

NC SFI SIC MEETING
NORTH CAROLINA SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY INITIATIVE STATE
IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

NC Farm Bureau - Raleigh, NC – February 3, 2016

CONVENE NC SFI SIC MEETING AND INTRODUCTIONS

Committee Chair Bernard Rose, called the NC SFI SIC meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Members present for all or part of the meeting were:

Mike Adams	Bryan Hulka	Greg Ricks
Jadie Andrews	Lauren Killian	Bernard Rose
Doug Burleson	Ed Listerman	Glen Sheehan
Jimmy Clay	Leslie McCormick	Scott Smearman
Jim Durham	Mark Megalos	Lynn Stephenson
Tom Gerow	Justin Morris	Jack Swanner
Brett Goulding	Russ Newton	Jaime Teel
Graham Hanson	Bob Ordnung	Marshall Thompson
Ron Heatherly	Bob Phippen	
	Amy Phillips	

Others present for all or part of the meeting were:

Chris Brown	Members of the SLTC Committee in
Joe Cox	afternoon session
Pryor Gibson	

ANTITRUST COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

Rose reminded members that the meeting would be in full compliance with the NCFAs policy on antitrust compliance contained in the meeting materials.

RECOGNITION OF PARTICIPATION OF QUORUM

Rose declared that a quorum was present at the meeting and that the meeting would proceed as planned.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Rose asked members to review the minutes from the last meeting. On a motion by Jaime Teel to approve and seconded by Jim Durham, the minutes were approved as submitted.

NC SFI SIC TREASURER'S REPORT – AMY PHILLIPS & GLEN SHEEHAN

Prior to the meeting, outgoing Treasurer, Amy Phillips, performed an internal audit of the committee's bank account with committee members Jim Durham, Jaime Teel, incoming Treasurer, Glen Sheehan, and Bernard Rose. The review was clean and the account is in good standing heading into 2016. Amy Phillips provided a review of the NC SFI SIC's budget from 2015 and a preview of 2016. She remarked that the committee brought in more dues than budgeted and two of the grants for 2016 were paid out in the fourth quarter of 2015. The committee ended the year at \$70,962. Phillips provided the following reports.

NC SIC Treasury Report year end 2015

	2015 <u>Budget</u>		2015 <u>Actual</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
SIC Dues	\$ 136,450.00		\$ 136,773.48	
Interest	\$ 450.00		\$ 537.94	
Total =	<u>\$ 136,900.00</u>		<u>\$ 137,311.42</u>	
 <u>Administrative:</u>				
NCFA	\$ 21,000.00		\$ 21,000.00	
Misc Exp	\$ 250.00	grt.rvw lunch	\$ 96.44	
Travel	\$ 2,000.00		\$ 1,484.14	
Total =	<u>\$ 23,250.00</u>		<u>\$ 22,580.58</u>	17%
 <u>Landowner Outreach:</u>				
Landowner Guide		com aprv 11-15	\$ 5,879.79	
Tree Farm				
Misc. Landowner Outreach	\$ 2,000.00	wrk forst sumt Fire in Pines	\$ 1,700.00	
Total =	<u>\$ 2,000.00</u>	Wildlife Society East Wilkes FFA	<u>\$ 7,579.79</u>	1.46%
 <u>Training and Education:</u>				
Logger Training				
Silvicultural Contractor Training				
Certified Logger Program				
Total =	<u>\$ -</u>		<u>\$ -</u>	0%
 <u>Information Resources:</u>				
Promote SFI at NC Legislation				
Certification Workshops				
Purchase 1 display/materials				
Scholarship				
SFI Certification at universitites				
NC SIC Website	\$ 1,000.00			
Teacher's Tour				
Total =	<u>\$ 1,000.00</u>		<u>\$ -</u>	0.70%

Market Outreach:

NC SIC booths	\$ 1,500.00		
Purchase displays/materials	\$ 1,500.00	signs, stickers	962.01
Customer Communication	\$ 1,250.00	1/2 NC Ag Ad	2620.00
Recruitment			
Total =	\$ 4,250.00		\$ 3,582.01 3.10%

Grants Approved:

Wake Soil & Water Conservation	\$ 1,000.00		\$ 1,000.00
FECF - Sustainable Teachers Academy (2)	\$ 40,000.00		\$ 40,000.00
FECF - Forestry & Env. Camp	\$ 10,000.00		\$ 10,000.00
FECV - Pro Logger video	\$ 10,000.00		\$ 10,000.00
FECV - Goods from the Woods boxes	\$ 10,000.00		\$ 10,000.00
NC Tree Farm - Landowner Wkshp/Annual Mtg	\$ 8,500.00		\$ 8,500.00
NC Tree Farm - Ethic Workshop	\$ 4,500.00		\$ 4,500.00
NC Tree Farm - New Members Welcome Pkg	\$ 3,400.00		\$ 3,400.00
NC Tree Farm - Website & e-newsletter	\$ 7,000.00		\$ 7,000.00
Elkin Valley Trails Association	\$ 7,500.00		\$ 7,500.00
National Railway Historical Society, Inc	\$ 2,500.00		\$ 2,500.00
Southern Appalachian Branch of the QDMA	\$ 1,700.00		\$ 1,700.00
2015 Grant NCSU-FEOP Plan 2015 Piedmt SFTA		\$3000 - paid 2014	
2016 Grant NWTF workshop; paid 2015			\$ 1,000.00
2016 Grant Solns. from Land wkshp; paid 2015			\$ 5,000.00
Total =	\$ 106,100.00		\$ 112,100.00 77.50%

Inconsistent Practices:

Monitor/Phone line/Reporting	\$ 3,000.00	actually incl 5	\$ 2,868.79
Reporting		qtrs IPM	
Consultants	\$ 3,000.00		
Total =	\$ 6,000.00		\$ 2,868.79 4.38%

TOTAL EXPENSES = \$ 142,600.00 \$ 148,711.17

Checking Acct Balance - December 31, 2014 \$ 170,462.29 **big grts and NCFA admin no pd at this time**
Current Checking Acct Balance - December 31, 2015 \$ 70,962.54 **\$1000 total checks outstanding**

NCSU-FEOP 2015 Grant for planning Piedmont SFTA - approved and paid in 2014
NWTF 2016 Grant - approved for 2016; paid in 2015
Solutions from the Land 2016 Grant - approved for 2016; paid in 2015

NC SIC Treasury Report February 2016

	<u>2016</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>2016</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>% of</u> <u>Budget</u>
SIC Dues	\$ 145,600.00	\$ 7,589.19	
Interest	\$ 450.00		
Total =	<u>\$ 146,050.00</u>	<u>\$ 7,589.19</u>	
 <u>Administrative:</u>			
NCFA	\$ 21,000.00		
Misc Exp	\$ 250.00		
Travel	\$ 2,000.00		
Total =	<u>\$ 23,250.00</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	17%
 <u>Landowner Outreach:</u>			
Landowner Guide			
Tree Farm			
Misc. Landowner Outreach	\$ 2,000.00		
Total =	<u>\$ 2,000.00</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	1.46%
 <u>Training and Education:</u>			
Sustainable Teachers Experience	\$ 40,000.00		
Forestry & Environmental Camps	\$ 10,000.00		
Goods from the Woods boxes	<u>\$ 10,000.00</u>		
Total =	<u>\$ 60,000.00</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	0%
 <u>Information Resources:</u>			
Promote SFI at NC Legislation			
Certification Workshops			
Purchase 1 display/materials			
Scholarship			
SFI Certification at universities			
NC SIC Website	\$ 1,000.00		
Teacher's Tour			
Total =	<u>\$ 1,000.00</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	0.70%

Market Outreach:

NC SIC booths	\$ 1,500.00		
Purchase displays/materials	\$ 1,500.00		
Customer Communication	\$ 1,250.00		
Recruitment			
Total =	<u>\$ 4,250.00</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	3.10%

Grants Approved:

Wake Soil & Water Conservation	\$2,500.00		
FECV - Pro-Logger Video	\$7,500.00		
NC Tree Farm - Landowner Workshops/Annual Mtg	\$9,800.00		
NC Tree Farm - Re-Inspection of Tree Farms	\$13,450.00		
NC Tree Farm - New Members Welcome Pkg	\$3,400.00		
NCSU - FEOP Forester Boot Camp	\$5,791.00		
National Wild Turkey Federation		\$1000 - paid 2015	
Solutions from the Land - NC Ag&Forestry Adapt Smt		\$5000 - paid 2015	
Total =	<u>\$ 42,441.00</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	77.50%

Inconsistent Practices:

Monitor/Phone line/Reporting	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 523.00	
Reporting			
Consultants	\$ 3,000.00		
Total =	<u>\$ 6,000.00</u>	<u>\$ 523.00</u>	4.38%

TOTAL EXPENSES = \$ 138,941.00 \$ 523.00

Checking Acct Balance - December 31, 2015 \$ 70,962.54

Current Checking Acct Balance - January 26, 2016 \$ 78,551.73

National Wild Turkey Federation grant approved for 2016 - paid in 2015
Solutions from the Land - NC Ag&Forestry Adapt Smt grant approved for 2016 - paid in 2015

SFI UPDATE – BERNARD ROSE, COMMITTEE CHAIR

Committee Chair Bernard Rose provided an update on the SFI program and the NC SFI SIC. He noted that the committee works in conjunction with the NCFA in terms accounting principles, providing the IRS framework through an Memo of Understanding. Rose reported he did sit down with NCFA Executive Vice President, Pryor Gibson, to review the existing MOU. There were no changes made to the agreement and both parties signed for 2016.

Rose updated the committee on the assessment and collection of committee dues for 2015. While there were a few companies with outstanding dues in the fourth quarter, all of the companies have submitted their dues and all committee members are in good standing heading into 2016. It was noted that the NC SFI SIC By-Laws calls for the committee chair to review the dues received in the fourth quarter. Rose stated that since committee members have the entire year to submit their dues, it might make more sense for the by-laws to be changed to reflect the first quarter review of the previous year. The survey for 2016 has been completed and approved by the officers. It will be sent out in February and the return date is early April.

Rose also stated that Bryan Hulka will lead the revision of the existing by-laws for the committee. Jaime Teel and Ed Listerman volunteered to help out with the revision. Some of the things to be considered in the revision is 1) when the official review of dues should take place, 2) length of existing office positions and how/if the positions should rotate, 3) how the assessment process should be created and distributed at the start of the year.

There was some discussion on the terms for officers. As it stands now, a volunteer for the treasurer position is actually signing up for a six year commitment since the treasurer, vice chair and chair positions are all two year positions. There was some discussion if it might be better if positions did not automatically rotate upwards, meaning a person could volunteer for a position and not necessarily move up.

Rose noted the website has been updated with new information as it pertains to the roster and grant paperwork.

The SFI Annual Meeting will take place on September 27-29, 2016 in Clearwater, Florida.

GRANT UPDATE – BERNARD ROSE, COMMITTEE CHAIR

Committee Chair Bernard Rose provided an update on the grant program. A few grants on the list have been paid out, including the Tree Farm Program and the National Wild Turkey Federation.

2016 Grants	Requested	Granted
National Wild Turkey Federation	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
NC Tree Farm - Re-Inspection of Tree Farms	\$13,450.00	\$13,450.00
NC Tree Farm Landowner Workshops & Annual Meeting	\$9,800.00	\$9,800.00
NC Tree Farm New Member Packets	\$3,400.00	\$3,400.00
NCFA - Pro-Logger Video	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00
Solutions from Land - NC Ag & Forestry Adaptation Summit	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
NCSU Extension Forestry - Forester Bootcamp	\$5,791.00	\$5,791.00
Wake Soil & Water - Keeping the Farm	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
	\$48,441.00	\$48,441.00
Moved to NC SFI SIC Budget Line Items - Not Grants		
NCFA - Goods from the Woods	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
NCFA - Forestry & Environmental Camps	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
NCFA - Teachers Academies	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00
	\$60,000.00	\$60,000.00
Total Grants + NCFA Budget Line Item Projects (Not Admin)	\$108,441.00	\$108,441.00

In attendance on 07/28/2015

Rand Mathews
Amy Phillips

MARKET OUTREACH/RECRUITMENT SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT – BERNARD ROSE

There were a limited amount of North Carolina Agriculture Magazines on hand for the committee to review. The NC SFI SIC had purchased a full page advertisement that promotes the SFI program and publicized the NC SFI SIC Grant Program. A copy of the page was provided in the meeting materials.



INFORMATION RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

It was noted that the committee has an ample supply of landowner guides that were published in 2015 on hand at the NCFSA office. The guides are one of the outreach elements of SFI member companies.

INCONSISTENT PRACTICES SUBCOMMITTEE – JIM DURHAM

Jim Durham provided an update on the latest report from Steve Cox, who is the Inconsistent Practices Monitor. Durham noted that Cox has agreed to once again serve as the program's IPM in 2016 under the same agreement. Durham stated that there was one NC SFI company on the inconsistent report, but he assumes it is a reflection of the recent wet weather and the issue should back into compliance shortly.

Durham also reported the IPM guidelines and procedures have been updated based on input from previous meetings. The guidelines will be updated to the committee's website.

INCONSISTENT PRACTICES MONITORING PROGRAM - LOG

	Year: 2015				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Total Number of Phone Calls	2	3	9	3	17
Total Number of Invalid Phone Calls	1	1	6	2	10
Total Number of Valid Phone Calls	1	2	3	1	7
Open Inconsistent Practices	0	0	0	0	0
Closed Inconsistent Practices	0	0	0	0	0
Open FPG Inconsistent Practices	0	0	0		
Closed FPG Inconsistent Practices	0		0		
Total Open Inconsistent Practices	0	0	0		
Total Closed Inconsistent Practices	0	0	0		

Call notes: Call on 12-2-15 was from a person complaining about a logger leaving mud and debris on road. Caller did not know if an SFI member was involved. Advised caller to contact NCFSA and Highwat Patrol and to call me back if an SFI member was involved. Did not call back.

FPG notes: Have not received the FPG report for the NCFSA 2 nd quarter FY 2015-2016 (SIC 4th quarter 2015)
 The NCFSA 1st qt FY 2015 -2016 report (SFI 3rd qt 2015) shows one member with a violation in temporary compliance.
 This is not considered a non-conformance at this time.
 Will update this report when data is received.

Steve Cox, submitted 1-5-16

LANDOWNER OUTREACH SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT – LESLIE MCCORMICK

Leslie McCormick, the Executive Director of the North Carolina Tree Farm Program, updated the committee on the North Carolina Tree Farm program. In addition to sharing numbers, McCormick thanked the committee for providing grant funds to re-inspect the 250 “at risk” Tree Farms that are currently in the program but have not been visited in the past 10 years. McCormick also reported that the fundraising effort from the Tree Farmers was positive. There is still work to be done in this area as the program’s goal is to provide at least 20 percent of its operating budget from Tree Farmer donations.

Certification by the Numbers

Currently Certified:

Tree Farms: 1,052
Acreage: 289,430
Average Size: 275

New Certifications in 2015:

Tree Farms: 62
Acreage: 14,125
Average Size: 227

New Certifications in 2016:

Tree Farms: 3
Acreage: 174
Average Size: 53

Inspectors:

2014: 271
2016: 145

2015 Required Inspections

Total: 29
Decertification: 3
Separated Into Two Farms: 2

2016 Required inspections:

35

Re-Inspection of “At-Risk” Tree Farms Project

250 have not been inspected in 10+ years

Fundraising Part 2: Tree Farmers

Strategy

- Personal visits with prospective donors July-September
- Direct mail to all Tree Farmers early September

Results:

- 233% increase in number of individual donors but still low participation rate
- 43.3% increase in individual donations
- Individuals provided 25% of all 2015 donations and 19% of 2015 budget

Next Steps:

- Continue to build relationships, increase participation in programs and improve services to improved perception of value

NEW BUSINESS

Bernard Rose alerted the committee that invoices from the NCFA and the NC SFI SIC have been sent out . He asked members that if they do not receive their NC SFI SIC dues in the next week to please contact the NCFA. The dues and accompanying survey information should be returned to the NCFA since this survey information is important to the committee when they look to establish a budget for next year. As a reminder, dues are always based on consumption from the previous year.

Jim Durham shared some information on the results from SFI audits on International Paper in the region. Some of the areas of concern were 1) determining when stream crossing are needed or can be avoided, 2) the proper use of water bars, broad based dips, turnouts to protect water quality and soil erosion, 3) addressing oil spills and proper disposals.

Graham Hanson informed the committee on the upcoming wildlife conference scheduled for Raleigh in October of 2016. The Wildlife Society will be hosting its 23rd Annual Conference on October 15-19, 2016 in Raleigh, NC. The planning has just begun for this conference.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – PRYOR GIBSON

The NCFA's Executive Vice President, Pryor Gibson, provided a quick update on state and federal issues that the NCFA is currently engaged with on a regular basis.

At the state level, the NCFA is committed to supporting the equipment needs for the North Carolina Forest Service. The NCFS will be requesting substantial funds in 2016 to updated heavy equipment needs that have been delayed due to the recession. The NCFA will also be helping with the request to allocate more funding for the Forest Development Program. The North Carolina General Assembly used to assign funds to the program, but that stopped in 2009. The NCFA will also be working with state leaders on the eventual transfer of state highways to federal highways in an effort to keep existing weight tolerances.

At the federal level, the NCFA is watching several issues include Waters of the United States (WOTUS), the recent listing of the Northern Long Eared Bat (NLEB), Forest Roads, and the issuance of new pesticide permits.

In terms of election year 2016, the North Carolina primary has been moved up from previous elections to March 15, 2016. The Friends of Forestry PAC will be meeting on February 17, 2016 at the NCFA's office to discuss who the committee plans to support in the primaries and general election. The FFPAC is a state oriented PAC with no political affiliation.

FOREST ISSUES UPDATE – TOM GEROW

Tom Gerow provided an update on forest issues on behalf of the North Carolina Forest Service. The current staff of the Water Resources Branch includes:

- Tom Gerow, Jr.= Water Resources Staff Forester, cell 919-631-0762.
- Bill Swartley= Forest Hydrologist and Supervisor, office 919-857-4856.
- vacant, Watershed & Conservation Staff Forester
- vacant, Forest Water Quality Senior Specialist

The NCFS is working to fill two vacancies. The current staff is:

- Beth Plummer, 704-616-0747, northern foothills & Catawba valley region.
- Laura Hendrick, 919-218-4263, northern piedmont, Surry/Yadkin to Vance/Wake co., down to Chatham.
- Matt Vincett, 910-334-0025, southern piedmont & sandhills, east to Cumberland/Robeson co.
- Aaron Levine, 252-813-3174, northeast piedmont/upper coastal plain, I-95 corridor down to Sampson co.

The NCFS has been concerned about the amount of Riparian Buffer Rule violations over the past three months. Six different tracts were identified where a violation had occurred. The NCFS held a special workshop recently in Granville County to address some of these issues for members of the forest products industry. The workshop was well-attended and appreciated. Several committee members suggested the NCFS hold the same workshop in different locations across the state.

As a refresher, Gerow provided the following information. Under the FPG #.0201, a Streamside Management Zone (SMZ) is required on any intermittent stream or perennial stream ... it does not matter if it appears on a map, or not. A Riparian Buffer Rule Zone is only required in certain river basins or watersheds ... if the stream appears approximately shown on the most-recently-published version of either a USGS 1:24000 topo map or a NRCS soil survey map. "Intermittent Stream" and "Perennial Stream" are defined differently in the FPGs and the Riparian Buffer Rules. So, even if a stream does not qualify as "intermittent" for the Buffer Rule, it may still be "intermittent" under the FPGs and thus still require a SMZ.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT – DOUG BURLESON

Subcommittee chair Doug Burleson provided an update on the subcommittee's most recent meeting. The NC SFI SIC and the SLTC Education Subcommittee met at the NCFA office on January 20, 2016 to review the existing ProLogger Training Guidelines as it pertains to pricing of modules and dues as well as the current status of the existing trade cooperative with South Carolina and Florida for Module segments.

The committee consists of Chair **Doug Burleson**, **Scott Askew**, Scott Brewer, **Chris Brown**, Billy Cipriani, **Brian Council**, **Jean-Paul Dame**, **Chuck Daniels**, **Tom Gerow**, **Brett Goulding**, **Lauren Killian**, J.J. Lemire, Mark Megalos, **Amy Phillips**, **Eddie Reese**, **Bernard Rose**, Eric Smith, Jack Swanner, **Jaime Teel**. The bold names are those who were present for the meeting either in person or via the conference call. **Robert O'Neal** sat in for Eric Smith from the North Carolina Department of Labor.

The first discussion centered around the fee that should be charged for a state or group requesting one of the segments for the NCFA's ProLogger Module catalog that is outside of the existing cooperative. Jean-Paul Dame, who has produced the NCFA's training

materials from the beginning of the program, stated that the group should first consider changing the language to a rights leasing agreement for one year so the state or group may use for a year, but cannot resell the segment. He also stated that in the future, it would be ideal if the NCFCA could establish an online library that could be leased on a regular basis by outside groups. The subcommittee discussed different price ranges. The NCFCA budgets roughly \$7,500 per segment on their ProLogger modules. The subcommittee unanimously agreed to put the price at \$2,000 per segment as part of a lease agreement. The subcommittee also recommended that any lease sale include rights protection language that limits the use to one year. Chuck Daniels made the motion to approve the figure at \$2,000 and was seconded by Jaime Teel. It was approved unanimously.

The second topic was the dues structure. It was noted that the ProLogger program is property of the NCFCA, originating back in 1995 out of safety concerns from the record fatality year of 1993. The NC SFI SIC selected the ProLogger program as the path to certify the training of loggers in North Carolina. The dues were created for ProLogger to provide sufficient funding for the administration of the program and the development of high-quality education materials. Originally, the dues were established at \$100 with \$40 going to the NCFCA as individual membership and \$60 to the ProLogger program. In 2014, the NCFCA increased its dues across the board by roughly 10% across the board. It was the first dues increase for the association since 2000. It was discussed that when the NCFCA underwent its dues revision that it did not consult with the education subcommittee to communicate the new structure. In terms of communications with the ProLogger membership that it would be beneficial in future years where an increase might be considered that the subcommittee be included in the communications chain. As for providing funding for the program, the subcommittee believed the current dues amount of \$110 was acceptable and supported it staying the same. Jaime Teel made the motion to keep the dues the same. It was seconded by Bernard Rose. It was unanimously approved.

The committee also reviewed the progress on the current cooperative agreement with Florida and South Carolina. The three states had conducted a conference call earlier in the month to finalize topics and share a matrix of topics developed in the past. The NCFCA has an existing Forest Health segment that focuses on Emerald Ash Borer, Laurel Wilt and Thousands Cankers Disease that it developed last year but had to push forward to Module 17 because of the length of Module 16. The NCFCA has a grant from the NC SFI SIC to review Stream Crossings – It's a Business Decision – where the focus is tied to not only doing things right from an environmental sense, but also as a business decision. Forestry Mutual, the Carolina Loggers Association and the NCFCA will be working with Duke Power and possibly Dominion Power to create a Right of Way video concentrating on the do's and don'ts of working in right of ways, power easements, etc. The NCFCA will look to South Carolina for a segment on Oil Spills. The NCFCA will also add a brief segment on navigating the new membership database as it pertains to ProLogger and checking their individual status and making payments. Module 17 should not exceed two hours in length in terms of running time.

The NCFCA shared its Truck Safety segment with South Carolina last year. It will be sharing its Biodiversity segment this year.

The subcommittee also discussed possible future topics to be considered. One topic was the change in our landscape with the emergence of solar farms and other obstacles towards forest management and forest reforestation. Another topic was recommended that asked our own ProLoggers to relate one thing they wish they had known before they did something. This could be a standalone piece or possibly something that is continuously refreshed with each module.

The committee concluded with a review of the new database system and how it can be accessed by member companies and individuals. The NCFCA will continue to work with member companies to ensure the database is showing the most pertinent information as it pertains to the SFI standard.

The committee did revise and submit the following corrections to the ProLogger guidelines for 2016-2017.

ProLogger Training Guidelines for North Carolina 2016 – 2017

Goal and Qualifications

To establish and maintain a statewide program for loggers, foresters, and others in the forestry community that fulfill the basic three (3) tenets; safety, environmental and business of ProLogger and in accordance with SFI guidelines.

1. Each trained logger is trained to employ safe and efficient timber cutting and logging safety practices.
2. Each trained logger is trained to use Best Management Practices (BMP's) as they relate to the NC Forest Practice Guidelines (FPG).
3. Each logger must participate in annual Education Module.

4. Each trained logger is a member of the North Carolina Forestry Association.

Requirements

1. New Loggers
 - a. Individuals will be recognized as a ProLogger upon completion of the base ProLogger Program.
 - b. The Base ProLogger program will be offered on an “as needed” basis.
 - c. Loggers will be placed on a “Hold” list when they sign up and pay the \$250.00 nonrefundable fee for the base ProLogger program.
 - A logger can remain on the “Hold” list a maximum of one (1) year.
 - The logger must take the base ProLogger program within one (1) year to be considered a ProLogger.
 - If a logger fails to take the base ProLogger class within one (1) year, he/she will have to sign up and pay \$250 nonrefundable fee again to take the class and become a ProLogger.
2. North Carolina ProLoggers
 - a. The ProLogger year runs from June 30 – June 30. ProLoggers must complete annual training by June 30 and pay their annual dues by June 30. A 30 day grace period will be exercised to collect past Annual Dues, but no later than July 31st after that training year.
 - b. Annual ProLogger dues are \$110 which includes NCFA membership.
 - c. In the event an individual recognized as a ProLogger by the State Implementation Committee (SIC) and the NCFA’s Safety, Logging and Transportation Committee (NC SLTC) does not fulfill the requirements stated in (a); that individual will no longer be considered ProLogger trained and must complete the reinstatement requirements to be considered a ProLogger.
3. Loggers from states that have reciprocity agreements with North Carolina
 - a. North Carolina currently has reciprocity agreements with all the Southeastern States: Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina and Florida.
4. Loggers wishing to transfer their records and be considered a ProLogger must send a copy of the current trained status that demonstrate the logger is in good standing from their respective state. The logger needs to show proof of attendance or graduation from the appropriate logger education course to the NCFA.
5. Loggers from states that do not have reciprocity agreements with North Carolina
 - a. Persons who have been trained in states where North Carolina does NOT have reciprocity must submit training records to the NCFA to be considered trained. He/she will be required to take further training topics (Invasive Species, NC BMP’s) up to the complete Base ProLogger Program.

Reinstatement

1. A ProLogger not meeting training or payment requirements for the current year will have two (2) options:
 - a. Pay a \$500 “Reinstatement Fee” plus \$110 Annual dues and make arrangements with a registered forester or authorized trainer to watch the current year’s annual module within the first year.
 - b. Re-take the ProLogger three day base class at \$250.
2. A ProLogger not meeting requirements after one year will be required to complete the base ProLogger Program.

Annual Training

1. Annual program content is determined by joint input from the NCFA Safety, Logging and Transportation and State SFI Implementation committees. Members are polled at the first meeting of the calendar year for topics (since that meeting has become a joint meeting of the two committees.) During the succeeding months, topics are screened for content, applicability to the three (3) concepts of ProLogger (Safety, Environment and Business) and the SFI standard (FSC does not have a logger training requirement), availability of content, practicality and scripting options.
2. The Joint Education Subcommittee will consist of the SIC Chair and CoChair, the SLTC Chair and CoChair, representatives from the NC Forest Service, Forestry Mutual Insurance Company and OSHA and members at large from the SIC and SLTC.
3. The Joint Education Subcommittee (consisting of members of both SIC and SLTC committees) make the final determination of program content and present the results to each respective committee. During program development, this committee is the determinant of content and direction.

Funding

1. Funding comes partially from the annual dues loggers pay. Funding has also been obtained from other sources throughout the years, including THATS Foundation, Golden LEAF, and from other states' SIC committees. Any funds from these sources go towards reducing the out-of-pocket costs of the NCFA.
2. The NCFA will pursue opportunities to collaborate and share the cost of training with other states.
3. The NCFA can sell lease agreements for individual segments to other states for a minimum cost of \$2,000.00 per segment.

Administration

1. A database of ProLogger graduates and annual training will be maintained by the NCFA. Notification of annual training completion will be handled with a class sign in sheet.
2. The ProLogger will receive an invoice and may have the opportunity to pay the annual dues **upon completion of the annual training.**
3. A current listing of ProLogger individuals will be available at any time to NCFA member companies. The list may be distributed in digital form or by email and is posted on the NCFA's Members Only website (www.ncforestry.org).
4. Individual ProLoggers can check their status and update their profile through the NCFA's Members Only website. The ProLogger ID #, name, company, city and state of the individual trained, module completed, and year through which his/her status is active. If the individual does not meet the ProLogger training or payment requirements and their status lapses, they will be removed from the directory on August 1st of the training year.

Promotion of Trained Individuals

Recognition of "ProLogger – trained" status acknowledges an individual's commitment to advance the logging profession in North Carolina through training and education. However, this status should not be construed as a licensing, or accreditation program. It merely acknowledges that the person attended the required training.

ProLogger Training Standards for North Carolina Review

The ProLogger Training Standards for North Carolina will be reviewed by the SIC/SLTC Joint Education Subcommittee every two years for updates and revisions.

NEW BUSINESS

NC SFI SIC MEETING DATES:

May 18, 2016 at the NCFA Office at 9:30 a.m.

July 20, 2016 GRANT COMMITTEE ONLY at the NCFA office at 9:30 a.m.

August 10, 2016 at NCFA Office at 9:30 a.m.

November 9, 2016 at NCFA Office at 9:30 a.m.

SLTC MEETING DATES:

April 21, 2016 at McLaurin's Panther Creek Farms at 9:30 a.m.

July 28, 2016 TBD

October 27, 2016 at Drake Landing at 9:30 a.m.

ADJOURN

There being no further business and on motion and second, the meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Submitted by: Chris Brown, NCFA Director of Communications

