

SFI

MAINE'S SFI IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE'S

PRINCIPLES, CRITERIA, AND **RESPONSIBILITIES**

**For Determining How Certified Logging
Professional Programs Will Be Evaluated For
Endorsement by the Maine SFI
Implementation Committee**

WHY THIS DOCUMENT?

“THE GOAL OF THIS DOCUMENT IS TO ENSURE CONSISTENCY AND QUALITY FOR SFI-ENDORSED CERTIFIED LOGGING PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS IN MAINE. IT PROVIDES A FRAMEWORK AND PROCESS FOR MAINE’S STATE IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE TO USE TO ENSURE THAT ALL CERTIFIED LOGGING PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS ENDORSED BY THEIR COMMITTEE MEET SFI OBJECTIVE #17.”

**.....subcommittee on Logger Education and Training
June 4th, 2014**

Definitions

Certified Logging Professional Programs, CLPs, CLP Programs – All are references to the Certified Logging Professional interpretation within the 2015-2019 SFI Standard. “A qualified logging professional who has successfully completed and is a member in good standing, of a credible logger certification program recognized by the SFI Implementation Committee” as meeting the criteria of Performance Measure 11.2 in the SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard or Performance Measure 6.2 in the SFI 2015-2019 Fiber Sourcing Standard.

ME CLP – Is a reference to a Maine logger training program which has been recognized by the Maine SIC to meet the SFI definition of a qualified logging professional program.

**PRINCIPLES
OF
SFI CERTIFIED LOGGING PROFESSIONAL (CLP) PROGRAMS IN
MAINE**

1. Maine SIC has the responsibility to set criteria for SIC-endorsed CLP programs in Maine. Maine SIC will only consider (for endorsement) criteria-based CLP programs. The criteria are listed on pages 5 and 6, and will form the template against which SIC decisions will be made regarding whether proposed CLP programs meet the SFI 2015-2019 Standards.
2. SFI Indicators 11.2.3 Forest Management (FM) and 6.2.3 Fiber Sourcing (FS) are the foundation upon which all Maine SIC-endorsed logger training and education programs must be built. All programs recognized by the Maine SIC must address the 8 criteria listed under Indicators 11.2.3 FM and 6.2.3 FS of the SFI 2015-2019 Standard, as follows:

Indicator (11.2.3 FM, 6.2.3 FS) *Participation in or support of SFI Implementation Committees to establish criteria for recognition of logger certification programs, where they exist, that include:*

- a. completion of SFI Implementation Committee recognized logger training programs and meeting continuing education requirements of the training program;*
- b. independent in-the-forest verification of conformance with the logger certification program standards;*
- c. compliance with all applicable laws and regulations including responsibilities under the U.S. Endangered Species Act, the Canadian Species at Risk Act and other measures to protect wildlife habitat;*
- d. use of best management practices to protect water quality;*
- e. logging safety;*
- f. compliance with acceptable silviculture and utilization standards;*
- g. aesthetic management techniques employed where applicable; and*
- h. adherence to a management or harvest plan that is site specific and agreed to by the forest landowner.*

3. Maine SIC will evaluate/reevaluate changing needs and issues every 5 years, coinciding with SFI Standards revisions, to ensure that this document of **Principles, Criteria, and Responsibilities** is continually improved to meet the needs and expectations of the SIC.
4. All proposals for Maine SFI Certified Logging Professional program endorsement will be initiated with a letter to the Maine SIC requesting endorsement. The Education Committee Chair will form a task group charged with reviewing the CLP program against these SFI, CLP principles and criteria. The Task Force will begin the review process as outlined on pages 7 and 8.

THE FOUNDATION FOR SIC ENDORSED, CERTIFIED LOGGING PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS IN MAINE

WORDS CAPITALIZED AND IN BOLD ARE MINIMUM PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Words in lower case are performance indicators and are suggested minimum criteria for which to evaluate any CLP program.

All proposed programs must cover the following criteria in the evaluations of Certified Logging Professionals. The Maine SIC consciously avoids prescribing how those criteria are met, so as to offer the greatest flexibility to any CLP program in achieving SFI's desired outcomes on the ground.

- 1) COMPLETION OF SFI IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE RECOGNIZED LOGGER TRAINING PROGRAMS AND MEETING CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS OF THE TRAINING PROGRAM;**
 - a. CLPs will complete ME SIC approved logger training and meet the continuing educations requirements.

- 2) INDEPENDENT IN-THE-FOREST VERIFICATION OF CONFORMANCE WITH THE LOGGER CERTIFICATION PROGRAM STANDARDS;**
 - a. CLPs will be audited by independent verifiers using credible auditing methods including individual and or group certification approaches.

- 3) COMPLIANCE WITH ALL APPLICABLE LAWS AND REGULATIONS INCLUDING RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THE U.S. ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT, THE CANADIAN SPECIES AT RISK ACT AND OTHER MEASURES TO PROTECT WILDLIFE HABITAT;**
 - a. CLP programs will take appropriate steps to insure CLP's compliance with applicable laws including T&E though relevant training and harvest planning.

- 4) USE OF BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES TO PROTECT WATER QUALITY;**
 - a. CLP programs will ensure effective BMP implementation by CLP companies with documented training, planning and follow-up.

- 5) LOGGING SAFETY;**
 - a. CLP programs will measure logger safety performance by evaluating how CLPs implement safety practices consistent with "ME CLP" initial training and recertification check list.

- b. CLP programs will evaluate consistency of safety practices as demonstrated through documentation during “ME CLP” initial field certification and subsequent recertifications.

6) *COMPLIANCE WITH ACCEPTABLE SILVICULTURE AND UTILIZATION STANDARDS;*

- a. CLP programs will evaluate CLP performance relative to silvicultural and utilization recommendations prescribed in forest management and harvest plans.

7) *AESTHETIC MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES EMPLOYED WHERE APPLICABLE; AND*

- a. CLP programs will evaluate CLPs aesthetic management preparedness.
- b. CLP programs will evaluate harvest planning practices that prioritizes areas of aesthetics significance to the landowners and various observing publics.

8) *ADHERENCE TO A MANAGEMENT OR HARVEST PLAN THAT IS SITE SPECIFIC AND AGREED TO BY THE FOREST LANDOWNER.*

- a. CLP programs will evaluate CLP’s knowledge of harvest plans, goals, desired outcomes, and division of duties and responsibilities.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND PROCEDURES IN SEQUENTIAL ORDER

Activity 1 – A Program is recommended by a sponsor as a certified logging professional program for Maine SIC’s consideration by bringing it to the attention of the State Coordinator or Education Committee Chair.

Responsibility – The program sponsor

Timeliness – Can be done anytime.

Activity 2 – Approved Program **Principles, Criteria, and Responsibilities** are sent to the sponsor.

Responsibility – Education Committee Chair or State Coordinator.

Timeliness – Within 10 days of receiving the sponsor’s original inquiry.

Activity 3 – SIC Education Chair appoints a CLP program, evaluation Task Force. The Task Force, at minimum, should be comprised of two SIC representatives with intimate understanding of logger certification and training programs.

Activity 4 – SIC Coordinator assures sponsor has **Principles, Criteria, and Responsibilities** and organizes a meeting between sponsor and CLP Task Force for a presentation by the sponsor.

Responsibility – Chair Education Committee or SIC Coordinator.

Timeliness – Within 10 days of receiving request from sponsor that they do in fact wish to make a formal presentation to the Task Force.

Activity 5 – After presentation, if the Task Force finds the proposal does not meet the Principles, Criteria, or Responsibilities, the Task Force will work with the sponsor to help them understand or address gaps or concerns. When that process is concluded, the Task Force reports its recommendations for acceptance or denial (and reasons) to the Education Chair and SIC Chair, copying the sponsor.

Responsibility – Education Committee Chair

Timeliness – No later than 10 days after the CLP Task Force has completed its work with the sponsor to address any concerns with the proposed program.

Activity 6 – SIC Chair will bring the matter to the next SIC meeting for a report by the Education Committee and formal acceptance or denial (and reasons) or other action by the full SIC. It is required that the sponsor attend this SIC meeting.

Responsibility – SIC Chair, Education Chair and sponsor (attendance)

Timeliness – Will put the proposed program deliberation on meeting agenda for next SIC meeting. Assure formal acceptance or denial (and reasons) or other action is agreed by SIC at that meeting.

Activity 7 – Formal feedback letter to the sponsor advising that the proposed program has been accepted, denied (and reasons), or suggested for other action by the full SIC.

Responsibility – SIC Chair

Timeliness – Feedback provided no later than 10 days after the SIC meeting when the proposal was reviewed and formally accepted, denied (with reasons), or determined to require other action.

Activity 8 – Long Term Retention of Records and Standards Revisions. Certified Logging Professional Program proposals for SIC, CLP endorsement, and the maintenance and updating of these Principles, Criteria, and Responsibilities are the responsibility of the SFI State Coordinator and will be housed in that office. Updating these Principles, Criteria, and Responsibilities should correspond with the SFI Standards revision cycle.