

# SIC Minutes

March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
 MFPC Headquarters  
 Augusta  
 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

In attendance:

Mike St. Peter	CLP/Hilton T.	Brian Rayback	Pierce Atwood
Tom Charles	BPL	Kevin McCarthy	SAPPI
Scott Pease	Hancock Lumber	Gordon Gamble	WFM
Donald Mansius	MFS	Sherry Huber	Maine Tree
Jonathan Morin	Woodland Pulp	Dana Doran	PLC of ME
Keith Kanoti	MFS	Tim Richards	UPM Madison
John Starrett	Sappi	Pat Sirois	SFI
Yves Levesque	CLP	Tom Dodd	AFM
David Daut	Timbervest	Dan Pelletier	Huber Engineered
Marshall White	Orion	Mark Doty	Plum Creek
David Wilson	KFM	Tony Lyons	Catalyst Paper
Barry Burgason	Huber Resources		

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

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

**Approval of Minutes from the 12/3/14 SIC meeting** – Gordon Gamble asked for a review and approval of the December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015 SIC minutes. A motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously to accept the December minutes as written.

**Treasurers Report** – Dave Griswold reported, actual dues collected by the end of January are about at 32,000. If you haven't yet submitted your request for the SIC dues within your organization, please do so. It's early in the year but expenses are tracking about where we would expect at this point. A motion was made and seconded to approve the treasurer's report as presented.

**Review of SIC by-laws** – *Pat Sirois presented the SIC by laws as requested at the last SIC meeting. There was no discussion.*

**Regional SIC meeting and Standards Workshop** – Pat reported SFI Inc. had convened two meetings Portland on February 24<sup>th</sup>. The morning meeting was a regional SIC meeting where topics pertaining to specific SIC efforts were shared during a round table discussion followed by an SIC Governance Review. The afternoon meeting was a workshop on the new SFI Standard where members could seek clarification on specific interpretation of the standards.

**National Wildlife Turkey Foundation update** – Rebecca Barnard - Turkey Country magazine is printed on SFI certified Paper. The SFI logo will be on page eight with an article that introduces SFI.

Over 48,000 people attended the NWTF national convention. Friday through Sunday was open to the public. In the future, we will be looking to separate the conservation section from the rest of the convention. This would separate funding and sponsorship opportunities. There are a whole separate set of wildlife and conservation meetings.

There will be filming occurring in May in Wisconsin and Minnesota on the value of quality logger training programs and procurement practices on a mix of private and public lands. This will air six times during the summer and rerun in October and December.

### **Sub-committee Reports**

**Outreach Committee** – *Scott Pease* reported we have not met yet this year but will before the next meeting.

**Ice shack raffle** was drawn December 30<sup>th</sup>. Scott Morrison with the Oliver stores won the shack. We did receive significant outreach benefits from articles and a blog by George Smith on this topic. Doug Denico bought the shack from Scott and it resides on big Eagle.

**Pine Tree Camps** are under construction still. To this point there are still opportunities to contribute particularly pine for the two cabins to be constructed this coming fall.

**Healthy Forest Program** – The harvest satisfaction survey was presented at the recent FRA Forum.

Pending projects – harvesting guide for family woodlot owners is still being developed.

There may be some opportunities to apply for an SFI community grant for projects associated with the Auburn Water District for signage where qr codes link you to a site that talks about the stand your looking at.

Pat reported, Andy Shultz and I presented a Harvesting to Landowners Objectives workshop event sponsored by SWOAM at the Belgrade Community hall.

Sappi will present stream smart practices on the FLUME table in April. Flume table has been reserved for several sessions.

Maine Audubon is presenting training to municipalities where the SIC is recognized as a contributing partner.

We are in the process of finishing up the SIC progress report. When completed, we will send it out to all the municipalities, legislators and other relevant government and opinion leaders. We will include the SFI GOAL brochure to keep that program front and center.

**Wildlife Committee** – Barry Burgason -- We held a wildlife meeting on Jan 23<sup>rd</sup>. Federal comment periods on Canada lynx closed February 1<sup>st</sup>. We tried to make the argument we have enough lynx and good habitat, and with the SBW coming, things are only going to get better. Several company foresters responded with great pictures on experiences with lynx. Biologist in charge of receiving the comment responded thank you very much! By June, they are supposed to come out with their responses.

NLEB -- April 3<sup>rd</sup> is when the US Fish and Wildlife Service will determine whether to list as threatened or endangered. Listing as threatened would include the four D exemption. If there is an exemption what it means is, if you're doing normal forestry operations, its ok. Comment period deadline is March 17<sup>th</sup>.

FIN is discussing the possibility of another field trip with agency folks to highlight improvements and the huge category of indeterminate crossings. We can do some electro fishing to see what's in the plunge pools and what's upstream from the crossings. We also want to document with numbers improvements being made.

Invasive plants – Nancy Olmstead is new with DOC. Her role is specific for dealing with invasive species. She manages a new program - IMAP invasives, where you can store information, location and treatment of invasives.

**Action** – have Nancy come to June meeting to introduce the program.

SWAP – Highlight priorities on species to focus on. Steering committee heard the TGTL was a good conservation tool and agreed to include in their recommendations. Barry will try to get someone from IF&W to come to SIC meeting like John Pratte did in the past.

**Education Committee** – *John Starrett reported the Education committee met on January 26<sup>th</sup>.*

*Issues discussed include:*

**Share training proposal for SFI landowners** - Steve Koenig offered and promoted a joint Share/SIC training effort for advances stream crossing techniques. It's a two day training.

**Day One -- Hydrologic modeling**

**Day Two** – Assessment Basics

- Spreadsheet Tutorial
- Using USGS gauge data
- Stream Simulation Design Case Study
- Water Control
- Structure Choices
- Habitat Viewer/planning tools
- How and why of LWD

Share is asking for the SIC to cosponsor this program. There is a suggested charge admission in the range of \$30 for registrants and we're shooting for roughly 40

attendees. The training will be offered in Bangor sometime the second or third week of April. Stay Tuned.

**Maranacook donation request** – Pat received a call from Pat Stanton, Dean of students at Maranacook Community School. She was referred to me by George Smith. There is a group of students in their alternative education program working on a project that includes constructing an ice shack in time for an ice fishing tournament on February 7<sup>th</sup>. To finish the project, they need approximately \$200 or wooden materials. I suggested that the SIC could offer these students a presentation on stream smart principle that benefit fish passage as well as introduce them to the benefits of sustainable wood products. Since then Pat did purchase the materials from Hammond lumber who donated half. Our cost was about \$100.

**Action** – Pat and Keith will work together to provide the presentation to the students at Maranacook High.

**Aesthetics for clear cuts** – Pat was approached by SFI companies to develop and deliver aesthetic training related to clear cuts. The thought is that clear cuts are likely to be more frequent with the re-emergence of the budworm.

**Ice shack raffle** –income generated through the raffle covered the cost of construction of the ice shack with a net profit of just more than \$20. Clearly this amount is insufficient fulfill the obligation inferred by the raffle, to use the proceeds to upgrade a recreational stream crossing to fish passage principles. The committee discussed the fact that we often offer training where the SIC contributes the entire cost of materials. The Ed Committee has decided to take this approach to fulfill our raffle obligations.

**Action** –Pat and John Starrett have a conversation with Bob Meyers and Scott Ramsey on where there might be a crossing that needs upgrade and lends itself well to training.

**Video production on box culvert construction and installation** – Related to last year's raffle, Roberta Scruggs taped the installation of a box culvert on the railbed in Brownville. Roberta is prepared to help create a training video on how to construct and install a box culvert.

### **Spring Training Schedule**

SIC will present Harvesting to Meet Landowners Objectives at every CLP recertification session this spring.

Keith will present a series of general admission BMP workshops cosponsored by SFI, PLC and CLP.

There is still an obligation to offer a workshop on the plastic portable road in 2015.

### **Honor and Integrity Committee** – *Chris Nichols*

There have been two calls. One call had bmp issues on a heavily harvested lot. The follow up identified several positive actions taken by the contractor. At the same time and simultaneously there was significant rutting on site. Pictures from the caller and the follow up SFI company, clearly demonstrates the contractor knows how to do good work, while at the same consciously created problems which eventually resulted in legal action. This was the only call in 2014.

The second call was the result of a skidder yarding wood directly onto route 4. The caller observed the skidder backing out into Rt 4 to push up wood. The SFI confirmer met with the landowner who communicated with the operator to stop putting wood on the side of the road. There were two yard on the job and the issue was corrected immediately.

#### **Updates from other organizations present**

**PLC** --Dana – PLC is offering 8 spring safety training programs to their membership. PLC made an announcement to Legislators at a breakfast meeting of partnership between PLC and the Community college system to establish a mechanized logger training program that might be available this fall.

**Teachers tours** –Sherry – The teachers tours are always well received by teachers. Tours are July 14-17 in Rangeley Lakes and Western Mountains. The second tour is July 28<sup>th</sup> – 31 in West Grand Lake region in Down East Maine.

**CLP** – Mike reported the recertification training sessions will include the HFP training as well as an introduction to the new Forestry Rules of Maine. To learn to navigate this new publication we will have group exercises on specific regulatory scenarios.

In 2014 we recertified 662 and had 83 initial certifications.

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

# SIC Minutes

June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015

204 Nutting Hall  
 UMO Campus  
 Orono Maine  
 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

## In attendance:

Mike St. Peter	CLP/Hilton T.	Tom Doyle	Pierce Atwood
Tom Charles	BPL	Kevin McCarthy	SAPPI
Scott Pease	Hancock Lumber	Gordon Gamble	WFM
Donald Mansius	MFS	Sherry Huber	Maine Tree
Jonathan Morin	Woodland Pulp	Chris Nichols	7 Islands
Jan Santerre	MFS	Butch Barberri	UPM Madison
John Starrett	Sappi	Pat Sirois	SFI
Mike St. Peter	CLP	Scott McDougal	Irving
Nicholas Savoie	Twin Rivers	Dan Pelletier	Huber Engineered
Marshall White	Orion	Barry Burgason	Huber Resources
David Griswold	Verso Paper		

**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 the 3/4/15 SIC meeting Minutes** – Gordon Gamble asked for a review and approval of the March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015 SIC minutes. A motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously to accept the March 4<sup>th</sup> SIC minutes as written.

**Treasurers Report** – Dave Griswold reported that the dues are coming in but it is important they come early in the year so that we can maintain a three month balance at a minimum. The funding resulting from the SFI GOAL services provided to NY, NH and Vermont have not come in. Expenses are tracking as expected. Unrestricted funds are projected at 43,000 which is about what we expected and slightly less than last year. In the future Sue will send out an acknowledgement to members when the dues have been received.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the treasurer's report as presented. The motion was passed.

**Review of SIC by-laws** – Pat Sirois presented the SIC by laws as requested at the last SIC meeting. There was no discussion.

**Invasive Plants and Forestry in Maine** – Andy Cutko offered a presentation on Invasive plants in Maine.

## Sub-committee Reports

**Outreach Committee** – *Scott Pease* reported there is a new tab on the SIC website with information and other resources for small woodland owners. This page is the Maine SIC electronic landowner outreach packet.

The SIC progress report is published and distributed to all legislators and municipalities. Thank you to Sappi for their donation and Kevin McCarthy for his effort to manage the COC process.

Other outreach exercises where the SIC was represented by Pat and others include:

- March 6<sup>th</sup> – Presentation to Senator Collins Staff on the SFI program and SIC activities.
- April 7<sup>th</sup> – FLUME presentation to Maranacook High School students – Keith
- SIC Training
- Sappi Flume table stream smart presentation – Kevin McCarthy (Sappi Booth at Deering High) April 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Pine Tree Camp story was featured national by SFI Inc.

**Healthy Forest Program – Jan Santerre** - We presented the Harvest Satisfaction Survey results to the PLC at their annual meeting. We have a larger stakeholder meeting scheduled for the 10<sup>th</sup>. We're in the process of updating inventory data and woodland survey data.

**Wildlife Committee** – Barry Burgason reported to this point we haven't heard anything about the lynx status. Biologists are surprised at the distribution of lynx. IF&W would like nothing better to get the lynx delisted.

NELB is listed as threatened with 4d exemption. Most landowners won't be effected but if you have some NRCS projects you might see some bumps in the road. If you getting money on a project and your cutting trees larger than 3 inches, stop and wait till you get the project reviewed.

FIN -- Pat spoke about the intention to conduct a fall FIN field tour with an emphasis of reviewing the process for surveying crossings and better understanding the criteria for the category of "potential barriers". There is also enthusiasm to electrofish of very small streams to determine if fish are present.

In an attempt to quantify the number of crossings that are being upgraded by forest landowners, Pat will begin surveying landowners later this summer.

Sherry stated, these are good things to let the public know. We would love to find a way to get the large landowners credit for the work they're doing in a way that they are comfortable with. KMF wants to help. We want to get you some publicity on this but nothing that would backfire.

Barry will call Judy Cumosso to get someone to participate on the SIC. SWAP has realized the benefit of what the SIC does and may want to participate.

**Education Committee** – John Starrett presented the following on training offered this past spring.

**SIC Delivered and sponsored training spring 2015.**

Stream smart training –

Bangor SFI cosponsored with Share – April 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>.

Bangor – NELA show – May 15<sup>th</sup> – thank you to Ben Naumann (NRCS) and Merry Gallagher (IF&W)

Harvesting to meet LO's Objectives -- workshops and presentations

Gray – March 27<sup>th</sup>

Augusta – March 31<sup>st</sup>

Locke Mills – April 1<sup>st</sup>

Farmington – April 2<sup>nd</sup>

Skowhegan – April 8<sup>th</sup>

Bangor – April 9<sup>th</sup>

Gray – April 15<sup>th</sup>

Augusta – April 16<sup>th</sup>

Orono – April 17<sup>th</sup>

Lincoln – April 25<sup>th</sup>

Medway – April 28<sup>th</sup>

Oakfield – April 29<sup>th</sup>

Ashland – May 6<sup>th</sup>

Bangor – NELA show – May 15<sup>th</sup>.

August – May 20<sup>th</sup>

Bridgemat Construction

Island Falls – MFS and Region 2 Voc – May 12<sup>th</sup> – 3 – 20' mats constructed

Woodland Pulp -- May 13<sup>th</sup> -- 6 -20' mats constructed and three raffled

Best Management Practices workshop

Jay - May 27<sup>th</sup>

Mike St. Peter reported the CLP program conducted 150 initial certifications with 450 recertification. One of the initial certification sessions is a French.

So far this spring, MFS Rule book training was offered at all CLP recertification classes. BMP, rule book, forest Management and FPA/LQH/LUPC rules training were offered at all CLP full certification classes.

In addition, open registration BMP classes were offered in Fort Kent, Dennistown PLT, Clayton Lake and Ashland and Bingham and Jackman. Programs were co-sponsored by the SIC, CLP and PLC. About 100 total attendees at these.

Dan Jacobs, Terri Colomb and Barry Burgason participated in Beaver Management training in Houlton and Lincoln

Pat reported the Education Committee will broaden the aesthetics training to include landscape level considerations for heavy harvesting with similar concepts offered in the Simon Bell

training many of you remember. This will likely be an important practice moving forward in light of the budworm return.

**Principles and Criteria of a Logger Training Program** -- Education Committee must review the training criteria document for consistency with the new SFI Standard and review CLP & QLP for program consistency with the new standard's requirements.

**Honor and Integrity Committee** – Chris Nichols indicated we've received a letter from Tim Post - MFS, regarding the effectiveness and consistency of the SFI GOAL program implementation. Kip stated that it is important that the SFI Member companies respond to SFI GOAL calls in a manner consistent with the spirit of the program. Member companies should also be sure to understand their individual company's policies on how to respond to inconsistent practices.

Pat stated the SFI GOAL is an important component of the SFI Program. We've communicated directly to legislators and municipal leaders, our desire to influence sustainable forestry through our effective responses to calls we receive. Our credibility as representatives of this program and your respective companies is on the line, every time we receive and respond to call.

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

# SIC Minutes

September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015  
MFPC Headquarters  
Augusta  
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

In attendance:

Mike St. Peter	CLP/Hilton T.	Tom Doyle	Pierce Atwood
Scott Pease	Hancock Lumber	Tom Dodd	AFM
Donald Mansius	MFS	Emily Farrell	AFM
Jonathan Morin	Woodland Pulp	Dana Doran	PLC of ME
Keith Kanoti	MFS	Tim Richards	Louisiana Pacific
John Starrett	Sappi	Pat Sirois	SFI
Marshall White	Orion	Mark Doty	Plum Creek
David Wilson	KFM	Julia Churchill	Catalyst Paper
Barry Burgason	Huber Resources	Nicholas Savoie	Twin Rivers
Ron Lovaglio	Ron Lovaglio LLC	Eric Dummond	ReEnergy
Norman Barberi	Madison Paper	Jan Santerre	MFS
Christopher Nichols	7 Islands	Harvey Chesley	Pine Tree Camps
Dave Griswold	Verso Paper		

**Call to Order** – Tim Richards called the meeting to order and initiated introductions.

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

**Approval of Minutes from the 6/3/15 SIC meeting** – Tim asked for a review and approval of the June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 SIC minutes. A motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously to accept the June minutes as written.

**Treasurers Report** – Dave Griswold reported the end of August financials as having dues coming in slightly below expected. Expenses are about where we expect them to be tracking. Logger Training support needs to be dispersed. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Treasurer's report. The motion carried unanimously.

**2016 SIC Budget Proposal** – Dave reported the Executive Committee looked at the budget and we're expecting a 2% increase on salaries and 3% on expenses. The issue we wanted to address is that at the end of 2016 we are falling behind in our end of year carryover. We were concerned about falling behind even further in 2016. We are asking for a 5% increase in dues. Revenues have been stable and expenses reasonable. A motion was made and seconded to approve the proposed budget and associated 5% dues increase. The motion carried unanimously.

**Pine Tree Camps, Construction Update** – Harvey Chesley provided an update on construction progress and material needs. Last year there were significant contributions made by SIC members to assist in the construction of two cabins. We are in the process of constructing two more this year and any help would be greatly appreciated.

**Nomination of SIC Officers** – Pat – This is the year we need to elect a new SIC chair person. All other officers were elected last December and are on a two year cycle. In recent years the chairman's' position, largely due to past chair's willingness and commitment to lead, have been three year terms. Gordon's is up this December. A motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously for Dave Griswold to succeed Gordon as SIC Chair beginning in 2016. Pat indicated, we will need a new treasurer to replace Dave and we will be looking for volunteers.

## **Sub-committee Reports**

### **Outreach Committee**

**ME's Healthy Forest Program Stakeholder Meeting** – Jan Santerre reported the larger stakeholder group met in June. There was broad participation from partners. We are in the process of initiating a new harvest satisfaction survey. Harvesting to meet landowner goals has been widely presented for the past two years. Forests Works is promoting peer to peer programs in York County. Land trusts continue to be identified as priority for outreach. This will be a focus this coming year. HFP programming is largely dependent on SFI participant engagement.

Scott -- MSA show is October 16,17 & 18<sup>th</sup>. We'll be looking for volunteers to man the SIC Booth. Pat will solicit help.

**Wildlife Committee** – Barry Burgason – US F&W going through a five year status review of whether the lynx should continue to be listed. We highlighted the fact that there hasn't been any loss of lynx habitat. The budworm is returning, and the last outbreak, according to the scientist created the habitat that jump started the current population. There were over twenty foresters who responded to a survey. They sent many great pictures. At this point the USF&W is still contemplating the status. We should be in pretty good shape.

NLEB – white nose syndrome is the cause for population decline. They are listed with the four D exemption. There is a chance you could cut down a tree with bats roosting in them, but if you do, you won't have broken the law. If you are getting federal funds you could be part of a federal nexus. For private landowners without federal money for projects, this should not be of great concern.

Migratory Bird Treaty Act. – between Mexico, US and Canada – set up protocols for harvesting around migratory birds. Now they are asking for an incidental take approach, focused on the energy industry, particularly wind mills. Forestry isn't really on their radar but we need to keep an eye on it.

Song bird forest management guidelines – there are groups proposing forestry guidelines for some species in decline. They say the populations are declining in the northeast and it must be a habitat issue. We are pressing them to justify the statement that it is a habitat issue. Landowners can't possibly manage all the species independently. We need to be able to manage for a suite of species.

The FIN tour is occurring September 16<sup>th</sup>. The focus is on partial barriers which are a big category. We would like more understanding of how partial barriers are determined.

## **Education Committee**

Mike St. Peter reported CLP training numbers so far this year. New certifications are at 176 which are up from last year when we trained roughly 100. One reason for the increase is that the workers comp rates are so favorable for CLP trained workers. Over all, there is a great deal of turn over. Recertifications are a little down from last year.

John circulated a handout with the schedule of fall training

### **Harvesting to Meet Landowners Objectives**

South Bristol on September 17

### **Aesthetics associated with heavy harvests**

AFM – September 23<sup>rd</sup> – West Forks

Plum Creek – October 1<sup>st</sup> Bingham

### **Wildlife and Biodiversity Training**

AFM – September 24<sup>th</sup> – West Forks

### **Forester Institute training**

September 30: Northern Hardwoods Management and Wildlife Habitat Considerations (Bill Leak and Mariko Yamasaki, Ken Laustsen, Ron Lock)  
– Location Dover-Fox

October 7: Timber cruising workshop, New Limerick

October 15: TIGER - A Software Tool for Timber, Inventory Growth and Economic Review, Portsmouth NH (joint workshop MFS/UNH Cooperative Extension)

December (exact date TBD): Invasive Plants and Forest Management

December (exact date TBD): The 2015 – The Maine Forest in Review

### **Adoption of updates to Principles and Criteria for Approving a Logger Training Program**

– Pat presented the changes reconciling this document with the 2015-2019 SFI Standards. Pat will present. A motion was made, seconded and approved to adopt the proposed changes to the SIC training criteria. – **Action** Pat put up on members only website.

**ME Community College Operator Training** – Dana Doran – PLC put together this program and worked with legislature to get the funding. One equipment company has committed three pieces of equipment. This will be one program rotating among three community colleges. The legislature approved one million for training. The goal is to have this program up and running by the end of January. Details are being worked out. Land base will need to be secured. This will last 12 weeks, 5 days a week, for 12 students. At the end of 12 weeks, the program can move to another location. We are working to secure scholarship funding. More details to be announced at the end of September. The cost is about 5-7 thousand per student. Another critical piece is to make sure people in this program want to be in this industry. There will need to be a rigorous screening process. Interviews will be key to the success of this program. We are confident all qualified operators will have jobs before they graduate.

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

**Updates from other organizations present**

Pat on behalf of Sherry -- **Maine TREE** welcomes all of you to two events. Please put them on your calendars;

- Late October in Bangor Celebration of Certified Logging Professional Program Date & Place to be announced
- Friday Dec 4 Jeff's Catering in Brewer Banquet for Certified Professional Logging Program and Outstanding Loggers of the Year

Austin Wilkins award on will be presented on October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

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

# Draft SIC Minutes

December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015

MFPC Headquarters

Augusta

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

In attendance:

Mike St. Peter	CLP/Hilton T.	Tom Doyle	Pierce Atwood
Scott Pease	Hancock Lumber	Tom Dodd	AFM
Wendy Hahaney	USFWS	Emily Farrell	AFM
Jonathan Morin	Woodland Pulp	John Gilbert	Irving Woodlands
Mark McCollough	USFWS	Tim Richards	Louisiana Pacific
John Starrett	Sappi	Pat Sirois	SFI
Jason Desjardin	Orion	Tom Gilbert	MFS
David Wilson	KFM	Julie Davenport	Catalyst Paper
Barry Burgason	Huber Resources	Sherry Huber	Maine Tree
Ron Lovaglio	Ron Lovaglio LLC	Eric Dummond	ReEnergy
Ryan Robicheau	MEIFW	Jan Santerre	MFS
Christopher Nichols	7 Islands	Gordon Gamble	Wagner
Dave Griswold	Verso Paper	Jason Castonguay	Orion
Nathan Kay	7 Islands	Scott Ramsey	ACF-ORV
Bud Brown	ECO-analyst Inc.		

**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 signup sheet.

**Approval of Minutes from the 9/2/15 SIC meeting** – *Gordon asked for a review and approval of the September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015 SIC minutes. A motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously to accept the September minutes as written.*

**Wildlife Committee Report and Presentations** - Barry Burgason, chair.

Barry moderated a panel of presentations from IF&W and USF&W.

- State Wildlife Action Plan – Nate Webb – IF&W
- Big game species planning process – Nate Webb
- DWA management – Ryan B. Robicheau – IF&W
- NLEB and Wood Turtle – Wendy Mahaney - USF&W
- Canada Lynx and Northern Bog Lemming – Mark McCollough – USF&W

**Treasurers Report** – Dave Griswold provided a treasurer’s report. A motion was made seconded to approve the Treasurer’s report. The motion passed unanimously.

**Election of the SIC Treasurer** – Gordon Gamble indicated Kip Nichols would be willing to serve as Treasurer if that was the will of the committee. Jonathan Morin also was willing to serve as Honor and Integrity chair should Kip move from that position to

the treasurer's role. A motion was made and seconded to elect Kip as Treasurer and Jonathan as chair of the H&I committee. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Sub-committee Reports**

#### **Education Committee** – John Starrett, chair

John circulated a handout listing fifty four workshops the SIC delivered, assisted with or cosponsored in 2015.

#### **Outreach Committee** – Scott Pease, chair

**ME's Healthy Forest Program Update** – Jan Santerre reported the committee hasn't met since June but are planning to meet soon. The next steps are related to the landowners satisfaction survey initiated in 2013 and followed up on 2015. The survey was narrowed up to be statistically valid with a sampling of 415 landowners. We followed up with a second mailing and now have 207 returned out of the 415. We just shut it down and are looking at the data. We are presenting the first reactions to this survey at the CLP banquet this Friday night. Things that are slightly different from last year's survey were that the most important goal for the harvest was woodland improvement and in this year's results, its income. Woodland improvement was still important and ranked number two. Of those who weren't satisfied, 10% were largely associated with income or lack of income. Results suggest a forester is involved in harvests over 60% of the time. One of the issues we want to discuss at the next HFP meeting is how to report out survey results to the public.

**NWTF** – Rebecca Barnard reported there are two videos explaining the link between sustainable forestry and wildlife habitat. The first is called Save the Habitat and the second, Save the Hunt.

Rebecca will be relocating back to St Paul Minnesota at the US forest service office. We have a new regional biologist that will start after the holidays. He should come to the next SIC meeting.

In August we signed an MOU with SFI Inc. We've already been able to make progress printing the magazine on SFI certified paper. We are planning two articles in 2016 in April/May editions to talk about benefits of SFI to turkey hunters.

We are also in the process of certifying the corporate property to the TF Standard.

#### **Honor and Integrity Committee** – Kip Nichols, chair

Pat Sirois reported there were no calls since the last meeting.

### **Updates from other organizations present**

**Maine Tree** – Sherry reported on the upcoming CLP banquet where we will be honoring three outstanding loggers. We will also have presentations from Jan and Andy on the HFP survey results. It will begin at five pm and finish up by 8:30.

**ME's Recreational Trails Program** -- Scott Ramsey reported we are having a comprehensive review of our programs allowing us to do better management. We had a Christmas tree farmer lose \$5000 when a snowmobile went off of the trail. Snowmobile and ATV clubs came up with \$1000 apiece and helped him harvest his trees. The landowner was ecstatic.

**CLP** – Mike St. Peter reported we have a full cert class in Bangor next week and a recertification session on January 8<sup>th</sup> in Strong.

**Tree Farm** – John Starrett reported that the 2016 tree farm winner is Pine Tree Camps.

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