

NFLC 10th Anniv. Conf. Final Plenary Session comments 12.10.04

1. Jad Daley – Northern Forest Alliance -- Thank Forum for the awesome work they did. Big question is where we go from here. Difficult to implement the recommendations – a la NFLC original 37. Need a working group or something to move the recommendations and good thinking forward.
2. Stewart Feffer – commend NEFA for the great work of the 10-year review. A lot has changed on the landscape – a lot of new players. USFWS is now a new major player that was not around in 1994. Had some refuges but have added a lot since then. Efforts to participate in the large land conservation projects and smaller resource properties has occurred. \$15 million from USFWS in last 10 years. This past year \$100k for monitoring of West Branch project in Maine. Also looking to federal investment to monitor the stewardship through baseline data development and stewardship monitoring. Also other grant sources are now available through the federal government besides LWCF and Legacy. Look to these other opportunities to move the efforts ahead.
3. Jamie Sayen – live an hour north of here failing schools, failing forests...was involved in the NFLC and NFLS. Not optimistic. Recycling ideas that weren't helpful then and are still not helpful now. Must deal with the physical limits to producing from this planet. Nothing useful from these recommendations will come out of this for his community. Council comments – 60 % of these people said missed the boat. This new group is not representative. Need to find a way to address our problems. Number 1 recommendation is big ecological reserves instead of helping the land speculator.
4. Jill Cornell – rep. from Network of Private Forest landowners. Hope that after report is completed will be used as the basis for Farm Bill programs.
5. Jasen Stock – NH Timberland Owners Assoc. – Simple question – how many selectmen, planning board members, conservation commission members and landowners – how many of these people are here and how were they solicited to attend.
6. Lucy Wyman – Lancaster, NH - Why she attended. Written statement. Daughter and sister of foresters – completely baffled at such practices as herbicide and clear cuts in the region. Does the forest have inherent values – maybe not. Just for human needs? Maybe not. Take back the environmental view of the forests and away from special interests and do the right thing.
7. Tom Thomson – Orford – Listened today. Share story from one of the sessions – private forest landowners. Represent the private forest landowners on the Forum. The comment made in the breakout session covers important point. ATVs and OHRVs are causing such problems in NF that folks are about to shut down access to their land for access for recreation. All the other recommendations may be for naught if this isn't taken care of. A real problem.