

FREMO SURVEY

The National NEMO Network Hub is working to introduce forest-related issues into the Network's educational programming for local land use decision makers on natural resource-based planning. As we begin to develop this new initiative, we asked Network members to complete an online survey of their level of knowledge and interest of forest-related issues.

The survey was completed by 44 Network members representing 28 states. The results of this survey are summarized below.

Executive Summary

In general, the results of the survey indicate a strong interest in integrating forest cover and the forest resource into NEMO educational materials and presentations for local land use commissioners. NEMO coordinators feel they have a decent understanding of most forest resource and forest cover issues, although on average most do not feel their understanding is sufficient to integrate those issues into their educational programs (Figure 1). As might therefore be expected, NEMO programs currently either do not address or only indirectly address the majority of forest issues identified in the survey (Figure 2) and, on average, report that forest resources are only somewhat integrated into their efforts (Figure 9).

Nevertheless, NEMO coordinators see a need for so-called FREMO (Forest Resource Education for Municipal Officials) efforts, reporting that while some communities recognize the importance of the forest resource, few integrate it into local planning (Figure 3). Thus, there is strong interest within the Network for our FREMO project. Nearly 75% of respondents indicated they would likely attend a Network training workshop on forest resource issues and 20% said they would consider attending (Figure 4). Also, the lack of educational models/methods was cited as the biggest obstacle to integrating forest issues into NEMO programming. (Figure 6) Thus our approach of developing educational models and methods for adoption, coupled with a training workshop should be well received.

We have also found that there is expertise within the Network that we can tap into in developing new materials. Just over half of the respondents (53%) have been involved in an educational project related to forests (Figure 7) and just over one-third of respondents have worked directly with a community on a forest-related project (Figure 8). Several programs (43%) have developed brochures and other educational materials addressing forest cover and/or the forest resource (Figure 10), and all are willing to share with the rest of the network (Figure 10b). Finally, nearly half of the respondents (47%) have worked with extension foresters in their states (Figure 11) and about a third of those have an ongoing relationship with their extension forester(s) (Figure 11a).

Figures

1. Please indicate your level of knowledge of the following forest resource issues, using the scale below as a guide.

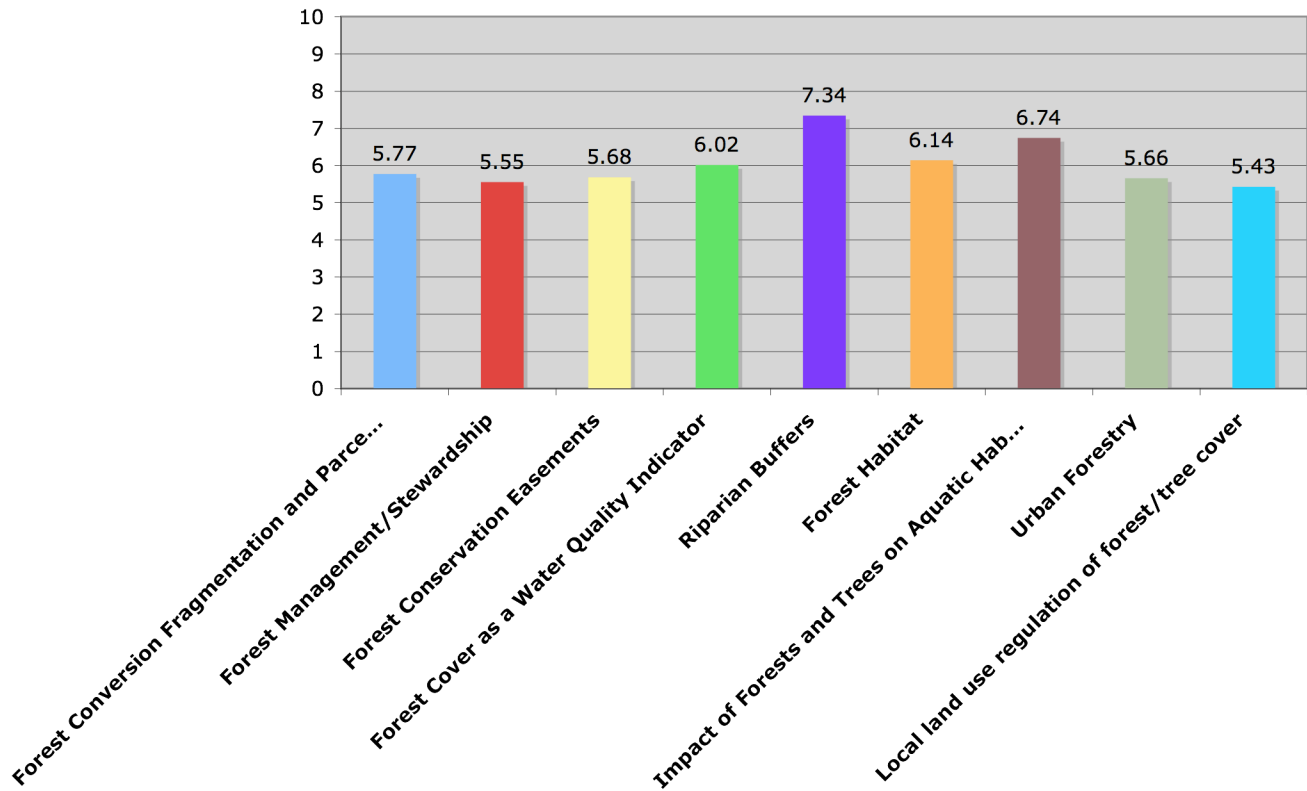
0 = No knowledge,

4 = generally aware,

7 = sufficient understanding to use in program,

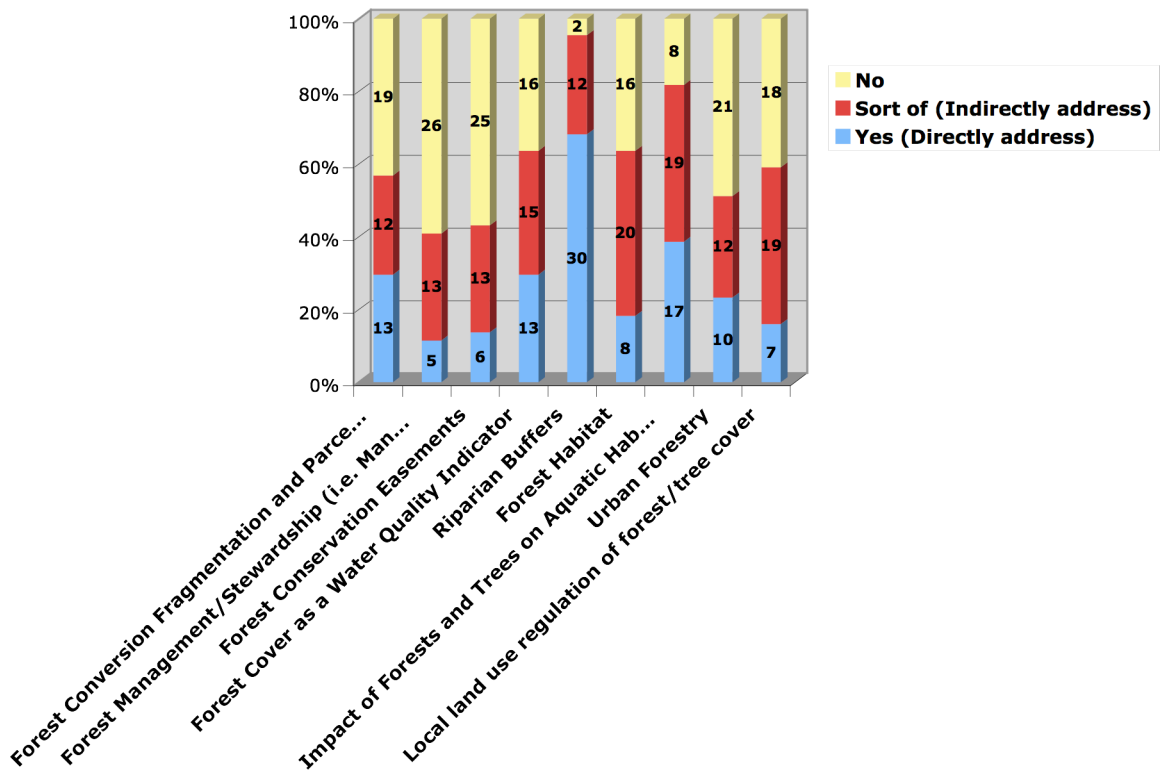
10 = consider myself an expert & able to teach:

Figure 1 - Knowledge



2. Do you currently include any of the following issues in your workshops, powerpoints, handouts, or other educational materials? [Y/N]

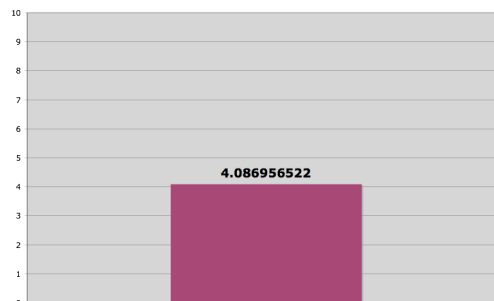
Figure 2: Currently Teach



3. Using the scale below as a guide, how would you rate the general level of recognition and integration of forest resource issues into community land use planning among the communities with which you work?

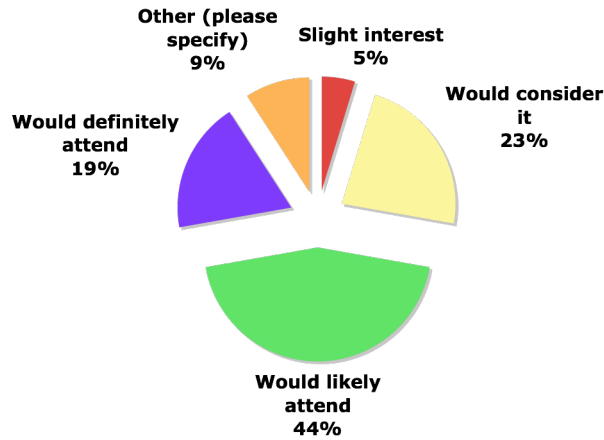
- 0 = no recognition of importance of forests and no integration into local planning;
- 5 = communities recognize the ecological and economic importance of forests but have NOT integrated forest stewardship into land use planning;
- 10 = communities recognize the ecological and economic importance of forests and have fully integrated forest stewardship and conservation into land use plans and regulations.

Figure 3: Community Understanding and Integration



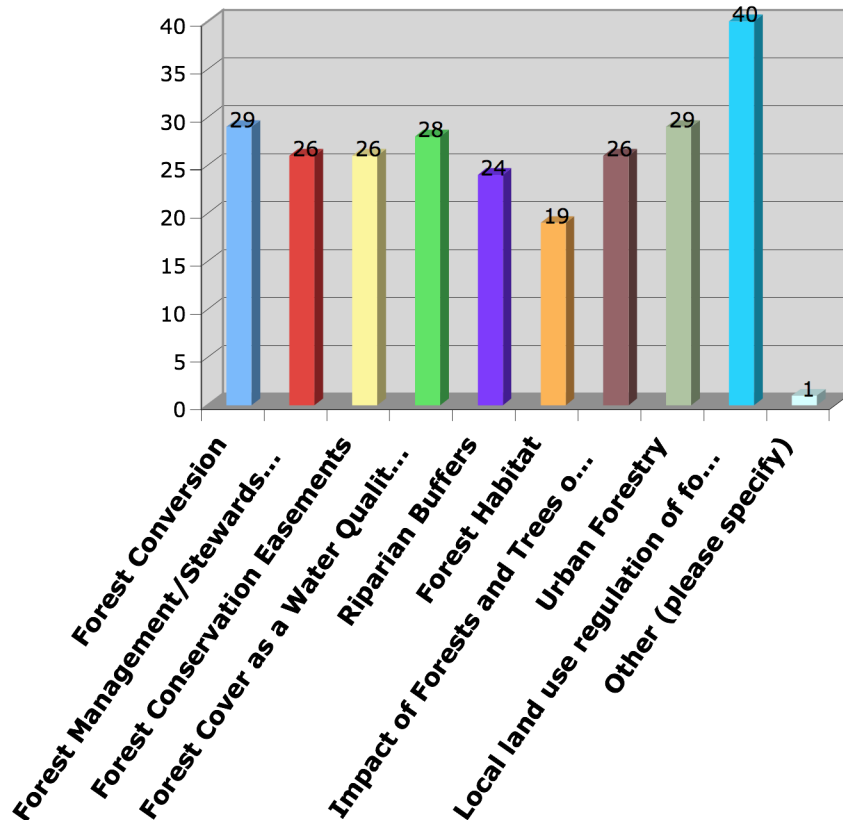
4. Please indicate your level of interest in a Network training workshop on forest resource issues as they relate to natural resource based planning, and integrating these issues into your NEMO program:

Figure 4: Interest in Forestry Workshop



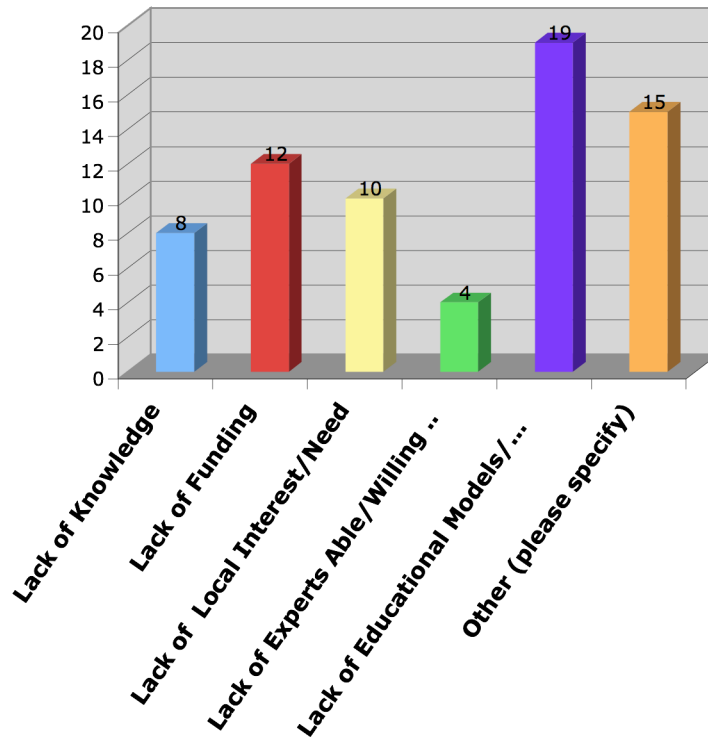
5. What topics would you like/need to see covered in a NEMO for Forests Workshop (Check all that apply):

Figure 5: Topics would like to see covered



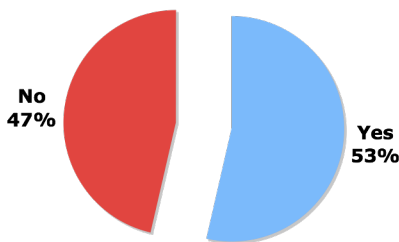
6. What is the biggest obstacle(s) to integrating forest resource issues into your NEMO program? (Check more than one if necessary)

Figure 6: Obstacles



7. Have you led or been involved in any educational projects that have focused on forest resource issues? Yes/No.

Figure 7: Involvement in Forest Projects



8. Have you worked with any communities on forest resource-related projects? Yes/No.

Figure 8: Worked with Communities on Forest Projects?



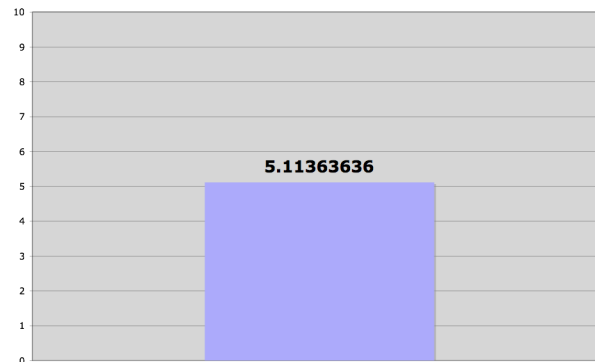
9. How would you rate the general level of recognition and integration of forest resource issues into your NEMO programming?

1 = none;

5 = somewhat;

10 = we have a major focus on forest resource protection

Figure 9: Integration into NEMO Programming



10. Have you developed (or helped develop) any educational materials (ppts, fact sheets, websites, geospatial tools, etc.) related to forest resources, forest cover, or some other forest-related issue? Yes/NO

Figure 10: Have you Developed Educational Materials related to forest resources?



10b. If “yes” to any of the above, would you be willing to share them with the rest of the NEMO Network? [Y/N]

Figure 10: Have you Developed Educational Materials related to forest resources?



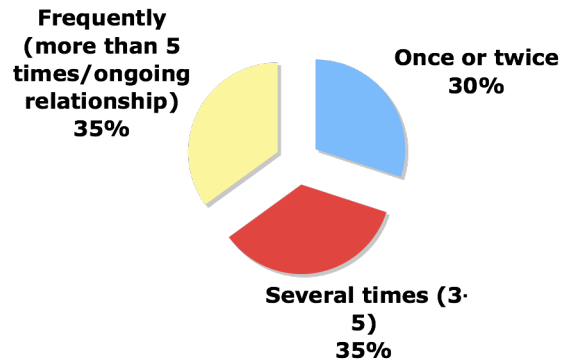
11. Have you ever worked with Extension Foresters in your state? Yes/No.

Figure 11: Work with Extension Foresters?



11a. If Yes, how often have you worked with Foresters?

Figure 11a: How often worked with Extension Foresters?



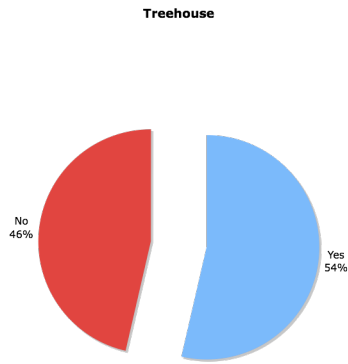
12. Would you be interested in helping the NEMO Network Hub develop educational materials for distribution to the Network? Yes/NO

Figure 12: Help NEMO Hub develop materials?

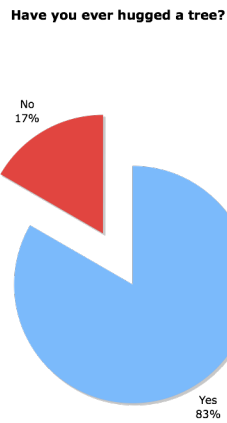


Page 3: Extra Credit:

1. Did you have a treehouse when you were a kid?



2. Have you ever actually hugged a tree? Yes/No.



3. In reading and/or viewing “Lord of the Rings,” were you:

