

**Potential Areas of Agreement**

**Suggested by QLG**

1. Diversity:
  - Is advantageous across a wide range of issues.
  - Promotes adaptability to climate change, whatever the local effects might be.
  - Has appropriate applications at all scales, from watersheds down to individual stands.
  - Is required in forest structure, species composition, and habitat for all species.
  
2. Fire protection:
  - A warmer climate will exacerbate the fire problem.
    - Longer fire season.
    - Drought-stressed vegetation.
    - Worse fire weather on average.
    - Greater energy release at fire fronts.
    - Greater hazards to fire crews.
  - Combined effects require heavier and more extensive thinning than would otherwise be needed..
  
3. Watershed Effects:
  - A warmer climate will have adverse watershed effects.
    - Reduced snow packs.
    - Potential for heavier winter runoff, increasing flood hazard.
    - Reduced mid- and late-season runoff.
    - Higher water temperature in mid- and late-season runoff.
  - Adverse effects can be ameliorated to some extent.
    - Thinner forest cover lets more precipitation reach the ground to recharge groundwater.
    - Thinned forest reduces evapo-transpiration of ground water.
    - Better adapted tree species can use less water.
    - Restored meadows act as flood plains to delay winter flood crests and store ground water.
    - Groundwater is later released in greater quantity and at cooler temperatures.
  
4. Workforce and infrastructure:
  - For both forest health and fire protection, large scale action is urgently required.
  - Action at the required scale and pace is not possible with hand work alone.
    - Heavier duty equipment and a workforce to operate it are needed in the forest.
    - Sawmills and biomass powerplants are major components of the required infrastructure.
  
5. Funding.
  - Action at the required scale and pace is not possible with appropriated funds alone.
  - Receipts from timber and biomass sales are essential, but still probably not sufficient.
  - Funding must also be based in part on watershed values.
    - Benefits to agricultural and municipal users..
    - Benefits to power generators and flood control agencies.