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SLIDES: Long Term Management of Community Forests: Some EOMF Partner Perspectives

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Long Term Management of Community Forests

Some EOMF Partner Perspectives

Presentation to Community-owned Forests Conference
Missoula, Montana
June 19th, 2005
In 15 minutes??

1. Eastern Ontario Model Forest Context
2. Community Forests Examples
3. New Approaches
4. Convergence of Ideas
Our vision of forests for seven generations is a mosaic of healthy forest ecosystems within a landscape of rural and urban areas throughout eastern Ontario, providing long term economic, social and spiritual benefits while ensuring a healthy environment that is valued by all.
Eastern Ontario Model Context

- 3.7 million acres total area
- 88% privately owned, 35% forested
- 1 million people “a settled landscape”
- Member/partner driven, NGO 1992
- Trust - viewed as an honest broker
Some EOMF Projects

* Demonstration Forests (60)
* Bog to Bog, Lake to Lake
* Private Land Forest Certification
* Forest Mapping & Information
* Ice Storm Research
* Criteria & Indicators
* State of the Forest Monitoring and Reporting
* Agroforestry Best Management Practices
Diversity of Community Forests

- Community Forests (14)
- Land Trusts (6)
- Biosphere Reserve
- Greater Park Ecosystem - St. Lawrence Islands National Park
- Crown land agreement
- Certified Forest Owners of Eastern Ontario
The Agreement Forests
-1922 to 2000

- Addressed excessive land clearing
- 59 across Ontario
- 270,000 acres
- Owned by local government/agency
- Managed by Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
- Forestry purposes-
  - Wood production
  - Wildlife habitat
  - Erosion control
  - Recreation
  - Water
- 50 year agreements
- Forest management plans in place
- Shared costs
Transition to Community Forests

- Agreements terminated
- Withdrawal of support & expertise by province
- Discretion of local government
- Defining & balancing new values
- Various structures emerging for governance and management
Challenges and Opportunities

- Avoiding “tragedy of the commons” – consensus
- Formulate vision into forest management plan anchored to landscape context
- Zoning-Significant Woodlands
- Networking groups to share solutions, solve problems & create tools
- Overall monitoring & reporting
- Evaluation-criteria & indicators
- Public credibility & support
Certified Forest Owners

Target area

Eastern Ontario Model Forest Forest Certification Project
Certification: Response to a Need

- Landowner and Partner Interest in Forest Certification
- Certification systems focused on large public and industrial forest holdings vs. private land
- No existing organizations in place Co-ops, marketing boards
- Mandate of the Model Forest Program – Learn & Transfer
- Framework to deliver SFM onto the ground
Engaged Partners & Contributors

- Ontario Woodlot Association
- FSC
- Ministry of Natural Resources, Ontario
- Mohawk Council of Akwesasne
- Eastern Ontario Model Forest
- Natural Resources Canada
- Canadian Forest Service
- Ressources naturelles Canada
- Service canadien des forêts
- Domtar
Certification-Means to an End

- Certification achieved
- Core of 40 landowners 10,000+ acres
- Other clusters emerging
- Social interaction & learning valued
- Reaching non-traditional, new owners
- “Woodlot Welcome Wagon”
- Standards in place
- Industry support
- Emerging connection to other “Community Forests”
A Community Convergence

- Other community forests able to adopt framework
- 3rd party verification builds community confidence and political support “a matter of pride”
- Larger community forests serve a nuclei for landowner groups and landscape level collaboration
- Opportunity to develop, retain & share advanced expertise
- Cost-sharing efficiencies
- On the ground sustainable forestry over a wider area
Remember…

Forests for Seven Generations