

## Fall 2023: FMG field training agenda

Time	Activity – groups rotate from station to station
9:00 – 10:30 am	<b>Station 1 – Full group starts here to review planning (indoors)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00 – 9:10 am: Podcast recap (what are the guidelines, why are they important?)</li> <li>9:10 – 10:10 am: Planning</li> </ul>
10:10 – 11:20 am	<b>Station 2 – Full group lecture/activity on wetlands (indoors)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:10 – 11:00 am: Content</li> <li>11:00 – 11:20 am: Break into four smaller groups and transit to respective field sites</li> </ul>
<b>Stations 3 through 6 are rotating in the field.</b>	
11:20 – 12:10 pm	<b>Station 3</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11:20 – 12:10 pm: Content</li> <li>12:10 pm: Back to demo field for lunch</li> </ul>
12:10 pm – 1:00 pm	<b>Lunch</b> 12:10 – 12:45 pm: Lunch 12:45 – 1:00 pm: Transit to next station
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	<b>Station 4</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:00 – 1:45 pm: Content</li> <li>1:45 – 2:00 pm: Transit to next station</li> </ul>
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	<b>Station 5</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2:00 – 2:45 pm: Content</li> <li>2:45 – 3:00 pm: Transit to next station</li> </ul>
3:00 pm – 4:30 pm	<b>Station 6</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3:00 – 3:15 pm: Break</li> <li>3:15 – 4:00 pm: Content</li> <li>4:00 – 4:30 pm: Wrap-up and review, evaluation</li> </ul>
4:30 pm	Training adjourns

## Learning objectives

### Module 1: Planning

Summarize the planning process and the importance of planning and documentation.

Develop strategies to collect information and anticipate potential problems that may occur, and avoid, mitigate, and document those problem situations.

Discuss sources of information that inform the planning process (landscape plans, management plans, site topography and ownership, etc.).

## Module 2: Wetland importance

Summarize the ecosystem services, such as wildlife habitat and protection of water quality, that wetlands provide and the importance of minimizing impacts to wetlands during harvesting operations. Review relevant wetland policies and Contractor Responsibility Form.

## Module 2.5: Wetland field ID

Learn to identify basic wetland types in the field so that appropriate decisions can be made regarding site management and to avoid negative wetland impacts.

## Module 3: Roads, landings, and skid trails

Determine and demonstrate the ideal cumulative area, placement and maintenance of infrastructure on a harvest site to limit impacts to sensitive features, including filter strips and RMZs.

Assess the layout of roads, landings, and skid trails to increase efficiency of harvest operations while minimizing total infrastructure on the site.

## Module 4: Erosion control on wetland and stream crossings

Understand when erosion control is necessary, where to begin placing erosion control measures, and the right timing and equipment required for erosion control.

Describe the implementation of erosion control measures to limit impacts, such as rutting, on approaches to wetland and stream crossings and how this relates to compliance with relevant wetland-related policies, like the Wetland Conservation Act and silvicultural exemption.

Discuss the use of on-site materials for erosion control to reduce implementation costs for operators.

## Module 5: Leave trees

Discuss the importance of leave trees for wildlife, structural diversity at the site and landscape scale, visual quality, and ecological legacy.

Assess leave tree retention patterns (scattered vs clumped) and criteria, including number of leave trees per acre, preferred species, diameter, and tree characteristics.

Understand that trees retained in RMZs and filter strips do contribute to leave tree targets. Discuss GIS records or other methods to ensure that leave tree patches on the edge of a harvest area are not removed when the adjacent block is harvested.