

SIC Minutes
 December 5th, 2012
 MFPC Headquarters
 535 Civic Center Drive
 Augusta Maine
 1:00 PM . 4:00 PM

In attendance:

Scott Pease	Hancock Lumber	Tom Doyle	Pierce Atwood
Jan Santerre	MFS	Dave Griswold	Verso Paper
Pat Sirois	SFI	Keith Kanoti	Maine Forest Service
Karen Smith	Northwoods Man.	David Wilson	Katahdin Forest Mgt.
Gordon Gamble	Wagner	Stephen Follette	Woodland Pulp
Paula Pelletier	AFM	Mike St. Peter	CLP
Scott McDougall	J.D. Irving	Kevin McCarthy	Sappi
Mark Doty	Plum Creek	Bob Carlton	New Page Corp
Tom Charles	BPL	Joel Swanton	FRA
John Starrett	Sappi	Sue Aygarn	LandVest
John Pratte	IF&W	Barry Burgason	Huber
Jason Desjardins	Orion Timberlands	Marc Pinette	LP
Ian Prior	SILC	Tom Charles	BPL
Kevin Topolniski	Acadian Timber		

Call to Order . Mark Doty called the meeting to order.

Welcome and Introductions . Mark welcomed the committee and initiated introductions.

Antitrust Statement . Tom Doyle provided the antitrust statement and circulated an attendees signup sheet.

Approval of Minutes from the 12/5/12 SIC meeting . A motion was made and seconded to approve the December 5th, 2012 SIC minutes. The motion carried.

Election of Officers – *Pat Sirois* – Last year at this time we elected officers. During that process Mark agreed to serve one more year and Gordon agreed to step in as Vice Chair replacing Dan Russell who asked to step down. It is time to elect a new SIC chair. Mark is stepping down and Gordon is up for Chairmanship. We needed a vice Chair and asked Tim Richards, our current Secretary if he would be willing to serve as Vice Chair and he agreed. We also don't want to shut anyone out of the process so we are entertaining nominations from the floor. We also now need a Secretary to replace Tim on the Executive Committee. Hearing no nominations, we are entertaining a motion from the floor to except Gordon as the new SIC Chair for a three year term, and Tim as the Vice Chair also for a three year term. Hearing no nominations from the floor, Mark Doty offered his name as a possibility for nomination for Secretary. A motion was made and seconded to nominate Gordon Gamble as SIC Chair, Tim Richards as Vice Chair and Mark Doty as Secretary for a three year term. The motion carried.

Treasurers Report -- Dave Griswold reported dues are on track with a new member on board. Expenses are on track as well. A motion was made to accept the Treasurers report as presented. The motion moved unanimously.

Spruce Budworm Update – Dave Struble reported, we went to Quebec to see how they were dealing with the spruce budworm. We learned the following.

Larval populations

Quebec has had detectable budworm larval populations since before 1992. Populations continue to build. New Brunswick reported spruce budworm larval populations from Madawaska county in spring 2012 for the first time in years. We have found no budworm larvae in Maine during the spring-summer 2012 and haven't since the last outbreak.

The core of the current regional outbreak is in Quebec.

" In 2012, 5.56 million acres were defoliated in Quebec.

- . 1.7 million of light*
- . 1.9 million of moderate*
- . 1.9 million of severe*

Quebec sprayed approximately 245,000 acres in 2012 with Bt. For the first time in this outbreak cycle, there was mappable defoliation on the south shore of the St. Lawrence in Quebec. No mappable defoliation reported from either New Brunswick or Maine in 2012.

Moth populations

Pheromone trapping was conducted in Maine, New Brunswick and Quebec in summer of 2012. The regional counts have not yet been assembled in a single data set; however, preliminary results suggest that regional populations on average are similar to last year; however, there are hot spots appearing in all the jurisdictions. Overall catches in Maine are not markedly higher than last year; however, some clusters of traps show elevated catches – in particular, Garfield and Oxbow are up significantly from last year.

Very preliminary estimates for 2013

Quebec is conducting surveys of overwintering larvae in preparation for spraying in 2013. New Brunswick is monitoring populations and anticipates possible spots of light defoliation next year. Maine does not plan to survey for budworm this winter, but is going to intensify surveying next spring. We will be particularly focusing on the Oxbow-Garfield area which has current high moth populations (and which was one of the early outbreak spots in the 1960s).

Emerald ash borer . we put out 960 purple traps. Not terribly attractive to beetles. They don't draw very far. None found in Maine but there were some found in Connecticut some in VA and WV. They picked up a single beetle in Mass. We are not out of the woods for very long. It uses firewood very efficiently. It's just a matter of time. Next year there won't be as much monitoring as APHIS won't have as much money then. Maybe 1-200 traps across the state.

Asian Longhorn beetle . closest in Mass last year. They haven't seen any since. Situation in Worcester is 100 square miles. They are trying to stamp out small hot spots but we're not optimistic they will be successful. In other places where it was able to be eradicated the shade tolerance forest were not surrounded by a northern hardwood forest. Good news it doesn't spread as fast and doesn't always kill the tree.

Spokane SAF Convention & EPA's NPS Exemption. Keith Kanoti reported, that with help from some SIC companies, he was able to attend the SAF meeting in Spokane. It was worth while with 30 states represented on how states approach BMPs for forestry. It was interesting to talk with other states. A lot of programs have come to similar ways to doing things. Education is done similarly but monitoring is somewhat unique. South is using all the same protocols. Panel discussion was interesting with spectrum from regulated states like Washington to states like Maine with voluntary BMPs. We learned some new approaches but still believe Maine is a leader in this arena. Potlatch tour with steep ground but the story is similar. When you use BMPs, they work.

Supreme Court ruling . they heard the case on Monday on September 3rd. audio should be available next week. There is also a link to the SC blog with all the amicus briefs. The ruling won't be out until June.

Sub-committee Reports

Wildlife Committee – Barry Burgason

Fish passage -- Stream crossing surveys have gone into management mode. It looks like the industry's position is favorable to that of municipalities.

Rusty Black Birds - Recent estimates show rusty black bird populations have decreased by 50% in the past 60 years. Although there has been a significant decline there is little understanding on why. This could result in an endangered listing.

Moose browse . CFRU will meet to discuss proposals whether to do research on moose browse. We should know more in January.

SFI Outreach Committee . Scott Pease reported activities the SIC has participated in with outreach benefits.

MSA Show October 19-21st . 6000 plus people

Northern Maine Water Festival at UMO . 800 children on October 9th.

Provided SFI Update at the MFPC Annual meeting in Rockport.

In September, Patty Cormier with MFS manned a booth with the Flume table at the Farmington Ag Fair with a 1000 students attending. This was an outreach/educational effort to talk about sustainable forestry, erosion and fish passage principles.

Pat Sirois will entertain a group from the Maine Academy of Natural Sciences on January 16th.

Flume table will be used by Patty Cormier to talk about erosion and fish passage at an event with 6, 4th grade classes present on December 13th.

Healthy Forest Initiative . Jan Santerre reported, in the past year the MFS/SFI/FRA tackled the issue of the lack of harvesting happening in southern ME. We have been working to identify strategies on how get some movement in the southern mega region. Increase active

management. We have put together an action plan. This is a simple goal in statement but not so simple to achieve.

We plan to have the next meeting with a focus on landowners on January 23rd in the afternoon here at the MFPC. We will come away from that meeting with homework assignments to carry out in the spring of 2013. The MFS have put together some grant applications to support this effort. What we have put together so far can be supported through existing resources but grants funding would help do more like getting boots on the ground to conduct walk and talks to encourage stewardship, as an example. USFS grants come out in January. Barry suggested wildlife will be an important component for small landowners as part of the message of benefits.

SFI Education Committee

Provided a workshop with the MFS sponsored by Katahdin Forrest Products to construct two sets of bridgemats.

CLP report on Workers Comp Rates for 2013. They are coming down for CLP Mechanical. CLP Certified 87 new loggers this year and 17 of those were conventional operators.

Action . Pat have Roberta Scruggs do a story on the new CLP rate for the MFPC news.

Honor and Integrity Committee Pat reported we have had some SFI GOAL calls.

One call . fish passage and right of ways.

Second call with log yard located in forested wetland.

Action . Pat will survey members on the division of Confirmation duties by county.

Updates from other organizations represented:

MFS . Keith Kanoti reported, latest bmp report will be out in January.

Chop drop rulemaking process is almost completed. We should have a final rule within a couple of weeks.

IF&W John Pratte reported the current administration is filling positions and we have a lot of new staff. We also have some new positions. Lee Cantor will be the moose biologist and we are waiting for a new deer biologist. We've received a grant to digitize deer yards. That is done and now we want to prioritize that effort. We purchased iPads for surveys in planes. This eliminates hand maps and having to digitizing them later.

We've received a grant through NRCS to hire two consultants to focus on deer yards for small landowners and develop written materials for them. They will also develop general wildlife improvement information for small landowners.

We are working with SWOAM to develop wildlife guidelines for small landowners.

We have a trapping program for priority deer yards . 28 trappers have caught 120 coyotes under this program.

SIC Adjournment . Hearing no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

SIC Minutes

June 6th, 2012

**Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center
5784 York Complex, Bldg. #4
University of Maine,
Orono, ME**

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

In attendance:

Nick Livesay	Pierce Atwood	Keith Kanoti	Maine Forest Service Pat
Sirois	SFI	David Wilson	Katahdin Forest Mgt.
John Starrett	Sappi	Katie Cousins	Sappi
Kevin McCarthy	Sappi	Ernest Carle	Woodland Pulp
Bob Carlton	New Page Corp	Tom Charles	BPL
Marc Pinette	LP	Josiah Pierce	Tree Farm
Mike Beardsley	PLC	Dan Russell	Huber
Dennis Berube	FT LLC	Paula Pelletier	AFM
Mike St. Peter	CLP	Kenny Ferguson	Huber Resources
Shawn Bugbee	7 Islands	Brian Boucher	Orion Timberlands
Sue Aygarn	LandVest	Karen Smith	North Wood's Man.

Call to Order – Pat Sirois called the meeting to order.

Welcome and Introductions – Pat welcomed the attendees and initiated introductions.

Agenda Adjustments – The agenda was adjusted to include a presentation from Bill Livingston representing Maine's Envirothon program after the treasurers report.

Anti Trust Statement – Nick Livesay provided an anti-trust statement and circulated the anti-trust signup sheet.

Approval of Minutes from the 3/22/12 SIC meeting – Pat presented the March 22nd draft SIC minutes for approval. A motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously as written.

Bill Livingston – The Envirothon this is an outdoor activity for high school students of Maine. This is a national program with programs in each state. Teams are formed in January and competition occurs in May. The society of Maine's professional foresters and MFS have helped with forestry portion of the program. The program has grown from 40 teams five years ago to 70 teams at this point. This is primarily a volunteer effort with cost covered by sponsorships. More funding is needed to get the teams organized and support more regionals. Plum Creek has been a major sponsor of the program and we would ask each you to consider asking your company to help this program through a sponsorship.

Treasurers Report – Pat Sirois presented the report on behalf of Dave Griswold. We are in good shape financially and on time for collection of dues. The 26 thousand dollar item identified is a pass through for grader training. Expenses are tracking well. Small landowner outreach has gone out to SWOAM for the handbook. The Executive Committee will be meeting between now and the next SIC meeting to develop a draft budget for 2013. A motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously.

Maine’s Tree Farm Program – Jo Peirce- there will a strategic planning session tomorrow and Friday. National ATFS is sending someone to help with this process. Betina Ring is the new Vice president of AFF and the new Tree leadership. It is highly likely we will start charging dues next year as a mandate coming from National. It’s matter of sustainability of the program at the national level, even though they understand this may result in a significant reduction of membership.

Sub-committee Reports

Wildlife Committee – Pat Sirois presented Barry Burgason report.

Fish Passage:

No new policy issues or meetings

This item seems to have settled into “management mode” with agencies working with landowners to continue inventories and identify barriers for correction

Invasive plants:

An issue on several SFI audits

May 2, Baxter SP held workshop for their staff and neighbouring landowners, information presented by Ron Lemin. General interest in continuing and expanding efforts to educate landowners and contractors about identification, prevention and control.

MNAP applying for grant dealing with invasive plants in northern Maine. Talking of creation of steering committee with MFS, landowners, TNC, others. I will volunteer to represent SFI/SIC, if committee is formed.

MFS, TNC, others have sponsored workshops on invasives with central/southern ME focus. We should look at SIC Education & Wildlife committees providing training on invasive plants and control to members and contractors. Interest from members?

Tree Farm is teeing up invasives as a major issue. Jo chairs the committee.

MFS has done 25 or 30 trainings offered from Bangor south. Jo – we are working to support APHIS budgets and other programs. We are looking for the question that needs to be asked about invasives for Maine, from a policy point of view. We will have two fly-ins a year when we can push this issue.

Moose Browsing/forest regeneration:

Barry and one of Huber clients held a meeting with IFW biologists to discuss moose browsing impact on forest regeneration, specifically in WMU 1 & 4. We feel it is significant. IFW has significantly increased number of moose permits, including “cow only” permits, during past two years.

IFW species management plan for moose is due for review in 2015 and would be time to influence policy.

Rusty Blackbird:

Small songbird related to red-wing blackbird and grackles. Nests in wetlands associated with boreal forest. Range has contracted and numbers declined significantly over the past

30-40 years. No one is sure what factors are involved: habitat on breeding ground, habitat on wintering ground, government poisoning on wintering ground, breeding success, etc. Groups/agencies still collecting baseline data.

Judith Scarl, Vermont Ecosystem Studies, has been contracted to conduct population surveys in northern Maine as follow up to similar surveys in 2001 and 2007. She has contacted landowners for permission to access lands and is currently in the middle of field season.

On April 3, a group from SIC Wildlife committee met with Judith Scarl to discuss her research and “all things Rusty Blackbird”. We were able to learn about past and current research as well as suggest changes to her field protocol and help with field logistics. Others present were: Henning Stabins and Ray Ary, Plum Ck; Dan Hudnut, Wagner; John Gilbert and Kelly Honeyman, Irving.

Scarl agreed to meet with the group again in the fall to share her data with us.

Education Committee – John Starrett reported on training delivered to this point in 2012:

Hancock Lumber timber mat construction workshop – 6 mats constructed - Bethel

7 Islands Stream Smart training with field exercise. -- Rangely

Newpage bmp, water bar, Strm smart – So. Paris

CLP bridge mat and Strm smart in Jackman.

Southern Maine children’s water festival – 800 children viewing the sand table in operation – location USM Portland Campus.

Foresters Institute – Strm Smrt training in Augusta.

Another Foresters Institute Strm Smrt training was planned for Ashland but was cancelled due to low registration. It will be rescheduled for the fall in the Bangor area.

Upcoming training:

Grader Training in July– 6 classes scheduled – two in Princeton, Greenville and Ashland.

Only two slots left to fill in Ashland. There is a challenge in getting enough graders.

MFS will be offering training this fall on white pine management training.

-Tree farm field day in September 8th, Bethel.

-Two separate foresters institute, one in Augusta and another in Massabesic.

Katahdin Forest Management - Strm Smrt Training – July 17th – will do the training at the Twin Pines with flume. Also we will do a flume demonstration for TNC and the Forest Society of Maine who will be touring some of KFM operations.

Honor and Integrity Committee – *Pat Sirois reported there have been no calls since the last meeting.*

Chop and Drop Program Status – Keith Kanoti—MFS had a bill in the legislature to allow us to conduct chop and drop activities without having to get a permit. As I understand it, we can go to rule making the end of August. The rule will apply state-wide.

Keith – BMP manual is now available in French.- one copy is free and multiple copies are 5 dollars each. MFS did help PLC with their BMP trainings.

Mike Beardsley – PLC conducted several safety trainings at various locations around the state to over 440 attendees. Topics covered were water quality, ergonomics and distracted driving.

Mike St. Peter – we certified 79 new individuals through the CLP program: This training was offered in Skowhegan, Bangor, St. John and Gray.

We have recertified 475 individuals.

SIC Adjournment – Hearing no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

SIC Minutes
March 22nd, 2012
MFPC Headquarters
535 Civic Center Drive
Augusta Maine
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

In attendance:

Scott Pease	Hancock Lumber	Nick Livesay	Pierce Atwood
Kevin Doran	MFS	Dave Griswold	Verso Paper
Pat Sirois	SFI	Keith Kanoti	Maine Forest Service
Sherry Huber	ME Tree	David Wilson	Katahdin Forest Mgt.
Gordon Gamble	Wagner	Stephen Follette	Woodland Pulp
Dave Daut	TimberVest	Mike Beardsley	Professional Logging
Josiah Pierce	Tree Farm	Paula Pelletier	AFM
Scott McDougall	J.D. Irving	Kevin McCarthy	Sappi
Dan Russell	Huber	Doug Denico	Maine Forest Service
Mark Doty	Plum Creek	Bob Carlton	New Page Corp
Tom Charles	BPL	Katie Cousins	Sappi
Dennis Berube	FT LLC	Joel Swanton	FRA
Jan Santerre	MFS	Amanda Mahaffey	KWP
Jon Bryant	AFM	Tim Richards	UPM Madison
John Starrett	Sappi		

Call to Order – Mark Doty called the meeting to order.

Welcome and Introductions – Mark Doty welcomed committee members and initiated introductions.

Agenda Adjustments – There were no agenda adjustments.

Anti Trust Statement – Nick Livesay provided an antitrust statement and circulated the signup sheet.

Approval of Minutes from the 12/7/11 SIC meeting – A motion was made and seconded to approve the December 7th SIC minutes. The motion carried.

Treasurers Report – Dave Griswold reported, the states of SFI finances are good. Compare where we ended last year to this year we are about 2000 off from where we thought we would be. There is one pass thru with the grant for grader training. Licensing is about where we planned to be. We're expecting be on par for the end of the year for salaries and other expenses. A motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously.

ME's Family Forest I&E Initiative – Doug Denico, Jan Santerre (MFS) Doug – we don't have modeling capability at the MFS so we have contracted Sewall to model hardwood resource. One of the things

we've learned is that there is a lot of standing inventory in southern Maine. For a whole host of reasons, southern Maine landowners aren't actively managing their woodlots like they did in decades past. I've asked Jan Santerre to coordinate an effort to try and get some of the southern Maine landowners more interested in managing their woodlots. We understand their reasons for management will often be different than commercial forest owners. We need to try and understand better their thinking so that managers can provide the services these family forests owners desire.

Jan Santerre – Pat, Joel, Kevin Doran and I have been meeting to organize a forum of interested people to explore what's worked, look at what hasn't worked, and try to identify problems and messaging that relates to what family forest owners want out of their land. The forum is scheduled for May 24th. We would like to identify a list of actions that we can get to work on as soon as possible. This is not going to be a one-time effort but rather the beginning of an ongoing effort. One of the Forum's outcomes will be to figure out how we can evaluate success in reaching landowners.

Doug -- they tell me we've lost a lot of our small southern Maine hardwood mills. We're going to ask someone from the Governor's office to attend this meeting to see there is something we can do to help.

Sherry – you remember the old Yankee Woodlot series. We are about to launch a website for small landowners, sponsored by Maine Tree, SWOAM and Tree Farm. It's an interactive computer program of how to manage your woodlot, called "Woodlands Steward".

Response to Gov. LePage EO on Green Building– Pat Sirois reported that there has been a very positive response to the Governor's EO from the industry in general. Thank you to all who have responded by thanking the Governor. On the flip side there has been some backlash against the EO with negative comments about SFI from some campaigners that has merited as response from SFI. In one case in particular it was most appropriate for the letter to come from the Maine SIC. Pat circulated a letter sent as a comment to a website whose article needed the record set straight. This letter was the basis for an SFI blog within a series of blogs, SFI Inc has been sending out in response to the USGBCs actions or lack of action. All of the blogs can be viewed on the SFI Inc. website.

Maine's Tree Farm Program – Jo Peirce reported, we've tried to raise funds to continue to have SWOAM administer TF. We didn't succeed. Now SWOAM is no longer the org we go to for information on TF. The \$12,000 we have raised is going to pay Maine Tree to do the data entry, and SWOAM to do our outreach. We are going to continue doing the TF Fair together with SWOAM. We need to find a way for TF to hire an executive director to grow TF program.

Sub-committee Reports

Wildlife Committee – Pat reported the Fisheries Improvement Network had convened its first meeting this morning. The intent of FIN is to provide private forest landowners a forum with state and federal agencies and NGOs to discuss all issues associated with fish. The Forum was sponsored by the SIC with help from the USFW and IF&W. The morning meeting focused on Atlantic Salmon and Eastern Brook Trout. Issues discussed were habitat, fish passage barriers and security of information collected on both. The next meeting will likely occur in late summer or early fall when USFW has a draft Salmon recovery plan available.

Education Committee – Flume Presentation – Jed Wright (USFW) provided a live demonstration of the sand table constructed by the SIC and MFS for use during the Stream Smart trainings. The tool is effective in demonstrating stream functions in an accelerated fashion. A manufactured table cost \$7200. For \$2600 two were constructed. There will be many training sessions offered in the next couple of years. Along with the obvious teaching aid benefit, these tables labeled with SFI have outreach value as well.

U Tube – SFI EZ Bar Presentation – Kevin Doran (MFS) presented the SFI EZ bar u tube video. There is still a bit more editing to be done but the video should be available for use by the next SIC meeting. It was suggested that the video, once complete, be translated into French as well.

Stream Smart training –Keith reported Maine Audubon has coordinated training for municipalities on Stream Smart Crossings. The MFS and SIC got involved with the training development because we wanted the training principles to be consistent with those we promote in forestry.

Pat Sirois –the good news is that the group developing the training agreed that the training Keith had piloted for the SIC last year would serve as the core technical, how to section, for the new Stream smart training. Most importantly the key principles are the same.

Keith – Audubon has offered three trainings to date for municipalities, one in Falmouth, Brewer and Augusta. There are two more slated for Caribou, and another in Falmouth. As part of the grant, the SIC had provide \$1000 of match. In return the Stream Smart training will be offered to foresters through two MFS Foresters’ Institute sessions. One in Augusta on April 16th and another in Ashland on May 16th.

Keith also reported the MFS with partners including the SIC acquired a grant to offer advanced grader training. There will be two three day session in three locations; Ashland, Bingham and Princeton. – 14,000 will pay for half of the training. The remainder will be covered through tuition at 700/participant.

Honor and Integrity Committee – Pat Sirois reported there had been no calls since the last meeting.

SFI Outreach Committee – Scott Pease reported we held an Outreach meeting on March 7th.

We reviewed outreach activities for 2011 and planned activities for 2012. In 2012 we will repeat several activities such as the MFPC tours, legislative receptions, Habitat build volunteer days and MSA show. The Outreach committee agreed that other initiative such as the “Family Forest Initiative” and the Stream Smart training including the Flume table presentations will create outreach opportunities with various audiences such as the DEP congress in June, request from schools, and a MFS event, the Southern Maine Water Festival. We will also participate to the extent possible, in the Kennebec Woodlands Partnership and the construction of their proposed Nordic Ski Center.

2011 SIC Progress report distribution – beyond the teachers tours, SFI workshops, CLP training, and Legislators the committee decided to place twenty copies at each gate of the NMWs.

Status of SWOAM Small Landowner Handbook – Pat Sirois -- We are waiting for SWOAM to publish the new version.

Kennebec Woodlands Partnership Small Landowner booklet – Amanda Mahaffey -- this a good publication for family forest and could serve as a core component for a landowner packet, although it is focused on Kennebec County. The intention of the greater initiative is to have these products serve as a model that could be exported to other counties in Maine.

Nordic Ski Center Construction – the plans for construction were halted last year in light of a principle proponent falling ill. The initiative is back on track and the building committee of which the SIC will participate in, is starting to meet again.

Chop and Drop Program Status – Keith Kanoti reported Chop and Drop is a program to drop wood in the stream for fisheries habitat purposes. In an effort to make this easier from the permitting standpoint the MFS introduced legislation to authorize the MFS,IF&W and DEP to do rulemaking to put wood in the stream. The bill came out of the Committee unanimous ought to pass. IF&W will need to identify streams where chop and drop would be beneficial. We will be offering training to foresters on how to do this. We will orchestrate some demonstration projects to help with the training

Entry Level Logger Training -- Joel Swanton reported -- Maine's Logger Education Alliance (MLEA) is an outgrowth from 2008 education forum sponsored by the Maine Tree Foundation and organized by FRA and SFI. The group represents several training entities that share ideas and resources. One thing we always talk about is entry level training. At this point there is no place where a logger can go to get that level of training. Recently there has been renewed interest in creating such a program. Irving Woodlands sponsored a program last year and will again this year. There is also renewed interest from the dept. of labor. There is actually language in legislation pending at the statehouse that would form a work group to develop a logger training program. There is a high level of interest from the Northern ME Community College and UMFK to develop a program. UMFK would recognize the NMCC program with credit towards a forestry degree.

FRA is involved at the national level in an issues where the US dept. of labor is issuing restrictions on H2Bs. This could double or triple the cost of tree planting. Those of you interested should keep a close eye on this issue. If you want to contribute to the legal fund call Joel.

Teachers tours --Sherry -- I've never seen an evaluation from a teacher that didn't appreciate what they have seen in the forest or manufacturing. Price is 85\$ which is really designed for them to show up. We're looking for 30 teachers for this summer's tours.

Adjournment – Hearing no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

SIC Minutes
 September 5th, 2012
 MFPC Headquarters
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In attendance:

Scott Pease	Hancock Lumber	Tom Doyle	Pierce Atwood
Keith Kanoti	MFS	Dave Griswold	Verso Paper
Pat Sirois	SFI	Tony Lyons	New Page Corp
Sherry Huber	ME Tree	David Wilson	Katahdin Forest Mgt.
Brian Boucher	Orion Timberlands	Bob Carlton	New Page Corp
Mark Doty	Plum Creek	Ernest Carle	Woodland Pulp
Dave Daut	TimberVest	Mike Beardsley	Professional Logging
Dan Russell	Huber	Tom Dodd	AFM
Jan Santerre	MFS	Tom Charles	BPL
Ron Lovaglio	Lovaglio LLC	Tim Richards	UPM Madison
John Starrett	Sappi	Barry Burgason	Huber Resources
Mike St. Peter	CLP	James Reed	Huber
Christopher Nichols	7 Islands	Tom Doak	SWOAM
Jasen Castonguay	Orion Timberlands	Antonio Bentivoglio	USFWS

Call to Order . Mark Doty called the meeting to order.

Welcome and Introductions . Mark welcomed the committee and initiated introductions.

Antitrust Statement . Tom Doyle provided the antitrust statement and circulated an attendees signup sheet.

Approval of Minutes from the 6/6/12 SIC meeting . A motion was made and seconded to approve the June 6th SIC minutes. The motion carried.

Treasurers Report/2013 Budget Presentation and Approval . Dave Griswold reported, dues are coming in as expected and expenses are also tracking as expected. The Grader training money is a pass through. We are drawing our end of years balance down as planned. A motion was made and seconded to approve the treasurer's report. The motion carried.

2013 budget proposal. – Dave reported the Executive Committee met in August to develop the proposed budget. Based on expected revenues and expenses for 2013, the dues in 2013 will remain flat. This provides the SIC with a four months operation cushion. If we are able to gain some membership that we anticipate might join next year, it could be possible to look at a dues reduction for 2014. A motion was made and seconded to approve the 2013 budget. The motion carried.

Spruce Budworm Update – Dave Struble presented information on the Spruce Budworm. The budworm is always present to some degree and as we know, will cycle from time to time. Currently, pheromone traps are indicating a growing population in Maine, New Brunswick and

Quebec. The greatest degree of change is occurring on the North shore of the St. Lawrence. It's not a question of whether the budworm will return but when and to what degree. It's not going to happen next year but likely in the next ten years. In October we will be meeting with officials in Quebec to learn more about what they are seeing and what their treatment protocols consist of.

Maine's Salmon Restoration Plan . Antonio Bentivoglio reported the draft recovery plan is at the regional office being revised for edits. From there, it goes to the Solicitor General's office for review and to be signed. Once it's on the federal register, it will be open for public comments for 60 days. After the comment period, adjustments will be made accordingly. At that point the plan will be presented to the interested parties in each of the three SHRUs. Optimistically this will happen in 2012 but more likely in the first quarter of 2013.

Southern Maine's Family Forest Initiative Update – Jan Santerre reported, we had a meeting in late June and discussed the southern mega region and how harvesting in this region has declined significantly. Since then we pulled more data to understand the issue. The issue is very diverse and we need to come up with a wide education and information outreach initiative. We need to develop messaging and materials to communicate with small landowners. We are looking for help with the committees to develop the messaging. The MFS has the opportunity to acquire funding for this effort through a grant with the USFS. Grant deadline is in October. We'll be looking to fund some of the educational efforts but we also want to test our brands. We would like to test existing brands like %Call before You Cut+and %Wood Wise+as well as the most recent suggestion, %Maine's Healthy Forest Initiative+. Some of our foresters involved in the low impact forestry group would like to develop a low impact BMP manual for small landowners. We also will need additional funding for walk and talks with landowners, which has been very useful in the past. Outside of the grant, we would like to work with CEI to make low interest loans available to loggers for smaller equipment for operating on smaller landowners. This could encourage loggers to invest in smaller equipment again.

Sub-committee Reports

Wildlife Committee – Barry Burgason reported, stream crossing surveys have gone into management mode. All are either cooperating with agencies, training foresters or contractors, and doing some surveys and upgrading crossings.

Rusty Black Bird . there is a one day rusty black bird conference that Henning Stabins with Plum Creek will attend and report back to us. .

Bicknell Thrush . there is a proposal out there to list this bird as endangered. Habitat for the Bicknell Thrush is a young high altitude spruce forest.

Moose browsing on regeneration . CFRU has agreed to focus on this issue at the fall meeting. We are asking foresters to look around them to determine whether there is no visible impact, some impact, a lot of impact. We will be collecting that information.

Invasive plants have come up as issues in several SFI audits. Most landowners are working with MFS and MNAP to look at invasives. MFS has some good training on this topic and there are some resources out there to help control these species.

Legislative issues . Beavers are a never ending issue. There is some interest by the Maine trappers to extend the trapping season before and after the existing season.

Education Committee

Grader Training Program . Keith Kanoti provided an overview of the grader training offered in July. There were six, three day sessions; two in Ashland, two in Greenville and two in Princeton. Each class had three operators. What was unique about this training was that the operators were able to get significant seat time while being instructed via radio communications with the instructor. Hugh Hamley, road alongside the grader on a four wheeler providing instructions. Participants commented on how much of an eye opener it was to learn the full range of options and maneuvers possible with today's graders.

John Starrett reported on activities since the last meeting.

There was a Stream Smart training offered to Katahdin Forest Management staff and contractors. Dave Wilson provided a brief presentation on a crossing KFM upgraded subsequent to the training. There were some initial issues as the old crossing had created a LURC zoned wetland. With help from the Fish and Wildlife staff who were presenters at the initial training, KFM was permitted by LURC to upgrade the crossing which resulted in restoring a small stream from the previous wetland.

MFS Forestry Field Staff for entire state received training on the operation of the Flume table. This will enable them to offer Flume demonstrations on there own moving forward.

EZ bar has been released via an FRA technical release on August 16th.

Fall training . SFI and MFS will offer a bridgemat construction workshop in Oakfield on September 27th.

Training priorities for 2013

Aesthetics/communications . we will partner with SWCDs, SWOAM, Mills, LandTrust, Audubon etc to offer training on these topics statewide but with a particular emphasis in Southern Maine.

Grader training - one week for 6 operators . Foresters should attend to observe the practices being promoted during this training.

Stream Smart training will continue to be a high priority for 2013 and beyond. The current training does a good job drawing attention to the problems and laying out the principles for good crossings. It does not prepare someone starting from scratch on how to properly install a streamsmart crossing. Another, more technical training needs to be developed for that purpose. We are working with the DOT and DEP on some information that would be useful for that next level of training.

Soils compaction and rutting . we are hearing there are some issues in some of the audits and are contemplating how we can address this issue in training.

Invasives . MFS has done a great deal of this training in the past. The Wildlife Committee continues to highlight this as a training priority. The SIC will work with the MFS to offer more training programs for loggers and forester on invasives in 2013.

U tube training opportunities . If money becomes available, we would like to do some more U tube videos of specific practices that can be effectively demonstrated on video.

Honor and Integrity Committee – Pat Sirois reported there had been one call since the last meeting. The caller was concerned with lack of BMPs on a harvest which was resulting in mud reaching a brook. The operation was halted. BMPs were implemented and the issue resolved.

SFI Outreach Committee . Scott Pease reported on outreach activities since the last meeting.

- SFI Flume table was used for the State of Maine highway congress in Skowhegan. (June 7th)
- Pat spoke at the GAA Conference in Washington on (June 20th) on the topic of the Maine Certification Pilot to a group of paper customers.
- On July 17th, Following the Katahdin Forest Management training, we conducted an SFI Outreach effort with TNC and the Forest Society of Maine on how SFI promotes best management practices for crossings through the Stream Smart training and the flume table demo.
- The SIC supported Sappique community appreciation day in Westbrook on August 11th with Flume demonstrations.
- Maine Public Radio ran a story on upgrading stream crossings on August 30th where SFI certification and the SIC's training efforts were highlighted.
- SFI will accompany the MFS with a flume table demonstration at the Northern Maine Water Festival on October 9th.

We will need volunteers for the upcoming MSA show. We will have a booth starting Friday evening, all day Saturday and Sunday until 3:00 pm.

We will need some volunteers for the upcoming Supershack contest in November. Pat will be in touch with more information.

SWOAM Handbook -- Tom Doak reported the booklet is at the printers. They will be available within a few days. Contact Pat or Tom directly with the number of booklets you would like sent to your company.

Adjournment . Hearing no further business, the September 5th SIC meeting was adjourned.