 5G World”

MNRC to be held February 2-4, 2021 via virtual format

By Jon Skinner, MOSAF MNRC Steering Committee Chair

The Missouri Natural Resources Conference (MNRC) covers research from many disciplines and promotes wise use and management of Missouri’s natural resources. The conference is being adapted to a virtual format to allow it to continue to provide this valuable professional resource.



The 2021 conference is hosted by the Show-Me Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society. They are working diligently to learn how to hold a virtual conference. They are planning on holding all the traditional education programs of poster session, keynote presentation, workshops, and paper presentations. They are also learning ways to hold the Student Career Expo, Awards presentations, Society business meetings, booths by sponsors and exhibitors, Society auctions, and some social sessions.

For MNRC and many participating in the planning, including MOSAF and other Society members, this is uncharted territory. Everyone is learning new ways to think of programs, the software to hold the conference, and still provide an excellent experience for all.

Watch for details as they are announced and register for the conference, when open, by visiting www.mnrc.org. We will be looking for you—online—in February 2021.

Missouri Natural Resources Conference



FWAM Hosts Forestry Summit

By Brian Schweiss

In August, the Forest and Woodland Association (FWAM) held a 2020 Forestry Summit in virtual format. The theme addressed at the Summit was that Missouri's forests are in need of management.

The Summit started off with comments by Sara Parker Pauley, MDC Director. Participants heard Pauley's vision for forests in Missouri. She stressed the need for partner assistance to help manage our forests "because none of us can do it alone." She also highlighted the need to maintain diverse forests in age, structure, and species distribution for the benefit of wildlife, water quality, and forest products.



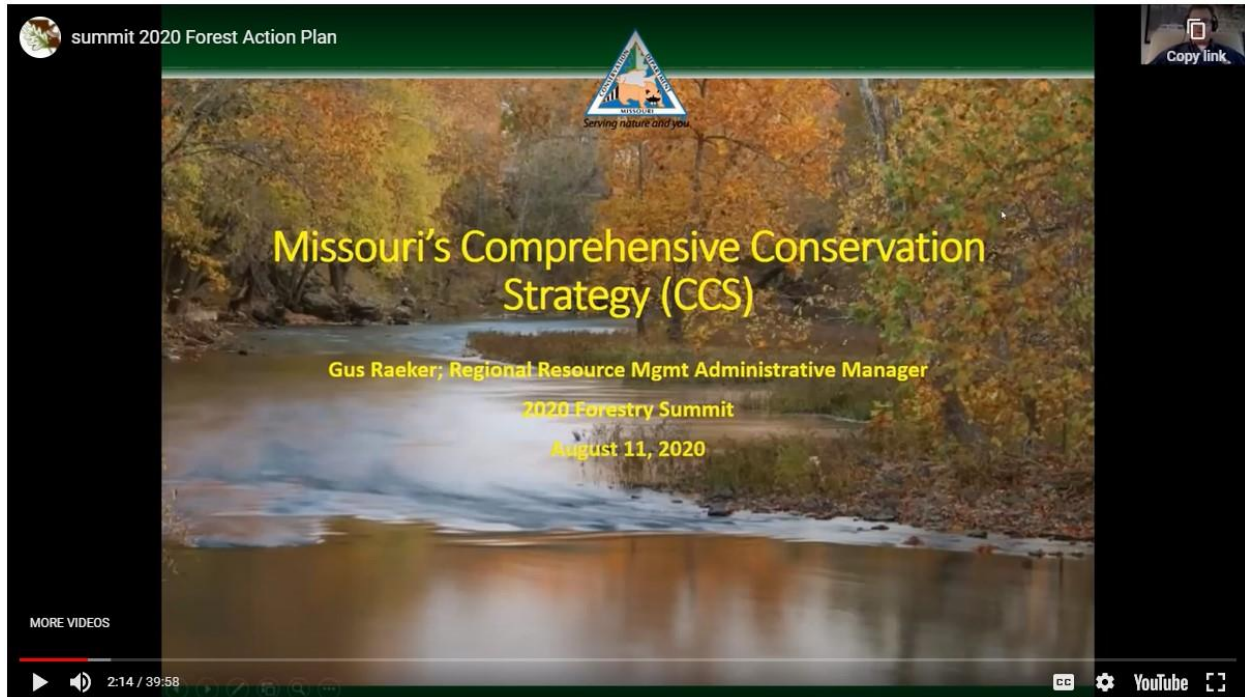
Lance Vickers, Postdoctoral Fellow with the University of Missouri-Columbia delivered a "State of the Forest" address. Did you know that over 15 million acres of forest and over 8 billion trees are present in the state with over 100 tree species? This presentation continued to demonstrate the aging forest dilemma, lack of desirable regeneration and a growing concern of white oak not being found in young and pole-sized forests. This data demonstrates that we have some "interesting understory trends" and forces us to ask the question, what will our forests look like in the future?

Brian Brookshire with the Missouri Forest Products Association discussed the role of the forest products industry and how this \$10 billion industry benefits the state and the role they play in managing forests. Programs like the Professional Timber Harvester and Master Logger are tremendously successful and critical to improving how forests are managed. He also discussed the products we produce and how the trade war has impacted the industry.

Climate change was looked at from two perspectives. First, Leslie Brandt, Climate Specialist with the US Forest Service spoke on climate projections and predicted changes in forest composition. A changing climate does not look good for scarlet oak and white oak as the growing conditions and sites will decline but, due to their vast distribution, will likely remain on the landscape. Then, Chad Doolen with The Nature Conservancy (TNC) discussed his role in developing a carbon credit program for small landowners. TNC is currently looking into a carbon credit program for Missouri landowners similar to a project the American Forest Foundation and partners are piloting in Pennsylvania. We look forward to this developing and the added landowner

revenue and the tool it will provide to encourage forest management for wildlife, carbon storage, and timber products.

Gus Raeker with the Missouri Department of Conservation closed out the session with a discussion of the newly revised Forest Action Plan and how it and the Wildlife Action Plan were merged into Missouri's Comprehensive Conservation Strategy (CCS). The CCS provides guidance of where we work and assesses trends, threats, challenges, and opportunities.



The above overview just gives you a few snippets of the presentations. I encourage you to go to <http://ForestandWoodland.org> and click on "FWAM" and then "Forestry Summit" for full recordings of the presentations.

There are still plans to hold an in-person session of the Summit the summer of 2021. This will provide more detailed breakout sessions and opportunities for discussion and development of a course of action towards improving Missouri's forests.

Fall 2020 Business Meeting – Draft Minutes

October 26, 2020

Submitted by Ben Knapp, Secretary

1:03: Chair John Kabrick welcomes everyone to the meeting and provides an overview of the technical meeting, which included presentations by Sarah Kendrick, Marty Calvert, Jason Jensen, and Brandon Kuhn

1:08: Review of minutes from winter meeting

- Ben Knapp: meeting minutes posted on the MOSAF website for review and approval
- John Kabrick: opportunity to amend minutes anytime

1:10: Movement to pass minutes - David Vance, second - David Massengale

- Minutes approved by the majority

1:10: Treasurer's report by David Vance

- Shared the figures on the screen
- No Questions from the group

1:11: MNRC will be a virtual conference

- Call for papers has gone out
- Soil and Water Conservation Society is hosting the meeting this year
- Planning to hold virtual MOSAF winter business meeting, likely Tuesday Feb 2
- Wed Feb 3 likely have awards ceremony
- Workshops and presentations as normal
- Collecting items for silent auction
- MNRC website for details
- Ben Knapp: Any information on job fair and opportunities for students?
 - Jon Skinner: Planning to have a job fair but not sure what it will look like

1:17: Committees

- Audit (Megan Buchanan, not present)
 - no report
- Communications (Jon Skinner):
 - webpage continues to be used and updated
- Council, Fellows and Awards (Jim Barresi)
 - solicitation is out for Kakaghne and outstanding forester
- Education (Michael Goerndt)
 - CFEs are on track but turn in to Mike any CFEs for approval

1:20-1:22 - Lost internet connection so maybe missed something

- Education continued
 - John Kabrick question: do we have option for CFEs for the morning technical tour?
 - Mike G: no pre-approval but we can do post-approval

- Mike B: can get the list of attendees
- Tim Phelps: provide link to CFE information in chat:
https://www.eforester.org/Main/Certification_Education/Continuing%20Education/Providers_-_CFE_Pre_Approval/Main/Certification/Providers.aspx?hkey=11ddf848-1df9-4d1f-acd2-c9511b2406f5
- Long range planning: nothing to report (Dan Dey, not present)
 - no report
- Membership (Hank Stelzer)
 - numbers are going down, currently at 133 members
 - Three student applications pending
 - Will look at the members who have lapsed this year and will reach out
 - John Kabrick: any efforts to encourage students on campus?
 - Stelzer: yes, student group with MU looks good
 - MU accreditation has been extended
 - MU SNR has hired Pat Market as director
 - John Kabrick: to Mike Goerndt, what is the status of students at MSU?
 - Goerndt: new degree has been approved, had over a dozen students in the new degree; plans to get a SAF student chapter started at MSU
 - Justine Gardiner: MDC is discussing what they need for hiring foresters - could Mike send the new program's curricula to members?
- Nominating (Gus Raeker)
 - nothing to report
- Policy and Legislation (Jason Jensen)
 - may be future discussion on liability with prescribed fire
- Program (Michael Bill)
 - will be planning for the Spring meeting soon, so please send ideas to Mike
 - John Kabrick: we may want to think about a MOSAF-supported workshop at the MNRC meeting, so any ideas are welcome
- Special Funds (David Massengale)
 - possible to have silent auction through online auction service
 - banners and displays are with David M, if anyone needs them
- Tellers (Aaron Moore)
 - nothing to report
- Forest Science (Lauren Pile, not present)
 - provide any suggestions to Lauren for how to provide useful information
- Newsletter Editor (Chris Lohmann)
 - Spring newsletter is on website, will be getting fall newsletter together soon
- Website (Jon Skinner)
 - website is good and staying up-to-date
- MNRC Steering Committee (Jon Skinner)
 - Many parts of MNRC are being figured out now
 - Figuring out student activities at MNRC
 - Figuring out electronic banking and financial aspects of MNRC
 - Jon S will be contacting folks for help with several of the MNRC needs
 - Plan to hold as many aspects of the meeting as possible, aside from the Mixer

- Company called Socio will be 'hosting' the virtual meeting
- We do want a SAF sponsored workshop
- Historian (Dave Larsen, not present)
 - no report

1:41: Old business

- Forestry Summit (Brian Schweiss)
 - Held virtually in August 2020
 - Up to 140 people tuned in at a time
 - Breakdown of attendees (29% MDC, 15% private landowners, etc)
 - Several presentations
 - Vickers state of the forest
 - Brookshire forest products
 - Brandt climate change
 - Dolen carbon credit program
 - Raeker forest action plan
 - Presentations are available on the website (<https://forestandwoodland.org/>)
 - Plan in person follow up next summer

1:45: New business

- MOSAF scholarship (\$1000)
 - Past two years have not received any applications
 - Past few years have paired with Ed Stegner scholarship
 - Use list of forestry applicants from Ed Stegner for the MOSAF scholarship
 - Problem is that our criteria differs from Ed Stegner
 - Things we can do:
 - Change our criteria to make more aligned with Ed Stegner criteria
 - Make our application available as a separate application
 - Criteria for ours:
 - Applicant must be member of SAF
 - Must be enrolled as undergrad at MU SNR majoring in forestry (this isn't really applicable)
 - Do we want to require students to be SAF members?
 - John Kabrick: initiate discussion from members
 - David Massengale: is it easier to change criteria to include Missouri State?
 - John Kabrick: suggests having to be in MOSAF and broaden to allow Missouri State
 - Ben Knapp: current language needs updating anyway regarding specification of SNR forestry degree
 - Jon Skinner and Mike Bill agree SAF membership should be required and some clear indication of forestry degree
 - Jim Barresi: offers to update language of scholarship
 - Motion: Award committee to draft language (and post to the webpage) and executive committee to have power to approve
 - Jon Skinner seconds, no discussion
 - Thumbs up for in favor
 - Motion passes

- Jon Skinner: motion to advertise the MOSAF scholarship separate from the Ed Stegner application (but timing will be the same)
 - Mike Bill seconds
 - Motion passes

2:03 Any other announcements

- Tim Phelps, update on national meeting
 - Positive comments on coming together for a meeting
 - National membership trends are done
 - National level updates
 - Increasing staff to help support state societies
 - Financial update - within budget for the year (sale of Pinchot building)
 - In position to prioritize programs and strategic plan
 - Push for award nominations, deadline for national awards is March 15
 - Foresters Fund - always money in the bank here, \$1500 grants (high chance of getting this)
 - National SAF elections are going on now - make sure you vote!
 - Next year will be Tim Phelps last year as District 9 rep - consider if anyone from Missouri would be interested
 - National convention is this week

2:12: Meeting adjourn

Attendees

Lynn Barnickol

Mike Bill

Marty Calvert

Mike Fiaoni

Justine Gartner

Michael Goerndt

Nate Goodrich

Terry Gordon

Sarah Havens

Glenda Hefty

Tony Jaco

Jason Jensen

Paul Johnson

Matt Jones

John Kabrick

Ben Knapp Chris Lohmann

David Massengale

Aaron Moore

Mike Norris

Trevor O'Brien

Bruce Palmer

Tim Phelps

Gus Raeker

Brian Schweiss

Jon Skinner

Hank Stelzer

David Vance

Carol Trokey

Shelby Jones

Yvette Amerman

Helene Miller

(The following article is for you to share with your local paper. Modify as appropriate for your locality.)

What is Your Tree Worth?

A tree's value varies from costing you money to priceless. The value is determined by a myriad of factors, including where the tree is located, its primary use, the species, the tree's overall health, and the eye of the beholder, just to name a few.

Trees that are considered unsafe and are near places with people and property are almost always going to cost you money as they need removed to make the area safe. Trees are living organisms and sooner or later decline and eventually die as they reach the end of their life cycle. Woodland trees in this circumstance are not a threat to people or property. They could be considered valuable as they add to the habitat making homes for wildlife, insects, and add organic matter back to the soil.

Trees being grown for future use as lumber or other wood products are valued at the fair market value of the timber markets. The value will vary based on supply and demand for the species of interest, the potential products that can be produced from the trees, and the accessibility of the site by harvesting equipment.

Trees maintained for growing fruit or nuts can also be valued by the product they produce. Their lumber value would be relatively low compared to the fruit and nuts it produces.

Trees in communities have multiple appraisal methodologies applied to them. Their value is based on species, size, location, condition, and other factors. Some trees can be considered very valuable as they add to the landscape of a home. In the last decade, trees are being valued for the benefits they provide communities. This includes things like carbon sequestration, rainwater interception, pollution reduction, and others. This value is based on the trees size as a bigger tree provides more of these benefits. You can check out an individual trees value with this system at a website call the National Tree Benefit Calculator (<http://www.treebenefits.com/calculator>).

The most valuable trees are those where financial calculations just do not work. These are trees planted in remembrance of loved ones, collections at arboretums, trees that are honored at National Parks, and others. No amount of money will ever be adequate for trees like these as they represent concepts which are priceless themselves.

When planning activities that may affect your trees, contact a professional forester for advice.

The Missouri Society of American Foresters (MOSAF) is a State Society of The Society of American Foresters (SAF). MOSAF and SAF is a professional society dedicated to sound forest management and conservation.