

Tri-Creeks Land Use Committee Meeting
Thursday, July 11, 2019 – 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
Monroe County Land Conservation Department, Sparta, WI

Those in attendance were: Eric Epstein, Dick Thiel, Bob Micheel, Roxie Anderson, George Johnston, and Ron Luethe.

Agenda items were reviewed. Vision statement examples were presented and reviewed. A draft will be presented at the next meeting.

The Goals and Objectives compiled from Project notes and meeting minutes were reviewed. It was decided to separate out Water Quality and Water Management to better reflect our goals and objectives. Additional water quality data may be available from the WI DNR as well as the Ho-Chunk Nation.

Dam Management – includes the flood warning system that was recently tested and changes made to the basic protocols.

Cropland Management – overall sustainability, soil health, soil loss to “T”, CREP, buffer strips on cropland, nutrient management, and maintaining conservation practices need to be addressed in the plan. Also a land use change needs to occur in the isolated field referred to as the “donut hole”

Forest management – Inventory is done. Next step is to develop a forest management plan for Tri-Creeks.

Wildlife Management – DMAP – Need to keep this landowner drives deer management program in the plan for now. Need to add bird management as an objective and goal. Beaver management – Contact Kirk Olsen from WIDNR Fisheries about practices for controlling beavers and sampling data for trout. Woodcock management – Management of alder is important for this species. Grouse habitat – This species uses oak and aspen forests. Need to add turkey to the species list. Would help with partnering with the National Turkey Federation.

Need to add Habitat Management as part of Forest, Cropland, Invasive Species sections. Also need to add Burn Management to the plan.

The Mammal and Herp list has been developed. It was suggested to set this aside for now and re-visit at the final stages of the plan development.

The next meeting of the Tri-Creek Land Use Planning Committee will be Thursday, October 31, 2019 from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM. The meeting will be held in the conference room at the Monroe County Land Conservation Department, 820 Industrial Drive, Suite 3, Sparta, WI.

At the next meeting we will review the draft vision statement, finish the review of the remaining goals and objectives and continue to review and revise the summary checklist of chapters and items needed.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ron Luethe