1. **Status Reports** – We know that field foresters are conducting a lot of site visits in relation to the ice storm. However we don’t have a good feel from the scope and scale of the workload being placed on our staff. To better evaluate weekly status reports will be implemented.
   a. Web based survey consisting of 7 questions
      i. Survey covers a REPORTING PERIOD
         1. First Reporting Period = February 11th – March 12th
         2. All subsequent Reporting Periods will cover previous 7 days
   b. Survey will be emailed to field staff every Tuesday
   c. Completed surveys must be completed by COB on Wednesdays
   d. FM Staff will summarize status reports weekly to evaluate workloads and assistance needs

2. **Monthly Management Reporting (3209-1)**
   a. The monthly management report will need to be updated to collect information on the forthcoming EFRP program.
   b. FM staff is working to develop a new monthly report template and will work with Jeff Baumann to update the 3209-1 database.

3. **Cost Share Assistance for Ice Damaged Forests** – C/S assistance specific to ice damaged timber will come via Farm Services Agency (FSA). Currently there is a lot we do not know regarding how these programs will work. Below is synopsis of what we do know:
   a. **CRP**
      i. Many CRP contract acres fall in high risk categories for ice damage due to age structure and recent thinning operations.
      ii. Landowners with damage to their CRP contract acres MUST CONTACT FSA PRIOR TO ANY HARVEST. Failure to receive approval for harvest from FSA makes landowner subject to noncompliance penalties.
      iii. The SCFC must make all technical determinations regarding the harvest of ice damaged timber on CRP contract acres.
         1. Foresters should evaluate the stand based on silvicultural prescription and landowner objectives.
            a. Thinning stands will not be an issue so long as residual BA is between 50 – 75 square feet/acre
            b. Thinning to below 50 square feet is possible but will require a variance from FSA
         2. If salvage harvest (clearcut) is required the FSA will make contract determination based on CRP guidance and a benefit cost analysis
            a. Potential FSA Determinations
               i. CRP contract terminated without penalty to landowner. Landowner eligible for EFRP cost share assistance to replant.
ii. CRP contract retained. Landowner is allowed to salvage harvest timber and CRP c/s provided for replant.

b. EFRP (Emergency Forest Restoration Program)
   i. Signup Information
      1. Signup officially started March 10, 2014
      2. Signup will be for 60 days (ends May 9, 2014)
      3. Signup will be at County Level (25 potential counties) – each County must apply separately
      4. Potential $5 – 7 Million dollars for reforestation
      5. FSA currently taking applications (FSA-848)
   ii. Eligibility
      1. NIPF landowner
      2. Land is within County approved for EFRP.
      3. Forested prior to storm
      4. Statement of Damage by a SC Registered Forester that the natural resource has been materially affected by the ice storm (i.e. needs salvage/clearcut). Note SCFC concurrence will be required for statements not written by SCFC Foresters.
   iii. Purpose = Reforestation of ice damaged stands
   iv. Planting Period
      1. Landowner will have 2 years to reforest from date of EFRP contract (1 year extension possible from FSA)
   v. Lifespan
      1. Must maintain forested cover for 10 years.
   vi. Practice Requirements – **1-EFRP will have official practice specifications once updated.** Below are some general practice specs:
      1. Stands must be protected from wildfire/grazing
      2. Invasive species must be controlled
      3. Stand must be established and maintained per FMP prepared by SCFC
      4. TPA Requirements:
         a. Loblolly Pine – No max TPA at planting
         b. Longleaf Pine – plant 400 – 600 TPA
         c. Minimum of 300 TPA surviving after 1 growing season or replant required
   v. SCFC has technical responsibility for EFRP. Will perform/provide:
      a. FMP and complete FSA-848 (page 2)
      b. Review FMP with producer (this can be done via letter)
      c. Conduct annual status review until trees established (i.e. seedling survival check)
      d. Certify practice compliance (FSA-848B)