



25 October 2016

Alan Ek
Professor, Department of Forest Resources
Director, Great Lakes-Northern Forest CESU
University of Minnesota
1530 Cleveland Avenue North, 115 Green Hall
St. Paul, MN 55108

Dear Alan,

The Great Lakes-Northern Forest CESU will celebrate its fifteen-year anniversary in 2017, at which time the CESU and its agreement will be eligible for renewal for a fourth five-year term (2017-2022). The CESU Network Council has prepared guidance to aid the preparation of necessary documents and required steps for the five-year review and renewal. The goal is an efficient and informative review and a timely renewal completed in advance of the expiration date of the current Great Lakes-Northern Forest CESU agreement on 02 August 2017.

The guidance provides an overview of the review and renewal process, criteria for evaluation, description of review materials needed from the host university (working with its nonfederal partners), the federal managers committee, and their designated external reviewers, and a timeline. The guidance was modified in 2015 to clarify process steps and more closely align questions with the roles and responsibilities outlined in Article II of the CESU agreement. Many of the questions remain largely the same as in the past, however you will notice that most ask for additional details in support of simple "yes" or "no" responses related to CESU activities over the current (2012-2017) five-year term. Please distribute the guidance to your Great Lakes-Northern Forest CESU nonfederal partners for their perusal. The guidance is also available on the CESU Network website at: http://www.cesu.psu.edu/materials/CESU_Renewal_Guidance_2017.pdf

I look forward to working with you through the review and renewal process over the next several months. Contact me with any related questions, as necessary.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Fish
National Coordinator

Enclosure (sent via email):
* CESU 5yr Renewal Guidance 2017.pdf