

SIC Draft Minutes

December 4th, 2014
MFPC Headquarters
Augusta
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

In attendance:

Mike St. Peter	CLP	Tony Lyons	New Page
Tom Charles	BPL	Nick Baser	7 Islands
Dick Morse	Tree Farm	Mark Doty	Plum Creek
Scott Pease	Hancock Lumber	Gordon Gamble	WFM
Susan Aygarn	LandVest	Sherry Huber	Maine Tree
Jon Morin	Woodland Pulp	Brian Rayback	Pierce Atwood
Jan Santerre	MFS	Barry Burgason	Huber Resources
Keith Kanoti	MFS	Dave Griswold	Verso Paper
John Starrett	Sappi	Donald Mansius	MFS
Pat Sirois	SFI	Dan Russell	Huber Engineered

Call to Order – Gordon Gamble called the meeting and initiated introductions.

Anti-Trust Statement – Tom Doyle provided the antitrust statement and circulated the signup sheet.

Approval of Minutes from the 9/3/14 SIC meeting – Gordon asked to approve the September minutes. The motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously to accept the 9/4/14 minutes as written.

Treasurers Report – Pat Sirois presented the Treasurers report in Dave's absence. The Executive Committee reviewed the 2015 budget with the expectation of variations in 2015 revenue due to mills closures and sales. The Committee concluded there would likely be no significant net change to SIC revenues for 2015.

Under revenue, you will see in addition to having received all the dues, there is an additional five thousand dollar MFS grant which is a pass through for a project Keith will be talking about later in the program. The five thousand is expensed below on the line titled MFS grant.

Education Income is money reimbursed to the SIC for expenses related to training delivered.

Licensing revenue line is up from last year. This is the contribution SFI Inc. makes to the Maine SIC. SFI Inc. has committed to keep providing this funding but not necessarily to this level.

Expenses are tracking as expected with the MFS grant the exception. Year's end unrestricted funds are projected to be 36 thousand which represents roughly three months operating budget, which is our goal.

A motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously to accept the Treasurer's report.

Election of Officers – *Pat Sirois*

National Wildlife Turkey Federation – *Rebecca Barnard provided a presentation on the NWTF and how it may work with SICs to advance the mission of SFI.*

Sub-committee Reports

Outreach Committee – Scott Pease reported much of our outreach work is being conducted through our efforts with the Healthy Forest Program.

Doug Denico – reported he met with the Governor to discuss fiber supply and communicated the inventory picture for small woodlots in southern Maine. Doug also explained the public private partnership that exist with the HFP to try and encourage more active forest management on those lands. The Governor was very encouraged by HFP and that MFS was getting two more foresters to help work with these woodlot owners.

Healthy Forest Program – Jan Santerre indicated that two positions just filled Doug was referring to are in Old Town and Jonesboro.

We spent a good part of the last year taking in the Harvest Satisfaction Surveys. Out of the 2100 solicited more than 800 have been returned which is over 40% participation. 94% of the surveys returned indicated satisfaction with the outcome of their harvest. Another point to take note of is there is no significant between difference in satisfaction whether there is a forester involved or not. Andy Shultz and Jan will present survey results at the January 8th FRA meeting and the ACF later this Month. The ME, SIC will reference the survey in the annual report. MFS will put together a one page fact sheet to share with interested parties and FRA will do a technical release on the fact sheet. This is a way to reassure landowners that there is good work getting done.

Sherry suggested sharing this with the Forest for Maine's Future with 5000 subscribers. A fact sheet would be useful on teacher's tours as well.

Jan continued, there are "profiles in stewardship" videos on the HFP website and we still have funds to develop a low impact harvesting guide book.

Pat reported, Pine Tree Camps are in the process of constructing their buildings. At this point we want to express our gratitude to 7 Islands, Huber Engineered Woods and Pleasant River for their significant contributions to this SIC sponsored project. We will be publicizing this effort through the MFPC Newsletter as well as the SIC 2014 progress report.

SFI EZ Shack Raffle is being administered by MSA. At a variety of locations from Topsham to Greenville, we have distributed a packet that includes table top raffle promotion with tickets to sell. As part of that packet there is a link to a video produced by Roberta Scruggs featuring the ice shack, the drawing and construction of the crossing in Brownville. Pat ran the video for the SIC.

Special thanks to Plum Creek, Irving Woodlands, Huber Engineered Woods, and Hancock Lumber for materials to construct the ice shack. Thank you to Scott and Gordon in helping construct the shack.

On Oct 17-19th SFI had a booth at the MSA show. The Show enjoyed one of largest turn outs MSA has had. Our booth consisted of the flume table and ice shack. The booth was very busy as has been typical in the past.

Pat wanted to thank Scott, Gordon, Mark, John and Sue for helping with the set up and tearing down the booth as well as manning the booth through the weekend.

Pat continues to serve on the NELA board and attended the meeting in Old Forge NY on Oct 19th and 20th.

Wildlife Committee – Barry Burgason handed out the agenda from the November 6th FIN meeting where discussions continue on creative approaches landowners are taking to improve connectivity.

We also want this committee know that the SIC is represented in the process to update Maine's Wildlife Action Plan (WAP). Barry and Pat have been attending these meetings and Barry serves on the WAP steering committee. Roberta Scruggs serves on the WAP communication committee as well.

NLEB is a hot topic – the FRA meeting will have Wendy Mohaney speaking about the NLEB. There is new and conflicting information about this species. White nose syndrome is the bad guy. One of the arguments is that there are some areas where white nose is not affecting some groups of bats. This may have an influence on the process of listing. ME IF&W will be proposing some legislation to protect bats but their focus is more on wind power than forest management at this point.

Education Committee – *John Starrett*

Keith Kanoti reported on an experimental technique to protect haul roads from trucking damage. Trees Unlimited, a small logging contractor based in Sidney, operates on small lots where access is often on camp roads, across driveways and other surfaces where trucking can do damage. With financial assistance from ReEnergy and the MFS, they purchased 800 feet of plastic road that they are testing. The \$5000 grant from the MFS is the same Pat was referring to in the Treasurer's report.

Pat talk about the MLEA meeting- the Maine logger education alliance was a group initially convened to learn more about what training was available and offered in forestry and harvesting related topics in Maine. This was initiated in 2008. The group migrated into related topics like Labor standards that govern at what age a young person is eligible to work in our professions like logging and mill work type jobs.

Honor and Integrity Committee – Pat reported on Kip Nichols behalf that there had not been any calls since the last meeting.

Review 2014 SIC Work Plan- Pat walked the SIC through the workplan reviewing task and highlighting efforts in 2014 that fulfilled the completion of those tasks.

Updates from other organizations present

PLC – Dana Doran reported that PLC is establishing a new office in Augusta and ramping up operations with some administrative changes. New office location on Sewall Street.

Sherry – MLEA is up and running. We're working on developing a career path for loggers. We are also producing a video that will get out to young people promoting that logging is a good, safe profession. Video should be ready to go next spring.

Maine Tree is sponsoring the CLP banquet this Friday evening. Music Entertainment will be performed by "Role & Go".

CLP – Mike St.Peter reported we had a reasonably good fall training season with one new four day initial certification class in Bangor area. Now we are getting geared up for the spring. We have one new initiative on CLP as defined by SFI CLP that we are working on and will have in place by July 2015.

Other business -- Next SIC meeting will be March 4th here at the MFPC and then June 3rd in Orono

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

SIC Draft Minutes

March 5th, 2014
MFPC Headquarters
Augusta
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

In attendance:

Mike St. Peter	CLP	Tony Lyons	New Page
Tom Charles	BPL	Nick Baser	7 Islands
Dick Morse	Tree Farm	Mark Doty	Plum Creek
Scott Pease	Hancock Lumber	Gordon Gamble	WFM
Susan Aygarn	LandVest	Sherry Huber	Maine Tree
Jon Morin	Woodland Pulp	Brian Rayback	Pierce Atwood
Jan Santerre	MFS	Barry Burgason	Huber Resources
Keith Kanoti	MFS	Dave Griswold	Verso Paper
John Starrett	Sappi	Donald Mansius	MFS
Pat Sirois	SFI	Dan Russell	Huber Engineered

Call to Order – Gordon Gamble called the meeting.

Anti-Trust Statement – Brian Rayback provided the antitrust statement and circulated the signup sheet.

Approval of Minutes from the 12/4/13 SIC meeting – Gordon presented the minutes for approval. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

Treasurers Report – Dave Griswold provided the treasurer's report. The treasurer's report was accepted unanimously.

SIC adoption of 2014 SIC work plan – Pat Sirois reviewed the workplan for 2014 explaining it was consistent with the SIC-SFI, MOU as well as the priority initiatives identified by SFI Inc. A motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously.

BMP Report Preview -- Keith Kanoti reported we visited 105 sites. Of concern, 8 % of crossings didn't have BMPs implemented. That crept up a bit. Also the number of crossing that had sediment reach the stream increased as well. Haul road crossings are getting wider and spanning the stream, which is good. Also there was no evidence of chemical spills at any harvest. Keeping wetland crossings and haul roads back from the stream is better.

Reinvigorating BMP trainings for small loggers and landowners should be the target this year. We have our district foresters setting up general administration workshops in southern Maine.

DEP will advertise in Uncle Henry's. We will be looking for workshop sponsor. Keith asked TF to partner on some BMP workshops for small LO's.

SFI Standards Regional Workshop – Pat Sirois reported, the 2015-2019 SFI Standard Review Process is underway. There was an open comment period from June 6th through August 6th, 2013. The second comment period will be Jan 6th through March 6th, 2014. One of the nine Standards Review workshops was held in Portland, Maine on February 27th.

The process was that workshop attendees responded with their thoughts on the draft revised standard. All of the comments are rolled up and reviewed by the SFI Resources Committee. The final decision on what the new standards look like is the responsibility of the SFI Board of Directors. Once the standard is finalized in Dec 2014, SFI Participants will have 2015 to implement the resulting changes in their programs.

Canadian small landowner's certification task force – Pat Sirois – because of my involvement with the SFI pilot in Maine in 2010 and 2011, I was asked to serve on a task force to find a solution to low cost certification of small landowners in Canada. I was involved with several conference calls last summer and fall. More recently, the chair of this committee had to step down to fill the void of another committee chair that no longer could serve. As a result Kathy asked if I would serve as chair and after conferring with the Executive Committee, I accepted. I don't expect this to be much of a time commitment.

Sherry Huber suggested Tree Farm needs to keep track of Pat's work with the Canadian small landowner certification effort. Tree Farm is in the process of determining state by state whether they will continue certification or return to a recognition program. The decision needs to be made by 2015 and implemented in 2017.

SBW initiative progress – Mark Doty reported there is a team made up of MFPC, MFS and UMO focussed on the spruce budworm response. There were several task teams set in motion at the MFPC meeting last September. There is a goal of having task teams submit first phase reports by the first of June. In the meantime the NERCOFE meeting will have the strategy teams provide presentations to over 300 people registered.

25 people attended the Quebec SWB conference. NB is taking an early intervention tack. They are going to spray at high count Pheremone traps with 18 million dollar grant from the Government.

In Quebec there is defoliation on the north shore and it has jumped the St Lawrence.

In Maine numbers are increasing and we are going to put out 500 more traps this year. We are seeing more and more articles in the paper about this issue and there was a lot of interest during the Legislative tour last fall. There will also be a presentation to the Keeping Maine's Forest group. It will be a good opportunity to assess how they react and also to show this isn't just an excuse to go out and cut trees. Our goal is to deal with the budworm and not repeat the same human response as last time.

Pine Tree Camps proposal/presentation -- John Starrett introduced Harvey Chesley and Erin Rice representing the Pine Tree Camps in Rome. Harvey and Erin presented information on the mission of Pine Tree Camps to help children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Pine Tree Society is implementing a master plan for capital improvements to modernize the facility, ensure the care, comfort and safety of the thousands of people with disabilities served each year and enhance and expand its innovative programming.

John suggested, this is an opportunity for SIC members to contribute to the camps reconstruction in the same manner as we did in 2010 for the Habitat for Humanity project. Erin will provide information on materials needed for the various construction projects. John said it would be favorable to have a camp entirely sponsored by the SIC. Dan Russell indicated that he has been a long time contributor to Pine Tree camps and said, in his experience more of his contributions were utilized for the mission of the organization than any other charitable effort he had supported.

Action – Pat will circulate information on how SIC members can contribute should they desire.

Sub-committee Reports

Wildlife Committee – Barry Burgason reported, a group that largely makes up the FIN Steering committee met to discuss the possibility of piloting a green dot initiative which is short for a process to report progress over time on upgrading stream crossing to stream smart principles. We've been discussing for some time the need to be able to credibly report on progress on this front. It's generally accepted that the forestry private road sector is doing better than the public road sector on this front, but at some point someone is going to ask how much progress is actually being made. At the same time there is a benefit for landowners that make upgrades to feed this information into a system that can in turn provide new prioritization information.

There is always the concern of this information being made public. To this end, the TNC has offered to host this data. There will be a board that will review data access issues and policies over time, but initially the bare minimum of data access will be between TNC and the landowner. It will be able to be viewed by agency personal but not downloaded. We are awaiting clarification from USF&W from their solicitor general on whether this level of interaction is FOIA-able, but all indications are that he will say it is not.

We have at least two landowners agreeing to put a portion of their land base into the system to test as a pilot. Others are welcome to join in the pilot as well.

Moose browsing – UNH, UMO and NB putting together a proposal on the impact of moose browsing in regeneration in the more densely populated areas of Maine. This has become silvicultural issue.

DWH – Dan Harrison came out with a paper analyzing deer yards over the past 40 years. We had a FRA meeting in February where this was the topic. An outgrowth of that is the fact that the bud worm is coming. There are some real policy issues as a result. Last week we got a call from Bob Wagner and now there is a wildlife committee within the SBW initiative. Don Kliener had gotten wind of the budworm and wanted to talk to the wildlife committee to learn how this was going to impact deer and brook trout. You know there was a lot of concern about spraying

and clearcutting, if we can work with the MFPC and our members we can serve to help educate folks on how this is going to play out.

ARMS (aquatic resource management strategy)– Pat Sirois the ARMS process continues on. DOT has 160,000 to put towards this process over the next three years. Patrick Strauch and myself have injected ourselves in to the steering committee process with help from Don Mansius. We are discussing things like organizational mission and goals. We think we're making headway at thwarting a stream crossing standards setting process by getting ARMS to recognize the Stream Smart principles that were established through the BMP development process and is also the information we train too.

SFI Outreach Committee – Scott Pease/Jan Santerre updated HFP effort to encourage active management on small ownerships. One of the action items was to develop the timber harvest satisfaction survey. We got an 18 % response rate -- ½ were satisfied and ½ were not. We are also asking folks to do it on line submissions. We've stuffed envelopes letting landowners know the survey is coming. Some people are already responding to this initial letter. At the upcoming CLP trainings, the harvest satisfaction surveys will be discussed. This is something that the loggers can be proactive with, soliciting feedback from landowners. There is a pilot project by Andy Shulz to develop a neighbor to neighbor network in Baldwin. Jesican Leahy is developing a forest legacy planning tool. One of the items that will come out of that project is a landowner profile. Guide to family woodlot management. Complimentary project by Vinyl Haven.

There will be two EAB programs through the Foresters' Institute. Field staff, typically do a lot with landowners in the spring time. There is a desire to do more with social media i.e. Facebook page and a blog.

We will be making a recommendation to do another ice shack raffle once we refine our raffle process policy and procedures. We had another event promoting fish friendly crossing when Senator Salviello donated his camp to the Wilton Fish and Game. It was picked up by some of the local print media.

We will be operating the flume table while working with Audubon on March 18th at the Senator Inn for a legislative breakfast promoting the water bond.

We will also be operating the flume table in the Hall of Flags for the MFPC event on March 20th.

Education Committee – John Starrett reported the SFI Education committee would support the CLP spring training season at all their recertification sessions providing a module on Healthy Forest Program, a thumbnail program on Harvesting to Meet Landowners Objectives, the budworm initiative and the MFPC Forest Economy report. There are twenty two sessions in all.

There will be several training sessions offered by the MFS on BMP in the southern Maine directed towards small loggers.

There will be two bridge mat workshops delivered by the MFS/SIC in Vassalboro, and one in Houlton, sponsored by LP and MFS.

Sappi will sponsor a Harvesting to Meet Landowners Objectives workshop at the Pine Tree Camps in Rome.

Honor and Integrity Committee – Pat reported we received one call on discontinued roads which we referred to SWOAM.

We received inquiries on training on the SFI GOAL process. The training on the process alone can be done easily in a couple of hours. We've decided to attempt to do the training via a webinar on April 1st. Pat will send out information on how to register.

CLP – Mike St. Peter reported CLP has five separate certification sessions planned and 22 recertification sessions. In terms of injury rates by in logging as compared to other industries, in 2012 logging had 3.7 injuries 100 workers as compared 5.6 other sectors. As of April 1st worker's comp rates will go down.

Maine Tree – Sherry asked SIC member to find teachers that can attend the teachers tours this summer. Hand them the yellow card.

Adjournment—Having no further business the meeting was adjourned.

SIC Minutes

June 4th, 2014

UMO Campus
204 Nutting Hall

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

In attendance:

Thomas Doyle – Pierce Atwood
David Griswold – Verso Paper
Gordon Gamble – Wagner Forest Mgt.
Paula Pelletier – AFM
Karl Honkonen – Us Forest Service
Keith Kanoti – MFS
Kevin McCarthy – Sappi
John Starrett – Sappi
Scott Pease – Hancock Lumber
Sherry Huber – Maine Tree
Jon Morin - Woodland Pulp

Dave Daut – Timbervest
Eric Dumond – ReEnergy
Donald J. Mansius – MFS
Jan Santerre – MFS
Beth Olivier – TCNEF/NEMLC
Tom Charles – BPL
David Wilson – Katahdin Forest Management
Christopher Nichols – Seven Islands
Scott MacDougall – J.D. Irving
Mike St. Peter – CLP
Pat Sirois - SFI

Call to Order – Gordon Gamble called the meeting to order and initiated introductions.

Agenda Adjustments – Pat Sirois asked that we add one agenda item regarding the “SFI Standards revision update”

Anti-Trust Statement – Tom Doyle provided the antitrust statement and circulated the antitrust attendance sheet.

Approval of Minutes from the 3/5/14 SIC meeting – A motion was made and seconded and approved to accept the 3/5/14 SIC minutes as written.

Treasurers Report – Dave Griswold circulated the end of May financials and provided a summary of activities. Revenue side looks good and expense side looks good as well. Motion was moved and seconded and passed unanimously.

ARMS (aquatic resource management strategy) – Pat Sirois reported that Patrick Strauch attended the last full ARMs meeting intended to refocus and re-energize the effort. At that meeting the DEP indicated they would no longer participate. The process seem to lose steam to some degree. Following the meeting the ARM Steering committee of which Pat Strauch is a member, has decide to wait until fall before attempting to regroup.

SBW Initiative progress – Mark Doty- traps go out the first three weeks of June. Strategy task force has received most of the independent task team reports. Bob Wagner will compile by the end of august and circulated through the fall for feedback.

Eastern States Forestry BMP Symposium -- Keith Kanoti provided a summary of the BMP symposium in Blacksburg Virginia, sponsored by NCASI, SAF and Virginia Tech. Topics addressed at the conference:

- forestry BMP influences on in-stream biological processes and aquatic species
- hydrologic responses of sediment, nutrients and chemicals at multiple scales (e.g., stream reach, road segment and watershed scale)
- modeling BMP effectiveness
- legal context of BMP effectiveness

- BMP effectiveness monitoring costs

New USFS Watershed Forester for NY and New England – Karl Honkonen introduced himself to the group explaining he is the new USFS Watershed Forester for the Northeast and invited members to make contact with him.

Sub-committee Reports

Outreach Committee – *Scott Pease*

We have had some general outreach events where Pat has presented on SFI.
March 11th -- Lloyd Irland's forestry class here at UMO
MFPC Legislative reception in the Hall of Flags

Healthy Forest Program – We did several CLP recertification presentations on HFP and elaborated on the need to address small landowner's objectives and focused heavily aesthetics.

March 27th -- We presented in Houlton for the Houlton Soils and Water Conservation District and MFS on HFP as well as Spruce Budworm and Stream Smart Principles. The audience were some loggers and small landowners.

The Stream tables have been utilized in several public venues outside of forestry. There have been several DOT Trainings on Stream Smart Principles. Our benefit is that SFI and MFS get honorable mention at these programs. Over 400 people have attended which is good exposure for SFI. (ask Keith to describe the audience)

EZ shack raffle -- We are working with DOC and MSA to determine the best crossing to upgrade to stream smart principles to complete our EZ shack fund raising effort. The Outreach Committee will convene a joint meeting with the Education committee on this project. The intent is to conduct a training session for loggers, foresters, atv-ers and snowmobile trail masters, while conducting the upgrade.

Pine Tree Camps are getting some donations. We will continue to promote this effort.

Wildlife Committee – Pat reported on Barry's behalf.

FIN – green dot pilot likely this summer with a FIN meeting in the fall. The FIN meeting will likely be a joint meeting with the Keeping Maine's Forest group where all things fish will be discussed.

Northern Long Eared Bat – On May 28, the MFPC wildlife committee invited bat biologists, agency representatives and landowners to a meeting at the Council office to learn about NLEBs, the pending listing and the implications for our timber harvesting. Currently, the bat experts in Maine are a small group of consulting biologists who work primarily with wind turbine developers and transmission line builders to site and permit their projects.

The obvious concern for landowners is the "incidental take" provision of the ESA, which prohibits killing or the destruction of habitat of an endangered species. One thing that became clear was that there is still much to be learned about the biology of NLEBs. What is the best way to survey for them? Where do they hibernate in Maine? How common/rare are they? What is suitable habitat? What is optimal habitat? How can you define a "habitat guideline" for them if you don't know these basics?

MFPC is in the process of developing comments to submit to the USF&W on the listing of NLEB by August 29th.

Education Committee – *John Starrett*

May 5th Sappi Sponsored a “harvesting to meet landowner’s objective” workshop at Pine Tree Camps.

May 16th Kennebec SWCD sponsored a bridgemat construction workshop. They will be loaning that set out of their office.

May 29th -- LP sponsored a bridge mat construction workshop in New Limerick. Two sets of mats constructed at that workshop, one for LP to loan out and another for a local contractor.

Dan Jacobs book on forestry regulations is done – Once we have it we will do a roll out with through a training series yet to be developed.

SIC and SFI Members helped sponsor several BMP workshops presented by the Maine Forest Service. Keith reported he presented 6 general registration bmp workshops throughout the state reaching roughly 150 foresters, loggers and landowners. Advertising was done a through a variety of avenues including Uncle Henry’s.

Upcoming training programs with Kevin Doran

- Two Foresters institutes EAB program in late July and early august. Status and management. We can extend that to loggers as well at the same workshops.
- Two bucking for quality with hardwoods, Premium log yards. June 27th – kevin will put together a short blurb. High grade Hardwood log class –cutting and bucking for the highest value. Willing to do that in the Bangor area but needs a contractor’s yard with hardwood logs spread out. No dates set until we have a host. Probably in late July. (do we have any ideas of a contractor or log yard where this would work?)
- Train the trainers – using distance aspect of training with videos etc. Creating a distance training tool during the workshop.
- USFS just came up with NEDS software for forests inventory. Ken Demarus director of (something??) in NH instrumental with their inventory methodologies. And Mark Twery with USFS – helped develop the software. Will try to do two foresters institutes, one north and one south.

Other topics potentially are:

- Beaver control – all things beavers – Patty Cormier conducted one in Franklin County.

There will be a Joint Education with Public Outreach meeting in late June.

Fall training commitments so far:

Verso cosponsors, Harvesting to Meet Landowner’s Objectives with the Auburn Water District at their location on October 3rd.

Honor and Integrity Committee – Chris Nichols – we have not had any calls in Maine.

Since the last meeting we did conduct an SFI GOAL Training session via webinar. Thank you to Kevin Doran and Greg Lord for their assistance. Training is available

archived on the Members only webpage to be reviewed at any time. The duration of the presentation is about 45 minutes.

Action – Pat look at how to get confirmer coverage for York county.

SFI standards Revision Process Update – Pat Sirois reported, there is recent news from SFI Inc that confirmed that the standards for fiber sourcing and land management will be separated. Moving forward there will be separate and distinct standards for each.

I have been involved in the logger training and certification discussions. There will likely be some stronger language about continuing education requirements and what topics should be included. I really got the sense this was driven by how PEFC customers interpret the SFI standards.

Logger Certification

Related to this topic, several of your auditors have contacted me asking about whether the SIC has developed criteria for certified loggers as defined in the SFI standard.

Understanding this part of the standard will not change we decided to look at what it would take to develop those criteria, should we get any request in the future. Having them in place is better than offering a long explanation on why we don't.

We have a long history with assessing logger education with our principles and criteria developed back in 1999, under the leadership of Pat Flood. After looking at those I chose to use that template and insert the list of criteria as written in the SFI standard.

Action – SIC will take this topic up at the next SIC meeting in September after members have had time to review the proposed criteria.

Updates from other organizations present

CLP – Mike reported that 71 new people were trained through the four day initial certification program. We conducted 20 recert classes resulting in 395 recertifications. Including outside training inputs, were at about 500 recertifications thus far this year. We also provided training for the UMO summer camp forestry students.

There has been an uptick in coastal land trust looking for directional felling training.

Forest Heritage Day is August 9th in Greenville. There will be the felling contest as has been tradition.

SIC Adjournment – Having no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned.

DRAFT
SIC Minutes
 September 3rd, 2014
 Pine Tree Camps
 Rome

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

In attendance:

Thomas Doyle – Pierce Atwood	Dave Daut – Timbervest
David Griswold – Verso Paper	Eric Dumond – ReEnergy
Gordon Gamble – Wagner Forest Mgt.	Keith Kanoti– MFS
Dan Pelletier – Huber Engineered Woods	Dan Jacobs – MFS
Jan Santerre -- MFS	Dan Russell – Huber Engineered Woods
Barry Burgason – Huber Resources	Tom Charles – BPL
Kevin McCarthy – Sappi	Christopher Nichols – Seven Islands
John Starrett –Sappi	Mike St. Peter – CLP
Scott Pease –Hancock Lumber	Pat Sirois - SFI
Sherry Huber – Maine Tree	Dana Doran, PLC of ME
Jon Morin - Woodland Pulp	Nicholas Savoie – Twin Rivers Paper
Jason Desjardin – Orion Timberlands	David Hodge -- KFM
Patrick Aldrich – Orion Timberlands	Andy Shultz -- MFS

Call to Order – Gordon Gamble called the meeting to order and initiated introductions.

Anti-Trust Statement – Tom Doyle provided the antitrust statement and circulated the antitrust attendance sheet.

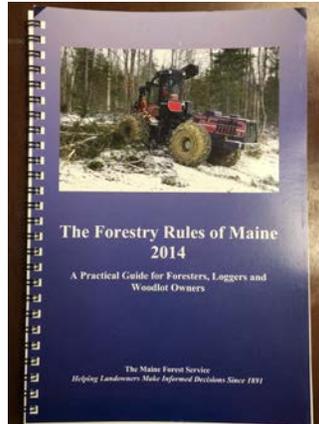
Approval of Minutes from the 6/4/14 SIC meeting – Tom Doyle’s name in the attendees list for the June meeting was misspelled. A motion was made and seconded to approve the 6/4/14 minutes as amended. The motion carried.

Treasurers Report – Dave Griswold – reported we are tracking pretty close to where we are supposed to. We are running slightly behind on dues because of consumption variances. Our projections will be pretty close by year’s end. Unrestricted funds will be down slightly because of the new vehicle but will be ok with a quarter of the year’s operating budget on hand at the end of year. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Treasurer’s report. The motion carried.

2015 SIC budget proposal—Dave presented a budget proposal recommended by the SIC Executive Committee. He reported – total revenues might be down due to changes in membership as a result of consolidations. We budgeted for a 2% increase in salaries. We estimated a 15% increase for insurance, which is consistent with the MFPC’s estimates, and likely to change over time. Projected unrestricted funds for next year maintains a quarter year’s operating funds. There will be no dues increase which has been the case for several years. A motion was made by Kevin McCarthy to approve the 2015 budget proposal and seconded by Tom Charles. The motion carried unanimously.

Sherwood/Seymour Report – Assessing Maine’s Certified Harvest – Pat reported that David Sherwood, a graduate student at the UMO School of forestry has written a master’s thesis that challenges forest certification in Maine as not insuring sustainable harvest levels. At this point the thesis is not available publically. We have notified SFI Inc. of its existence.

Forestry Rules of Maine – Dan Jacobs presented the new MFS publication, The Forestry Rules of Maine. This six by nine inch booklet is a summary of all the laws in Maine related to forestry. Our intention is to possibly role this booklet out at an FRA meeting and or the NERCOFE conference. Cost of multiple copies is 3\$ and workshops are free to attendees.



Adoption of SIC criterial for Certified Logging Professionals – Pat Sirois provided the background on SIC criterial for CLP’s, as defined in the SFI Standard, which had been introduced at the June meeting. There was much discussion in clarifying the distinctions between CLP as a Maine logger training program and CLP as defined by SFI Standard. There was also discussion on the intent of CLP as a training program verses a point of harvest certification.

Pat explained and was supported by some SFI participants present, that this issue has come up in audits, where an auditor requires extensive explanation to understand why the Maine SIC hasn’t establish criteria for CLPs as outlined in the standard. To make this fairly easy, we’ve utilized the template for the CLP criteria as was established back in 1999 as criteria for approval of logger training program by the Maine SIC.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the proposed “Principles, Criterial and Responsibilities For Determining How Certified Logging Professional Programs Will Be Evaluated For Endorsement by the Maine SFI Implementation Committee” The motion carried.

Sub-committee Reports

Outreach Committee – Scott Pease reported: We’ve completed upgrading a recreational stream crossing in Brownville area which meets our obligations for the 2013 Ice Shack raffle. The crossing replaced a perched culvert with a box culvert. Roberta filmed the construction of the box culvert and the installation. She will produce a video for the promotion of the next Ice Shack Raffle to be held this fall.

MSA has agreed to host the raffle this year. Anyone who is a member of the MSA can sell raffle tickets. They will in turn, make a donation to the SIC for the proceeds raised. We will construct one ice shack this year’s raffle.

The SIC will again have a booth at the MSA show Oct 17, 18 and 19th. The booth will include the flume table and the ice shack. We are looking for volunteers to man the booth.

We will produce an annual report that will be distributed after the first of the year to legislators and all Maine municipalities.

Healthy Forest Program – Andy Shultz presented the results of the family woodland owner Harvest Satisfaction Survey. Twenty two hundred surveys were sent out to landowners owning 1000 acres or less and that had completed their harvest in 2013. Over 700 responded. Roughly ninety percent reported satisfaction with the overall harvest outcome and seventy six percent indicated they would conduct another harvest when conditions were right.

Wildlife Committee – Barry Burgason reported the NLEB decision has been postponed from Oct to April 2nd. 38 states might be affected by this listing. The big issue is how you determine a federal nexus. Populations in the northeast have declined from 90 – 99 % because of white-nose syndrome. The MFPC sent comments to USFW on this issue.

FIN – One challenge we have is, how do we communicate the successes landowners have been making on upgrading stream crossings? We also need to challenge the “potential barrier” category of crossings. Some of the potential barriers, are so, because they were not able to be surveyed. FIN will hold a meeting this fall. The intention at this point is to have a field tour where we can discuss the “potential barrier” issue.

Education Committee – John Starrett reported that we held a joint Education/Outreach meeting on July 15th. The meeting goal was to set priorities for the remainder of the year.

To this point, the SIC has worked with CLP to present the “Harvesting to Meet Landowner’s Objectives” workshop as a module at every CLP recertification session this spring – a total of 20 programs statewide. Mike said the program was very well received by the loggers.

This summer we will co-sponsored two workshops with the Foresters Institute – EAB and Log bucking/utilization.

Along with the video for the promotion of the ice shack, the raw footage will be used to develop a prototype training video. This is the beginning of an attempt to utilize more technology in training.

This fall – we will work with CLP to deliver another five – Harvesting to Meet Landowners objectives workshops along with one for the Auburn Water District on Oct 3rd.

Honor and Integrity Committee – Chris Nichols reported there have been no calls since the last SIC meeting.

Hearing no further business the meeting was adjourned.