



## Turtle Mountain Landscape Forest Stewardship Plan

Working Group

9-2-2022 9:00 AM via Teams



### Working Group Members Present:

Liz Smith – Committee Chair, NDFS  
Cody Clemenson, NDFS  
Jodi Delozier, NDSU Extension  
Kevin Kading, ND Game & Fish

### Also Present:

Noah Schaeffer, NDFS

### 1. TMR-LFSP

- NDSU Purchasing advised us that we are free to negotiate directly with consultants. Lezlee and Liz have three meetings with potential contractors lined up for next week.
- If a contractor still cannot be found, MN DNR staff may be able to help NDFS staff handle the project internally.

### 2. Forest Legacy

- Liz was in Spearfish, SD last week for a Forest Legacy meeting and tour with counterparts in SD, NE, KS, CO & WY. All of these states have at least one Forest Legacy project.
  - Having an NGO partner can be important to bringing a successful project forward. They can coordinate due diligence with landowner, appraiser, lawyers, etc. They may be able to contribute financially to these preliminary activities as well.
  - A short-term easement option would require a new set of guidelines and procedures. Short-term easement projects likely would not rank out over long-term easement offers. The program is highly competitive nationwide with more offers than funds available.
  - ACEP may be an option for short-term easements.

### 3. TMR Forest Tour & Stakeholder Focus Group

- Summary information attached.
- Jodi led a discussion of the surveys and focus group and will be providing a final report.
- Participants are interested in additional tours and educational opportunities. We also now have more forest landowners to reach out to for Forest Stewardship Plans and potential applicants for our aspen management cost-share program.
- How do we keep the momentum going? The WG discussed options for webinars, classes, and future tours.

### Next Meeting:

October 7, 2022 9:00 AM via Teams

Notes Prepared by Liz Smith

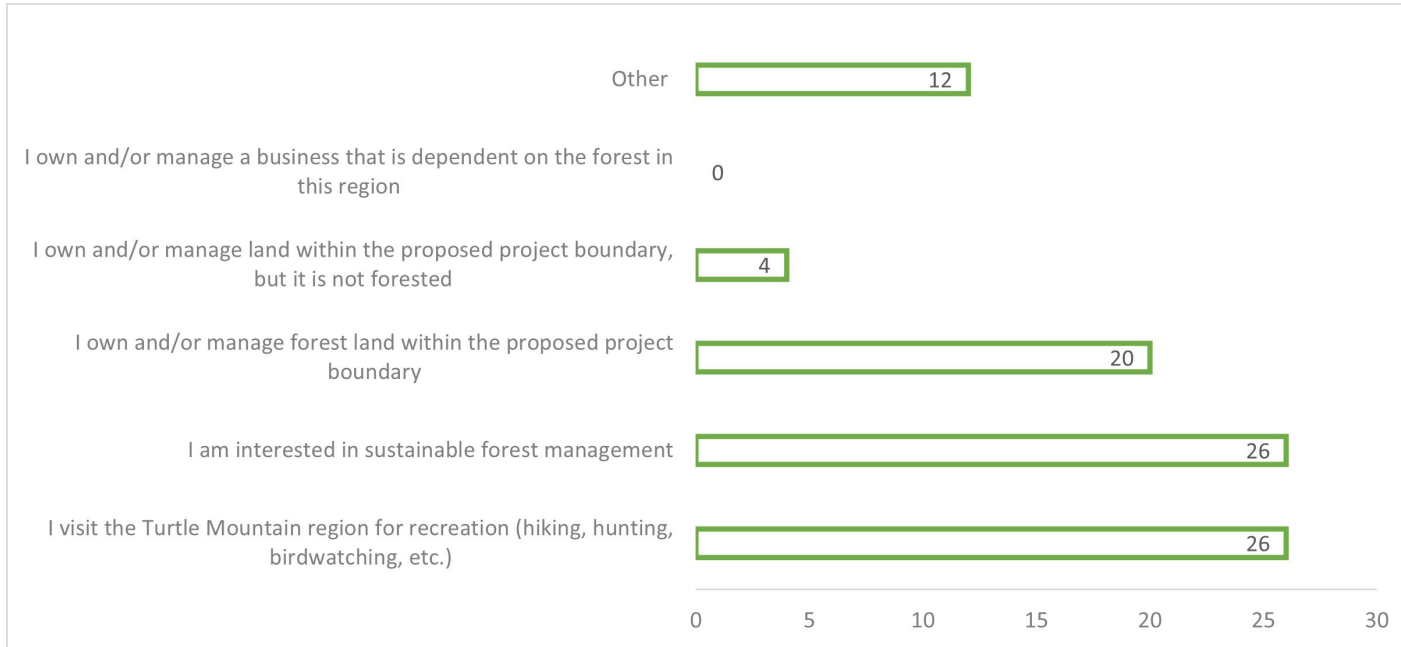
# Turtle Mountain Region Forest Tour

August 4, 2022

## Summarized Survey Results

46 respondents completed the pre-tour survey, 43 completed the post-tour survey.

Please describe yourself—check all that apply.



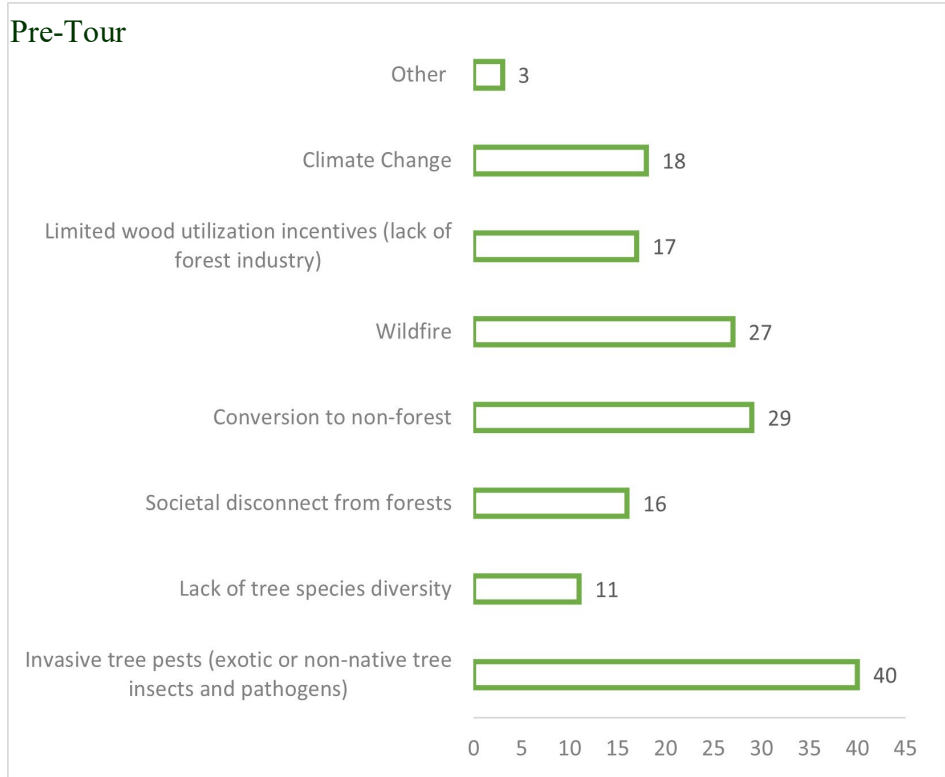
*Note: a map of the “project area” was not provided.*

### Other:

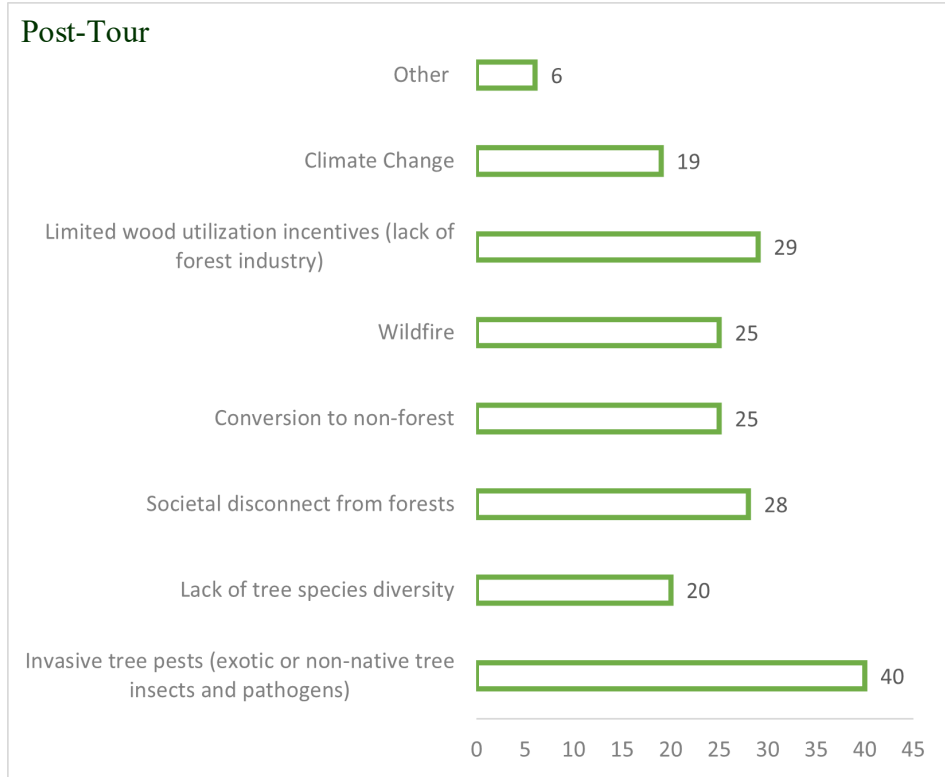
- Live at Lake Metigoshe year round
- born and raised in Wisconsin, Love trees
- cabin owner - Lake Metigoshe
- Farmer/SCD Supervisor
- I own a home on Lake Metigoshe
- Lake property owner
- Own property at Lake Metigoshe
- I live adjacent to Homen St Forest Land and visit it often
- Cabin owner
- Metigoshe cabin owner
- SCD-Pierce
- Retired city forester of Minot



Which of the following are threats to the Turtle Mountain Region forests? - check all that apply

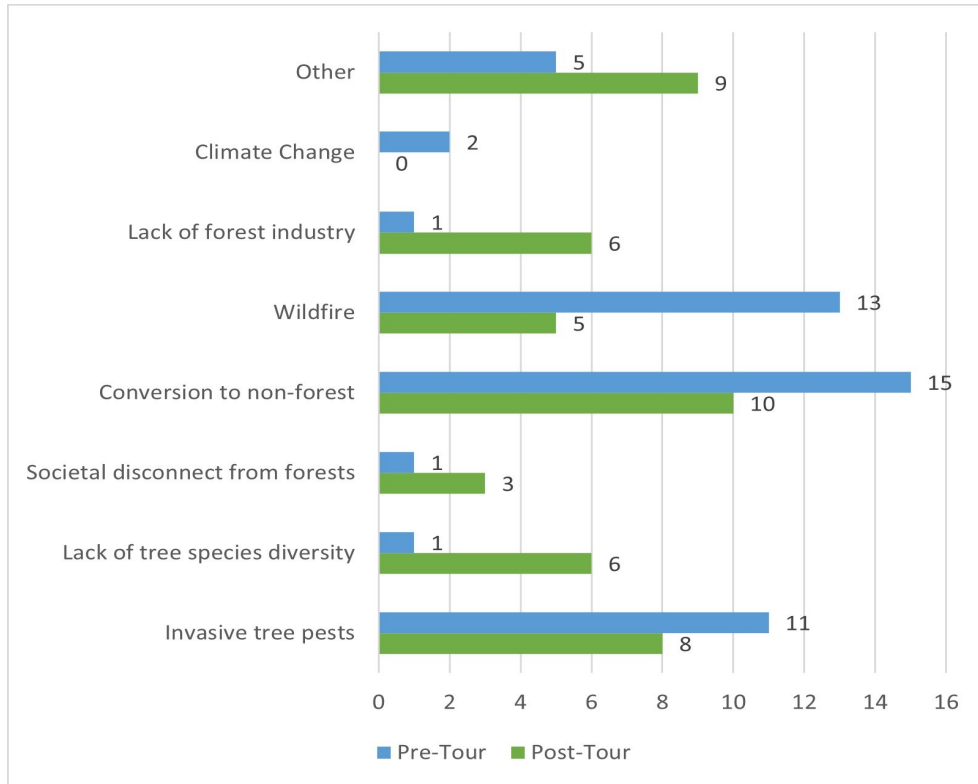


Other:  
 Big side by sides creating deep ruts - inappropriate vehicle use of trails.  
 Lack of cleaning out dead material, inappropriate use of vehicles on trails  
 All



Other:  
 Climate change - we didn't talk about it, but it is real  
 Limited funds for personnel to carry out projects  
 Possible loss of diversity  
 Understand better... "custodial care" of our forest lands means - same as farming.  
 Weird ice storms  
 All

Of the threats listed above, what do you think is the GREATEST threat?



Other (Pre-Tour)

Society

Saving Trees

Worry that future generations won't be able to have these forests, animals to enjoy.

Age of forest

conversion to industry, house, not enough trees planted, old stands need to be cut down

Other (Post-Tour)

How we know so little about managing this area. It needs help to stay healthy. People don't know and forests aren't being managed (costly)

Society

Greatest - uncontrolled growth - fires - etc. anything if too much.

It feels like it can vary quickly from year to year

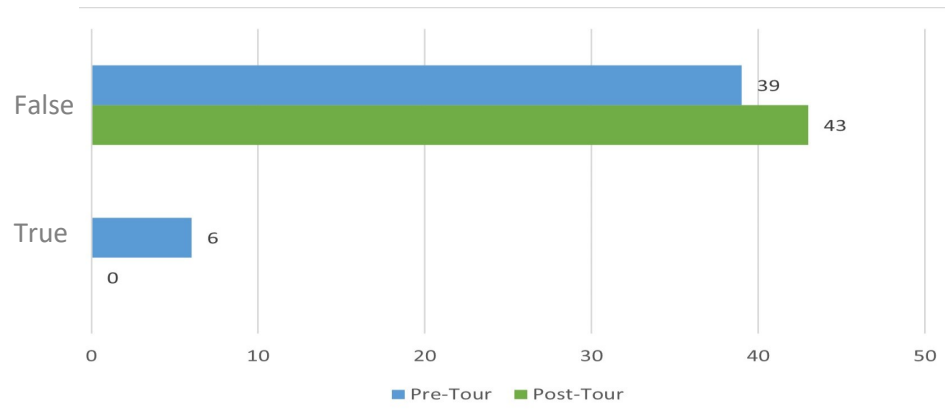
Limited funds for personnel to carry out projects

Too many overgrown forests & not enough equip to handle the cleanup

If nothing is done, our aspens will die off from canker.

Cutting without utilization

True or False? "The best thing we can do for a forest is to leave it alone."



Have your feelings about the Turtle Mountain Region forest changed today? If yes, how?

An even greater appreciation for this area.

Didn't realize just how much work is being done.

glad there is things being done to keep the forests going

greater appreciation of healthy management of the full range of natural resources

I am more aware of the other risks, but also appreciative of the forest's resilience, and the energy & knowledge of the Forest Service.

I have been to areas I've never been - the Turtle Mountain Region is much larger than I realized.

I now realize how important the trees are in our neck of the woods

I now understand the value of WMA and appreciate the efforts of those who work with it.

I think the controlled burns, and what you are doing now is great.

It was very interesting to see the forest after a couple of years post cutting

More appreciative of the challenges. Lots of acres!

More ideas how to make it healthy

No

No

No

No

No - it is still my #home at the end of the world - special place

no -still amazing

No, amazing resource. Underappreciated and utilized

No, been good

not really.

Not sure. I need to learn more. An interesting introduction.

Prior to today's tour, I felt the forest was dying/decaying. Now, I see there are opportunities here that will improve the forest, extend its longevity for future generations

saw a lot more beautiful country side

Will be more watchful & look. Never thought fire was a good thing in a forest but after seeing the 1 year regeneration.

Y- places I was unaware of

yes

yes - there are efforts being tried. This is an excellent way to get the "public" on board.

Yes - worse condition than I thought

Yes- a better understanding of the foothills vs. upper plateau, importance of creating opportunities for aspen regeneration, etc.

yes, awareness

Yes, better managed than I previously thought

Yes, better understanding

Yes, I appreciate it more.

Yes, I observed some good management in places.

Yes, much more going on than I thought

Yes, the utilization aspect has increased

Yes, the work of gov. agencies

Yes, there is more going on than the public is aware of

Yes. Really liked to see all the different Forest Management tactics used

Is there anything else we did not touch on today that you feel is important?

Carbon markets

Ecosystem services that forests provide.

Excellent day - educational - informative. - -> would like to know what specifically could be done in conjunction w/ ND Forestry... to stop or limit the destruction of the... forest around Lake Metigoshe or at least established guidelines for individual land/homeowners on the 50' X 150' lots - we are losing trees. -> is there plans (5 - 50 years) that could be implemented for an area/neighborhood such as Rugby Point/Twin oaks addition.

Forest clean up for fire protection.

Great Day! Thank you to all that made it possible :)

Great Job!

Great tour! Very informative

I enjoyed th tour. Great opportunity to listen, learn, and visit with NDFS & NDGF officials

it was very interesting

It would be fun to go on tours that help you identify species. Thanks this was both informative & fun!

Maybe an overview of the forest situation in Turtle Mts to stast out the day.

Maybe more on wildlife species that benefit from good management (other than deer & elk)

More \$ for public recreation

NA

No

no

No

No

no - great education day. Thank you!

No - thank you for the opportunity to see the forest more clearly. The leadership/cooperation shown between various entities is a hopeful sign that the forest will be used/cared for.

No you did a very good job

No, but I enjoyed the tour.

No, it was very informative

No, this was very interesting and informative. Thank you for organizing the field trip, I enjoyed it!!

Nothing. Thanks for the trip & meal - very informative. Jodi you were a great host!! Hope you enjoy living in the great state of N.D.

Potential continued loss of forests due to humans: personal & commercial building, etc. What is being done to ensure encroachment is limited?

provide map of location stops -provide more tree identification - Things we can do to help save & enhance the growth for future years. \*Discussion questions seemed very politically motivated?! Not a good end to a nice day.

Recreation influence

Thank you - enjoyed it very much

Tree and plant identification

Well done.

What happens to the forest with no management?

You did a great job