



AFA Presentation Updated

The AFA Board has used a PowerPoint presentation for several years to introduce the organization to groups, educate them on the issues, and build membership. That presentation needed polished and the information updated, which was accomplished over the past few months.

Gibbons Business Solutions, LLC (GBS) was engaged to address this for us. They have polished the look and formatting, updated the data, and added several slides to make our presentation more compelling. GBS also produced a video version of the presentation, making it available on the AFA website, YouTube channel, and social media pages.

You can find the video on our website at <http://alleghenyforestalliance.org/index.php/videos/>

Feel free to share the video link. Even better, refer groups to us for a personal presentation. This is one of the ways we are trying to build support and to make it easier for you to help us advocate for sustainable forest management on the Allegheny National Forest.

2017 Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting will be held from 6:00—8:30 pm on Nov. 16th at Olmsted Manor—Hickman Hall, in Ludlow, Warren County.

Join us and bring an interested guest! RSVP to AFAAction@gmail.com.

Forest Ownership Stats

In the four counties hosting the ANF, we are focused on the fact that the National Forest occupies a large portion of the land mass. However, when you look at the entire state, you find that the majority of PA forest land is actually privately owned. Here are the numbers:

State Forest	12%
State Game Lands	9%
Allegheny National Forest	3%
Private Forest Landowners	71%
Other	5%

State and private landowners benefit from sustainable forest management too!

Fall 2017

Board of Directors

Officers:

Bob Kirchner—President
 Dave Morgan—Vice Pres.
 Becky Lucia—Secretary
 Ed Sleeman—Treasurer

For a full list of AFA Board Members, please visit our [“About” page](#).

Annual Meeting: November 16, 2017

Follow Us On



New Forest Management Video

Web-based marketing and communications is not the wave of the future...it's here NOW! That's why the AFA is focusing on creating web, social media, and video assets.

“About Forest Management” tells the story of sustainable forestry, the current even-aged forest that we see on the ANF today, the reasons for it, and the impacts.

Foresters Ken Kane and Tom Case talk about the early exploitation of our forests and how active management will ensure a healthy forest for generations to come. View the video on our website at <http://alleghenyforestalliance.org/index.php/videos/>

ANF Forest Health Collaborative

The Collaborative is a working group (not a board) of citizens formed to partner with the Forest Service in making decisions regarding management of the ANF. Decisions made through the Collaborative will be considered as the FS makes future decisions, and shared for transparency. There are four focus areas aligning with Forest goals: timber, oil and gas, recreation, and forest health.

The Forest Service has stated that as the Forest Plan is implemented, decisions from the Collaborative will be strongly considered and/or implemented in accordance with laws, regulations, and policy. Bob Kirchner is participating in the Collaborative on behalf of the AFA.

Building a New Generation of Sustainers

The AFA is working on building relationships with our school districts—who benefit most from sustainable management of the ANF—by communicating more consistently with them and building supporters within their staffs.

We are also planning sustainable forestry education programs and events for their students, which will allow us build our next generation of sustainers and AFA supporters!

If you would like to participate in these outreach activities, we would welcome your input in planning and/or time given to implement. Contact Amanda Hetrick by email at ahetrick@forestareaschools.org



Triple Bottom Line

The Federal Government's definition of sustainability specifies an interaction of the environment, society, and economy. These are commonly referred to as the "triple bottom line" and have a relationship that is inseparable. Sustainability requires that the influences and interactions between the three are properly accounted for in making decisions. Read more on the ANF website: <https://www.fs.fed.us/research/sustain/what-is-sustainability.php>



ANF Salvage Plans for Windthrow Damage

In October, the ANF began addressing the May 1, 2017 windthrow damage on the Kane Experimental Forest. Salvage of 140 acres of downed and damaged trees is underway to recover the marketable timber. The salvage will also allow the Forest Service to assess the effects of windthrow on the long-term Allegheny Hardwood Management Strategy Study.



People Like AFA!

Our efforts on Social Media are working—we are up to 216 Followers on the AFA Facebook page! Be sure to share our posts with your friends, and invite them to Like our page. Find us at: facebook.com/alleghenyforestalliance/

ANF Project Comment Opportunities:

We encourage you to keep informed of and comment on proposed projects on the ANF. Use the link below to view the current Schedule of Proposed Actions (SOPA) Report for the ANF.

<https://www.fs.fed.us/sopa/components/reports/sopa-110919-2017-10.html>

As we publish this newsletter quarterly, we suggest that you check the SOPA link monthly for any updates between issues. We will list critical projects and AFA comment actions here.

Farnsworth EA (updated): Warren; Forest health, diversity of vegetation patterns and age classes; Comment Period: July—Nov. 2017.

Porkey Heights Supplemental EA (updated): Forest; Change to previous thinning prescriptions; Comment Period: September 2017—May 2018.

Bradford Forest Restoration (updated): Forest, McKean, Warren; Harvesting & reforestation; Comment Period: September—December 2017.

Chaffee EA (updated): Elk, Forest; Timber harvesting; Comment Period: August—November 2017.

Tracy Ridge (updated): Forest Plan amendment to allow mountain biking on 12.5 miles of hiking trails; Comment Period: July—November 2017.

Pine Bear Supplemental EA (updated): Forest Products, Vegetation Management, Road Management; Comment Period: Anticipated April 2018.