

**DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY**  
**Montana Climate Change Advisory Committee**  
**Agriculture, Forestry & Waste Management**  
**Technical Work Group**  
**Call #8, February 20, 2007**

Attendance:

1. TWG Members: Dave Kelsey, Richard Liebert, Trudi Peterson, Ted Dodge, Lowell Whitney, Robert Boettcher
2. Public: None
3. CCS: Steve Roe, Katie Bickel
4. DEQ: Lynda Saul, Bob Habeck, Pat Crowley, Jeff Blend, Bill Bahr

Background documents:

(all posted at [http://www.mtclimatechange.us/Agriculture\\_Forestry.cfm](http://www.mtclimatechange.us/Agriculture_Forestry.cfm))

1. Agenda
2. Draft Summary of AFW TWG Call#7
3. Power Point Presentation to the AFW TWG
4. MT AFW Policy Options

Discussion and conclusions:

1. CCS reviewed the agenda and purpose of the call, which is to review and discuss drafting of mitigation option straw proposals in preparation for the next CCAC meeting. CCS also reviewed the draft call summary from the previous call. CCS noted that a forestry subgroup has had two conference calls since the last TWG call to facilitate development of straw proposals. No changes were needed to the draft summary.
2. CCS led a discussion through the draft straw proposals, which have been elaborated in terms of text for goals, timing, and coverage of parties; in some cases, information on implementation mechanisms and related policies and programs in place have also been included. TWG members discussed each straw proposal, clarifying issues, addressing comments, and in some cases making revisions. The discussion included the following:
3. AFW-1 Agricultural Soil Carbon Management: the current draft does not contain goal levels above business as usual for organic farming; the TWG noted some discomfort because of the variation in methods and uncertainty that organic farming per se would result in carbon sequestration; the TWG agreed to expand goal to include 15% increase in organic farming acres by 2015 over baseline and 50% increase by 2025, where organic farming refers to no chemical applications for 3 years. The GHG benefits will include those associated with avoided use of

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- fertilizer/pesticides/herbicides and will factor in whether increased tillage has the potential to increase fuel consumption.
4. AFW-2 Biodiesel Production; CCS inquired whether the TWG wanted to stay with the recommended goals based on the 2004 level of petroleum diesel consumption (versus basing them on offsetting a percentage of diesel consumption in future years). The TWG noted that the goal level was estimated with capacity in mind, both in terms of facility and crop acreage. No changes were made to the goals.
  5. AFW-3 Ethanol Production. The goal level was not included in the draft for discussion. The TWG lead on this option provided the following goals/timing: in-state production levels of 50 million gallons/year (mgy) of starch-based ethanol production capacity and 2 mgy of cellulosic production; by 2015, achieve in-state production of 110 mgy of starch-based and 20 mgy of cellulosic production; by 2020, achieve in-state production levels of 250 mgy starch-based and 40 mgy of cellulosic production. The TWG noted that the goals take into account existing capacity, facilities in place and under consideration (DEQ has a list of facilities) and that the TWG took a conservative approach based on the reality of competition for feedstocks.
  6. AFW-4 GHG Benefits of Farm Bill Programs: The TWG still needs to develop goal levels; relevant background information was provided but is not reflected in the discussion draft. The TWG agreed that the goal should focus on protecting existing CRP acres (maintaining some portion of CRP land in permanent cover from the amount that is scheduled to retire from the program). The economic demands for using this retired CRP lands for production of livestock feed and biofuel feedstocks was noted by the TWG.
  7. AFW-5 Preserve Open Space & Working Land: Incentives and existing programs were discussed. No changes suggested.
  8. AFW-6 Forest Health Programs for Carbon Management: The TWG determined that this option was redundant with other forestry options and recommends integrating this option into the other relevant forestry options (AFW 7-10).
  9. AFW-7 Expanded Use of Biomass Feedstocks for energy use: no changes identified by the TWG.
  10. AFW-8 Afforestation and Reforestation Programs: The TWG determined there is low feasibility for implementing afforestation in MT: planting on low productive rangelands does not make sense because of low precipitation and soil quality constraints. Reforestation targets acres that have burned and will have compromised regeneration without assistance; the TWG will consider expanding the goal to also target land historically impacted by stand replacement fires. Urban afforestation targets will also be considered.
  11. AFW-9 Improved Management and Restoration of Existing Stands: The TWG is working to develop an estimate of how much productivity increase can be expected under the goal level.
  12. AFW-10 Expanded Use of Wood Products for Building Materials: data on baseline trends was shared: trends in board feet per new house from 1992-2006

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- will be used to establish current levels of wood products use in building materials (probably looking at the trend from 2000-2006 as representative of future trends).
13. AFW-11 Programs to Promote Local Food and Fiber: The TWG considered the goal for fiber and determined it was difficult to assess based on limited information. It was decided that fiber was important to note but that a goal level was not necessary and to keep the goal focused on food.
  14. AFW-12: Enhanced Solid Waste Recovery and Recycling: no comments or revisions

Next steps:

1. CCAC will review straw proposals at March 1, 2007 meeting (Helena, MT).
2. Following that CCAC meeting, CCS will provide a summary of the outcomes to the TWG, follow-up with volunteer groups, and begin quantification.
3. Next TWG call April 4, 2007, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

**MT AFW Volunteers for Policy Option Development  
(Additional volunteers are requested)**

<b>Option #</b>	<b>GHG Reduction Policy Option</b>	<b>Volunteers</b>
AFW-1	Agricultural Soil Carbon Management Programs	<b>T. Peterson;</b> D. Kelsey; R. Bricklemyer; C. Watters, R. Boettcher
AFW-2	Biodiesel Production (incentives for feedstocks and production plants)	<b>C. Watters,</b> D. Kelsey, B. Bahr
AFW-3	Ethanol Production	<b>R. Liebert,</b> C. Watters, J. Blend
AFW-4	Incentives for Maintenance of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Acreage	<b>T. Dodge,</b> R. Bricklemyer, L. Saul
AFW-5	Preserve Open Space & Working Lands	<b>L. Whitney,</b> R. Liebert, L. Saul, J. Blend
AFW-6	Forest Health Programs for Carbon Management	<b>B. Habeck,</b> N. Sampson; S. Miller
AFW-7	Expanded Use of Forest Biomass Feedstocks for Energy Use	<b>P. Crowley,</b> N. Sampson, S. Miller
AFW-8	Afforestation and Reforestation Programs	<b>N. Sampson,</b> L. Whitney, B. Habeck
AFW-9	Improved Management and Restoration of Existing Stands	<b>L. Whitney, B. Habeck</b>
AFW-10	Expanded Use of Wood Products for Building Materials	<b>B. Bahr,</b> L. Whitney
AFW-11	Programs to Promote Local Food & Fiber	<b>L. Saul,</b> R. Liebert, C. Watters, R. Boettcher
AFW-12	Enhanced Solid Waste Recovery & Recycling	<b>P. Crowley,</b> B. Bahr
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