



Committee Report

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| To: | Warden Hicks and Members of Grey County Council |
| Committee Date: | February 28 th , 2019 |
| Subject / Report No: | PDR-CW-02-19 |
| Title: | By-law Enforcement Reports – Quarter 3 |
| Prepared by: | Stephanie Lacey-Avon |
| Reviewed by: | Randy Scherzer |
| Lower Tier(s) Affected: | All local municipalities |
| Status: | Recommendation adopted by Committee of the Whole as presented as per Resolution <i>CW47-19</i> ; Endorsed by County Council on March 14, 2019 as per Resolution <i>CC24-19</i> . |

Recommendation

1. That Report PDR-CW-02-19 regarding the quarterly By-law Enforcement Officer report for Quarter 3 of 2018 as well as a 2018 year-end total summary be received for information.

Executive Summary

The Grey County By-law Enforcement Officer Reports are submitted quarterly to provide an overview of the site visits performed and the number of permits (intents to cut) issued under the County's Forest Management By-law. These are all selective harvests, classified as good forestry. A summary of the harvesting activity within County Forests is also provided. This report covers the activities that have occurred during the third quarter of 2018 and year end totals.

Background and Discussion

The By-law Enforcement Officer provides a quarterly update on the number of permits (intents to cut) and activities associated with the County Forest Management By-law. This is provided to Council for information to understand the number of permits issued throughout Grey County and within each local municipality. These are all selective harvests, classified as good forestry.

Permits are sent to the respective municipality when they are received, so that if there are corresponding processes (i.e. road permits, half load restrictions, etc.) then the municipality will have sufficient time to obtain that information.

June, July, August, September, October (2018)

Seventy four (74) applications for harvest (intents to cut) were received between June 1st, 2018 & October 31st, 2018, and 72 (seventy-two) were approved. Two (2) were refused as they did not meet the good forestry provisions of the County Forest Management By-law. Breakdown of intents were as follows:

| Municipality | Number of Permits Issued |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| The Blue Mountains | 4 |
| Chatsworth | 6 |
| Georgian Bluffs | 11 |
| Grey Highlands | 16 |
| Hanover | - |
| Meaford | 6 |
| Owen Sound | - |
| Southgate | 6 |
| West Grey | 25 |

Year-end Totals 2018

A total of two hundred and one (201) permits were applied for during the year. A total of four (4) were refused as they did not meet the requirements of the County Forest Management By-law. The following is a breakdown of year-end totals:

| Municipality | Number of Permits Issued |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| The Blue Mountains | 8 |
| Chatsworth | 20 |
| Georgian Bluffs | 24 |
| Grey Highlands | 50 |
| Hanover | - |
| Meaford | 13 |
| Owen Sound | - |
| Southgate | 15 |
| West Grey | 67 |

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Hardwood Stands

Dornoch #20 was started in early January and was shut down from April 1, 2018 to July 31, 2018 due to wet conditions. Harvesting will finish in late December or into early 2019. This property was used as part of the FSC audit on December 5, 2018 with no issues being noted by the auditor.

Sullivan Klondyke #43 was started on October 29, 2018. As of December 20, 2018 they were about three quarters complete.

Plantations

Plantation harvesting was done at Glenelg Klondyke #24 in late August, 2018 into September, 2018 and at Glen Rodin #18 in early September, 2018. These were both completed in a professional manner.

Rocky Saugeen started on November 20th, 2018 and completed on November 28th, 2018. This property was the second property visited for the FSC audit. Minor rutting in one section was the only observation by the auditor.

There are two outstanding harvests from 2018: Artemesia/Euphrasia Townline 2 and Copper Kettle 31.

General

All properties except for the Keppel Wetlands #34 were visited at least once throughout the year. The overall health and sustainability of the County Forest is what we continually strive for. Some of the challenges for some of the County Forests are invasive species and slower regeneration of some of the forest properties based on a number of factors including climate change and historical overharvesting. The slower regeneration could cause delays in the management cycle of these forests. This will be explored further as part of the Forest Management Plan update that will be completed in 2019. Public consultations will occur in 2019 regarding the updated Forest Management Plan.

Legal and Legislated Requirements

Forest permits (Intents to Cut) are administered by the By-law Enforcement Officer as per the Forest Management By-law (4341-06 as amended).

Financial and Resource Implications

There are no anticipated financial/staffing/legal/IT considerations related to the report above and beyond what is included within the budget and within the scope of regular duties of staff and the By-law Enforcement Officer. As noted, we are seeing slower regeneration in some of the forest properties than what was anticipated. This could cause delays in the management cycle of the forests. This will be explored further as part of the Forest Management Plan update.

Relevant Consultation

Internal: Planning Staff

External: By-law Enforcement Officer (Lee Thurston, Grey Sauble Conservation Authority)

Appendices and Attachments

None