



When You Pass On... What Will You Pass Down?

Bob Perleberg

A managed forest is never finished—only passed forward.

Property Overview

- § Morrison County
- § 480 acres
- § Mixed forest types
- § Owned ~34 years



Management Goals

- § Healthy, diverse forest
- § Soil & water protection
- § Improved wildlife habitat
- § Eliminate development
- § Long-term sustainability



NRCS/RCPP Partnership

- § Technical guidance
- § Cost-share support
- § Landowner education



RCCP accomplishments

- § Buckthorn control
- § Oak stump sprout thinning / TSI
- § Nest box installation
- § Conifer pruning
- § Erosion control / culverts
- § Pollinator habitat
- § Snag retention and creation
- § Brush Piles
- § Lowland brush shearing
- § Course woody debris



Past and Present Programs



RCPP

CRP

SFIA

LTA

SIP

ACP

WHIP

FIP

Forest Legacy



Timber Management

- § Harvested >3,000 cords
- § 200 acres mature / overmature Red Oak
- § \$750,000 direct impact to local economy



2023 MN Timber Harvest

- 2.56 million cords
- ~½ from private land
- economic value >\$17B



Timber Stand Improvement

- § >25 acres – hardwood stump sprout thinning
- § 20 acres – White Pine pruning
- § 15 acres – Ash release/snag tree creation
- § Buckthorn control- 40 acres
- § Tree planting:
 - § 15 acres in CRP
 - § 25 acres state funding
- § 15 acres decadent lowland shrub shearing



Regeneration

- § >25,000 seedlings planted
- § Natural regeneration 50 acres
- § Desired species returning
- § Improved diversity and structure



Before



After



Before and After



Controlled Burning

- § RCPP cost-share for burning on 10 acres
- § Regenerate understory
- § Control invasive species



Soil & Water

- § Riparian protection for lake and ephemeral ponds
- § Erosion control
- § Road management and culvert installation
- § Established 3 miles of access trails for logging with 2 miles improved with 1400 yards of class 5 gravel



Wildlife Habitat

- § Increased diversity
- § Better habitat structure
- § Improved hunting & recreational opportunities



Reaping rewards



Ongoing Challenges

§ Forest Health

- § Emerald ash borer
- § Chestnut borer
- § Pine bark beetle
- § Bronze birch borer
- § Overmature forests



§ Invasive / unwanted species

- § Buckthorn
- § Ironwood

§ Weather impacts

§ Economy

- § Market changes
- § Property taxes
- § Escalating management costs
- § Land values

§ Property fragmentation



Adapting Over Time

- § Adjusted strategies
- § Learning from results
- § Long-term focus impact



Economics

- § Timber income vs. property taxes
- § NRCS support
- § Sustainable approach



The path to a healthy forest

- § Healthier stands
- § Better regeneration
- § More resilience
- § Improved timber values
- § Better wildlife habitat

Permanent conservation easements



A forest that will
outlast me





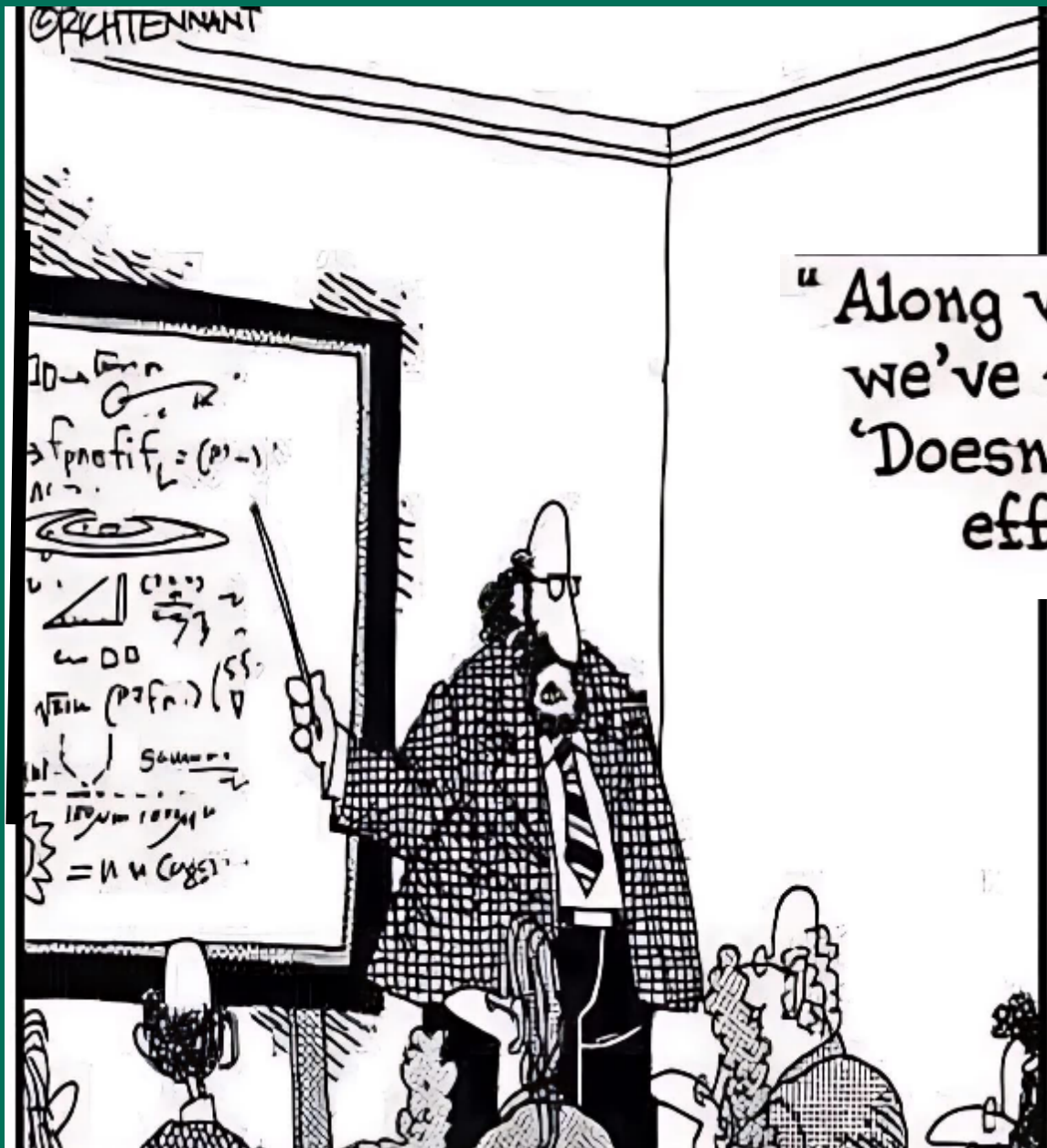
What's Being Passed Down

§ Healthier ecosystem

§ Habitat Protection

§ Development protection

§ Improved water & air



"Along with 'Antimatter,' and 'Dark Matter,' we've recently discovered the existence of 'Doesn't Matter,' which appears to have no effect on the universe whatsoever."