



Grey County Forestry

Background

- ▶ Many forestry duties contracted to Grey Sauble Conservation Authority
 - By-law enforcement
 - Maintenance and management of forest properties and the CP Rail Trail
 - Expertise on harvesting and related construction projects
 - Administration of harvesting or clearing permits
 - Many other matters, as they arise.
- ▶ Previous reports were provided monthly and then quarterly.

Background

- ▶ Forest cover within Grey County is estimated to be 40-45%
- ▶ Forests provide many facets including;
 - an economic benefit,
 - tourism and recreation
 - Improving mental and physical health
 - Environmental contributions

Forestry Projects

- ▶ Forest Management By-law
- ▶ Forest Management Plan
- ▶ Recreational Trails Master Plan
- ▶ Ongoing Harvesting monitoring/Minor exemption applications

Monitoring

- ▶ Monthly reports are provided to staff showing the number of permits issued and include other harvesting activities occurring on County Forest properties
- ▶ Table 1 shows over the last 3 years the number of harvesting permits issued in each municipality
- ▶ Table 2 shows the number of minor exemption applications that were received since 2012 and how many were approved, denied, withdrawn, or further information was requested.

Monitoring (continued)

- ▶ Revenue isn't reported in the monthly reports but it is noted when the County Forests are being harvested. Between 2017-2019 the total revenue was \$257,298
- ▶ Other duties include overseeing marking for county harvests, site visits, invasive species tracking and verification, species at risk identification, investigation of possible by-law infractions.

By-law Enforcement Officer

- ▶ Need to update existing by-law to reflect the current staff that is fulfilling the role of by-law enforcement officer as well as an alternate
- ▶ That, when necessary the Director of Planning, or his/her designate, be delegated authority to appoint another duly credentialed enforcement officer.

Recommendation

- ▶ **That Report PDR-CW-15-20 regarding Forest Management be received;**
- ▶ **That a by-law be prepared to appoint Lee Thurston and Jason Traynor as Municipal By-law Enforcement Officers for the County of Grey; and**
- ▶ **That the by-law contain provisions for the appointment by the Director of Planning or his/her designate of additional Municipal By-law Enforcement Officers for the County of Grey.**