

NC SFI SIC MEETING
NORTH CAROLINA SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY INITIATIVE STATE
IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE
NCFA Office - Raleigh, NC – August 10, 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	Ron Heatherly	Will Reese
Jadie Andrews	Bryan Hulka	John Robertson
Ben Burger	Lauren Killian	Bernard Rose
Doug Burleson	Leslie McCormick	Glen Sheehan
Brian Council	Kevin McCormack	Scott Smearman
Tony Doster	Russ Newton	Lynn Stephenson
Joe Evans	Bob Ordnung	Jack Swanner
Ted Garner	Bob Pippen	Jaime Teel
Tom Gerow	Amy Phillips	Marshall Thompson
Brett Goulding	Jim Pruett	

Others present for all or part of the meeting were:

Chris Brown	Eddie Reese
Debra Doepp	

ANTITRUST COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

Chair Bernard Rose reminded members that the meeting would be in full compliance with the NCFA's policy on antitrust compliance contained in the meeting materials.

RECOGNITION OF PARTICIPATION OF QUORUM

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

REVIEW OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Chair Bernard Rose asked members to review the minutes from the last meeting. On a motion by Marshall Thompson to approve and seconded by Mike Adams, the minutes were approved as submitted.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The NCFA's Chris Brown, provided an update on the North Carolina General Assembly. Brown reported the short session of the North Carolina General Assembly was the shortest since 2000, showing the importance of the 2016 election year. The NCFA was pleased with the progress of funding for various partner agencies/projects such as the Natural Heritage Program, the North Carolina Forest Service, and the Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust.

The NCFA's Forest Management Committee supported funding for the Natural Heritage Program since the program provides valuable information for member companies.

While the funding of the Forest Development Program was not at the matching level as it was originally written or close to funding levels in previous years when the state contributed to the program, the funding of \$75,000 was a step in the right direction. It is a foundation that supporters of the program can build upon in next year's long session.

Here is a brief overview of the 2016 Appropriations Act.

HOUSE BILL 1030 – 2016 APPROPRIATIONS ACT. This bill makes adjustments to the state budget enacted last year and is the primary focus of the short session. It included:

- \$3 million to the Forest Service for firefighting equipment.

- \$1 million to the Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund for military buffers.
- Funding for four positions to the Natural Heritage Program.
- \$8.6 million to the Clean Water Management Trust Fund.
- \$3 million to DuPont State Recreational Forest for improvements.
- \$75,000 to the Forest Development Fund.
- \$500,000 to the Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program (AgWrap).

NCFA Position: NCFA supported this bill.

NC SFI SIC TREASURER'S REPORT

Glen Sheehan provided an update on the NC SFI SIC's financials and two charts of the checking account.

2016 NC SIC Checking Account								
Number	Date	Issued	Description	Category	Check/Draft Amount	Deposit Amount	Balance	
							70,962.54	Balanced 2015
	01/14/16	Deposit	2015 dues	Dues		\$7,589.19	78,551.73	
	01/22/16	Century Link	IPM phone bill Jan.2016	Inconsistent Practices	\$19.51		78,532.22	
	01/28/16	Deposit	2015 dues	Dues		\$1,505.00	80,037.22	
	01/31/16	Deposit	Interest earned	Interest		\$46.97	80,084.19	Balanced Jan.2016
1568	02/02/16	NC Tree Farm	2016 Grants (3)	Landowner Outreach	\$26,650.00		53,434.19	
	02/03/16	Deposit	2015 Dues	Dues		\$26,020.72	79,454.91	
1569	02/05/16	Journal Communications	Ag Magazine Ad (Pmt. Of Balance)	Publications	\$2,620.00		76,834.91	
	02/11/16	Deposit	2016 Dues	Dues		\$4,542.12	81,377.03	
	02/23/16	Century Link	IPM phone bill Feb.2016	Inconsistent Practices	\$18.77		81,358.26	
	02/25/16	Deposit	2016 Dues	Dues		\$29,664.58	111,022.84	
	02/25/16	Deposit	2016 Dues	Dues		\$14,315.90	125,338.74	
	02/29/16	Deposit	Interest earned	Interest		\$60.01	125,398.75	Balanced Feb.2016
	03/03/16	Deposit	2016 Dues	Dues		\$2,654.56	128,053.31	
1570	03/15/16	Wake Soil & Water Grant	Keeping the Farm Workshop	Public Outreach	\$1,000.00		127,053.31	
	03/18/16	Deposits	2016 Dues	Dues		\$28,347.93	155,401.24	
	03/23/16	Century Link	IPM Phone bill March 2016	Inconsistent Practices	\$18.68		155,382.56	
	03/31/16	Deposit	Interest earned	Interest		\$97.54	155,480.10	Balanced March 2016
1571	04/04/16	Bernard Rose	Regional SIC Meeting Expenses	Administrative	\$596.34		154,883.76	
1572	04/07/16	Steve Cox	IPM 1st Qtr. 2016	Inconsistent Practices	\$523.00		154,360.76	
	04/18/16	Deposit	2016 Dues	Dues		\$5,361.49	159,722.25	
	04/26/16	Century Link	IPM Phone Bill April 2016	Inconsistent Practices	\$19.45		159,702.80	
	04/30/16	Deposit	Interest earned	Interest		\$77.29	159,780.09	Balanced April 2016
	05/18/16	Deposit	2016 Dues	Dues		\$1,736.35	161,516.44	
1573	05/19/16	NCSAF	Sponsor-NCSAF Summer Mtg.	Public Outreach	\$250.00		161,266.44	
	05/24/16	Century Link	IPM Phone Bill May 2016	Inconsistent Practices	\$19.16		161,247.28	
	05/26/16	Deposit	2016 Dues	Dues		\$946.00	162,193.28	
	05/31/16	Deposit	Interest earned	Interest		\$81.71	162,274.99	Bal. May 2016
	06/23/16	Deposit	2016 Dues	Dues		\$3,481.98	165,756.97	chk. 1573 still out
	06/23/16	Century Link	IPM Phone Bill June 2016	Inconsistent Practices	\$20.98		165,735.99	
1574	06/27/16	The Nature Conservancy	Sponsor-Fire in the Pines Festival	Public Outreach	\$100.00		165,635.99	
	06/30/16	Deposit	2016 Dues	Dues		\$2,085.00	167,720.99	
	06/30/16	Deposit	Interest earned	Interest		\$80.38	167,801.37	Bal. June 2016
1575	07/11/16	Steve Cox	IPM 2nd Qtr. 2016	Inconsistent Practices	\$523.00		167,278.37	chk. 1574 still out
	07/26/16	Century Link	IPM Phone Bill July 2016	Inconsistent Practices	\$20.27		167,258.10	
	07/29/16	Deposit	Interest earned	Interest		\$77.43	167,335.53	
1576	07/29/16	Bernard Rose	SFI Annual Conference Registration	Administrative	\$595.00		166,740.53	
1576	07/29/16	Bernard Rose	Lunch for Grant Review Committee	Administrative	\$74.33		166,666.20	Bal. July 2016
							166,666.20	Chk. 1576 still out

Categories from .xls NC-SIC BUDGET

Deposits (Dues)	
\$	128,250.82
Earned interest	
\$	521.33
Total Deposits	
\$	128,772.15
Phone Bill (Inconsistent Practices)	
	136.82
Landowner Outreach	
\$	26,650.00
Publications	
\$	2,620.00
Public Outreach	
\$	1,350.00
Inconsistent Practices (monitor)	
\$	1,046.00
Administrative	
\$	1,265.67

Outstanding Expenses (Remainder of 2016)

Item	Amt.
NCFA Goods From the Woods	\$ 10,000.00
NCFA Fty. And Environmental Camp	\$ 10,000.00
NCFA Teachers Academies	\$ 40,000.00
Admin. Fee NCFA	\$ 21,000.00
Grants Outstanding	
NCSU Extension Forestry (Forestry Boot Camp)	\$ 5,791.00
NCSU Extension Forestry (Forestry Boot Camp)	\$ 5,791.00
IPM Monitoring 3rd & 4th Qtr.	\$ 1,046.00
Century Line-remainder 2916	\$ 126.00
SFI National Meeting-Lodging, Travel	\$ 800.00

TOTAL Outstanding Expenses 2016

	\$	96,263.00
Current Checking Balance 7-31-16	\$	166,666.20
Remaining NC SIC Balance for 12-31-16	\$	70,403.20
Remaining Dues from 2016?	\$	25,000.00

Revised Remaining SIC BAL. 12-31-16 **\$ 95,403.20** *Sheehan*

Sheehan noted that the NCFA had submitted an invoice covering the outstanding programs that it had been awarded as part of the grant program and straight budget line item funding for 2016. This would reduce the amount of unpaid grants since there was just one left remaining for the year – the NCSU Extension Forestry Boot Camp program.

Sheehan updated his second chart with the most recent dues payments received by NC SFI SIC members. This added \$25,000 to the account. With the existing balance and these additional funds, the NC SFI SIC's balance heading into the end of the year should be at \$95,403.20. This is slightly higher than expected which is a positive in light of the fact that the grant committee chose to provide a little more in funding of the overall program in 2017 than it had in previous years.

FORESTRY ISSUES UPDATE

Tom Gerow with the North Carolina Forest Service provided an update on the agency. Gerow announced the NCFS filled two state office water staff vacancies and he shared a complete list of personnel in the state with the committee.

Gerow noted that he has had two referrals. There was one in Lenoir County that included multiple tracts that were originally one tract. The tract was sold as multiple parcels after logging. There were apparent violations of Neuse Buffer Rule on each of the new parcels after the logging was already done. He received another referral recently in Forsyth County because of a large oil spill.

Gerow gave examples of several recent events that demonstrate that harvesting activities must be tied to the land use. Loggers cannot use existing forestry exemptions if the land use is going to be converted to another use. The Section 404 exemptions only apply if the land is going to be maintained as a forest.

Gerow reminded the committee that building roads in coastal marshes is not allowed. Shovel logging is acceptable. No permits are needed for shovel logging. Loggers must be sure to remove the logs from the shovel skid trail when the operation is completed.

In terms of the various river basin buffer rules, there are some canals or ditched out streams that may be exempt from the buffer rules if the canals happen to fall in a Drainage District. Gerow recommended that if a logging operation calls for the removing of all timber along a blue line canal, the logger should obtain written authorization from the Drainage District that it is exempt. Without this permission, the tract may get referred to North Carolina Division of Water Resources.

The NCFS recently compiled and submitted information to U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, detailing FPG compliance and BMP implementation for the Neuse River Basin and Tar-Pam River Basin. The reports were requested as the USFWS is under pressure from environmental groups to review four aquatic species as candidates for listing at T&E.

In closing, Gerow noted the NCFS has launched a new website, www.urbanwoodexchange.org. It is intended to help connect buyers & sellers of wood from urban locations. The goal is to provide more information out to the public to keep wood out of landfills and to provide a higher and possibly better use for trees harvested in urban environments.

SFI UPDATE

Bernard Rose provided an update on the SFI program, member participation and some opportunities for the committee.

North Carolina Agriculture Magazine – The North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services will once again be producing a coffee table style magazine, highlighting agriculture and forestry in North Carolina. The magazines will be distributed throughout the state. Last year, the NC SFI SIC placed a story it had written and an advertisement about the NC SFI SIC grant program with a full page advertisement. In the last meeting, the committee discussed a half-page advertisement that would be \$3,305. The deadline for placing an advertisement was last week. We can still get a position in the magazine if we approve the contract and agree on content in a timely fashion. After discussion, Joe Evans made a motion to support the advertisement opportunity and it was seconded by Mike Adams. The motion was approved unanimously.

NC SFI SIC Member Update – The member companies participating in SFI program is voluntary so there are additions and subtractions to the program on an annual basis. Rose reported that Edwards Wood Products and Jordan Lumber and Supply Company would be leaving the SFI program. Both companies are strong supporters of the education initiatives that the NCFA and NC SFI SIC support and pledged to continue to support those efforts. Jordan Lumber requested staying on the committee as a supporting member with no vote. The committee agreed this was allowable under the new structure of state implementation committees and the SFI partner program.

Duke Energy has inquired about membership in the NC SFI SIC based on its land holdings across the state. Duke Energy requested if it could join the first year at a reduced rate the first year. After some discussion, the committee voted that Duke Energy should follow the current by laws that allow a body seeking SFI certification to join as a supporting member in the first year. Upon certification, Duke Energy would be expected to pay the existing landowners dues rate of 0.014 per acre. The motion was made by Mike Adams and seconded by Scott Smearman. It was approved unanimously.

SFI SIC Education Meeting, Athens, GA – The southeastern SFI SICs met in Athens, GA in June. NCFA Staff Chris Brown participated in the meeting and is currently serving as the vice chair. Chase Cook with University of Georgia is the committee chair. The goal is to create a system in which state organizations can agree on training standards, agree on what constitutes a training hour, and to share how states achieve their SFI required certification. It is clear that North Carolina and South Carolina have the most specific education requirements of the participating states. The group will meet again by conference call and then again at the SFI national meeting.

Dues Assessments & Rates – The dues for the past year have been received and the NC SFI SIC executive committee has reviewed the current dues rates. Dues rate for the landowner category is 0.014 per acre and producers pay at 0.00675 per ton. Rose reported that the executive committee did not want to present the survey numbers that is customary as part of the discussion on assessment rates since not all the dues had been received and in light of some companies electing not to continue their membership in the NC SFI SIC. It was a measure taken to avoid any potential anti-trust issues. The executive committee recommended the dues remain the same for next year. Bryan Hulka made the motion to approve the same dues rate. It was seconded by Tony Doster and approved by a unanimous vote.

GRANT UPDATE

Sustainable Forestry Teachers Experience - The Sustainable Forestry Teachers Experience (SFTE) enjoyed one of its best years in recent memory with over 90 teachers participating in three different locations. Teachers traveled to New Bern, Asheville and Southern Pines for a multi-day workshop that took them into the forest and into the forest products industry - in most cases - on the same day. This combination of tours illustrates the connection between the resource, the management of the resource, and how each forest products facility seeks its unique efficiencies in making and distributing various products.

This year the SFTE was under the direction of the North Carolina Forest Service's Hannah Thompson-Welch and the NCFA's Eddie Reese. Hannah and Eddie did a tremendous job of coordinating visits while incorporating the Project Learning Tree (PLT) curriculum and other educational elements into the workshops.

"We truly appreciate the efforts of the SFTE staff and the support we received from our participating companies and partners," stated Pryor Gibson, the NCFA's Executive Vice President. "Hannah and Eddie accepted the challenge of growing our program both in quantity and quality, and they certainly surpassed expectations."

"This year, we had more teachers experience the program in one year than ever before," continued Gibson. "We appreciate our members and partners taking the time out of their busy schedules to provide excellent tours of their facilities. We will continue to evaluate and improve on the program going forward based on the feedback from teachers and our members. In fact, Hannah and Eddie have even started that process."

The entire SFTE would not be possible if it were not for the financial support of the North Carolina SFI State Implementation Committee and several companies that open their doors (and in many cases, their wallets when they support a luncheon or dinner during the week). **THANKS TO ALL OF OUR SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS!**

Everyone involved in forestry and the forest products industry has positive and compelling story to tell about the positive impact forestry has on our state. The best audience in the world to spread this message is our educators, who are working with our next generation of foresters and forestland owners. The SFTE provides the ideal platform to bring these two groups together for a few weeks out of a given year.

Scott Smearman, who serves on the NC SFI SIC and the NCFA's Education Committee, provided an update on the Teachers Sustainable Forestry Experience. With 104 teachers from across the state and less than 10 repeats, Smearman applauded the efforts of Hannah Thompson-Welch, Eddie Reese, and everyone who supported the SFTE in 2016. The cost per teacher dropped to \$600 which is a significant decrease.

GRANT REVIEW

2017 Grants

Approved by Full Committee on 08/10/2016

Organization	Project	Requested	Granted	NC SFI SIC Requirements	Point Person
Roanoke Economic Dev. Inc (REDI)	Sustaining Forestry & African American Land Retention Program	\$20,000.00	\$5,000.00	SIC Interested in cost/certified acre & time frame	Bernard Rose
NC Tree Farm	Re-Inspection of Tree Farms	\$13,750.00	\$13,750.00	Report results to SIC	Bryan Hulka/Scott Smearman
NC Tree Farm	Landowner Educational Workshops	\$22,652.50	\$10,000.00	Cost concerns/workshop (High planning costs)	Bryan Hulka/Scott Smearman
NC Tree Farm	Forest Summit	\$5,940.00	\$5,000.00	Report results to SIC	Bryan Hulka/Scott Smearman
NC Envirothon Committee	Logo Water Bottles for 1500 students	\$4,500.00	\$0.00	Logo water bottles alone fail to meet SFI objectives	Bernard Rose
Wake Soil & Water Conservation District	Forest & Wildlife Enhancement Initiative	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00	Opportunity for SFI Representation	Tony Doster
All Saints Episcopal Church	Sustaining the Planet with Trees - Educational Initiative	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	Phase 1 fails to meet SFI objectives - opportunity for funds in Phase 2	Rand Mathews
FECF	ProLogger Training Module 17-Log Deck Appearance & Oil Spills	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00		Rand Mathews
FECF	ASK ROY	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	SFI credit on clips - Certification Clip	Tony Doster
FECF	T-Shirts for Forestry & Environmental Camps	\$3,000.00	\$2,000.00	NC SFI SIC Logo on shirts	Tony Doster
NCSU	NC Project Learning Tree Facilitator Training	\$6,007.00	\$3,000.00	Report results to SIC	Scott Smearman
Henderson County SWCD	Landowner Outreach/Training	\$500.00	\$500.00	Opportunity for SFI Representation	Amy Phillips
FECF, CLA, SLTC	NC OSH Training	\$3,200.00	\$3,200.00	SFI credit	Bernard Rose
		\$114,949.50	\$57,850.00		

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)

\$174,949.50	\$117,850.00
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The list of grants were approved for 2017. The only adjustment from the original recommendation from the grant subcommittee was the funding for the NC OSH Training that is scheduled to take place in October of 2017. The subcommittee did not recommend funding, but after a better description was heard of the project along with a comparison to the SFI standard, the entire committee voted to include funding for the project on a motion made by Bryan Hulka and seconded by Marshall Thompson. The entire list of grants listed above were approved unanimously after a motion by Bryan Hulka and seconded by Brett Goulding.

The grant total is slightly higher than in previous years, however, the NC SFI SIC maintains a balance in its account so the committee was confident it could manage the increase.

INFORMATION RESOURCES COMMITTEE REPORT

Tony Doster appreciated the group's efforts with spreading the word about the grant program. He encouraged people to get the word out on the grant program when they are participating in activities and/or workshops that could benefit from the SIC's grant program.

MARKET OUTREACH/RECRUITMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Bernard Rose reported that he had been in contact with Rand Mathews, who was unable to make the meeting, and he expressed his support for the Agriculture Magazine.

Rose stated that Mathews found a printed piece from the Pennsylvania SFI SIC that might be worth creating from a North Carolina perspective. It could be used during workshops and other events.

LANDOWNER OUTREACH SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Leslie McCormick, the Executive Director of the North Carolina Tree Farm Program, updated the committee on the North Carolina Tree Farm program.

The program has 1,009 certified Tree Farms, covering 271,008 acres. In 2016, Tree Farm has added 42 new Tree Farms. The North Carolina program is required to make 37 inspections this year on existing Tree Farms as part of the national audit. Currently, 15 Tree Farms have been recertified and six have been decertified from the program.

The NC SFI SIC supported the NC Tree Farm’s re-inspection initiative for 241 Tree Farms in the North Carolina program that have not been visited in over five years. At this point, 50 of these farms have been recertified and 77 have been decertified. The goal of this program is to reach all Tree Farmers in the program to help them remain in the program by keeping their plan up to the new Tree Farm standards.

The NC Tree Farm’s Annual Meeting will take place on October 22, 2016 at the Hill Forest in Durham County.

The NC Tree Farm program has two breakfast workshops set up – August 26 in Wilkes County and November 11 in Richmond County.

The NC Tree Farm program has a wildlife workshop set for September 21 in New London, NC.

INCONSISTENT PRACTICES SUBCOMMITTEE

The committee received the latest report from Steve Cox, who is the Inconsistent Practices Monitor. There were no true calls in the second quarter.

INCONSISTENT PRACTICES MONITORING PROGRAM - LOG						
			Year: <u>2016</u>			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
						Total
Total Number of Phone Calls		2	7			9
Total Number of Invalid Phone Calls		2	7			9
Total Number of Valid Phone Calls		0	0			0
Open Inconsistent Practices		0	0			0
Closed Inconsistent Practices		0	0			0
Open FPG Incosistent Practices		0	0			0
Closed FPG Inconsistent Practices		0	0			0
Total Open Inconsistent Practices		0	0			0
Total Closed Inconsistent Practices		0	0			0
Notes: There were no valid calls to the hot line. FPG data available only through March 2016.						
Submitted by Steve Cox, IPM						

TRAINING AND EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Doug Burleson provided an updated on the ProLogger program and other training opportunities supported by the NC SFI SIC.

MODULE 16 TRAINING CONCLUDES WITH 1,531 IN PROGRAM/HOLD LIST. Thanks to our member companies, we enjoyed another terrific year of training our professional loggers. We had just 152 ProLoggers out of 1,683 at the deadline failed to meet the requirements. We did send out a reminder letter to each ProLogger who failed to meet one or both of the requirements. They have all been moved to the inactive section and will not come up on the website search of active ProLoggers.

At the deadline, we did have some ProLoggers who failed to take the class and pay dues (80). Typically, we lose 75-95 ProLoggers out of the system over the past few years. The three base courses historically generate close to 100 new ProLoggers. We have seen the program grow over the last few years.

We also had some ProLoggers who have paid dues but not had taken the class (9). In the majority of these cases, there was problem with how their attendance was recorded.

We also had a group that took the class, but they have not submitted their payment (28). These payments continue to come in and we expect them to be resolved by the end of August.

The NCFA staff requested changing the title of the Hold List to the Pre-Registered List. This will clarify the functionality of the list for those who are new to the ProLogger program. The Pre-Registered List is now at 42 ProLoggers. The committee was fine with the change.

MODULE 17 TOPICS & FILMING – Production of Module 17 is basically complete with just a few editorial and typographical edits to be completed. The teaching guide is being developed and once we have duplicated the module, the modules will be available to our member companies to begin a new year of teaching.

Module 17 includes the following subjects. **Forest Health (22 minutes)** – Details latest invasive threats to our forest in North Carolina. NCFS staff helped tremendously with this production. It also showcases a ProLogger, Joe Berryhill. **Gas Line Right-A-Way Safety (12 minutes)** – Provides an update from Dominion Power on working around gas line right of ways as part of the pipeline the company is running into North Carolina this year. **Commitment to Compliance (38 minutes)** – Highlights water quality issues with FPG's, BMP's and Buffer Rules. This was modeled after the popular workshop the NCFS ran early in 2016. Highlights ProLogger June Bug Curry and his crew's approach to stream crossings. **Tackle Storm Damage with Teamwork (28 minutes)** - Bryan Wagner provides an overview of dealing with storm damaged timber, demonstrating how mechanized and manual felling can cooperate to reduce exposure during a dangerous operation. **Log Deck Appearance and Oil Spills (6 minutes)** - Tom Gerow with NCFS provides a quick review of oil spills. This topic was a direct ask from our members. South Carolina had committed to address this subject but changed direction late. We hope to deal with this issue in a more comprehensive manner next module. **5 Steps to Open Face Felling (12 minutes)** - Bryan Wagner reviews the Open Face Felling Technique. This is the same technique he covers in the base class for each ProLogger as part of the field day.

The total length of the Module 17 is 2:08. The goal was to be close to 1:45 – 2:00 in length so the class would be two hours and 30 minutes with a 15 minute break. The goal for each segment was 25-28 minutes and we achieved that in all except for one.

Burleson asked that an e-mail link be sent out to the education subcommittee for final review of the productions.

COOP WITH OTHER FORESTRY ASSOCIATIONS – The NCFA maintains a working arrangement with South Carolina and Florida. With the existing Module 17 already at two hours, the NCFA will incorporate the latest effort from South Carolina in Module 18 training. One of the proposed topics for 2018 is a comprehensive production on Oil Spills that will highlight rules and regulations for both North and South Carolina and also a disclaimer for any other state to check its state guidelines.

TRAINING EFFORT WITH NC DOL AND FORESTRY MUTUAL – Next year the training partnership of the NCFA, Forestry Mutual Insurance Company and the North Carolina Department of Labor will once again be held after several years of being offline. It will take place in October of 2017 at the Howell Woods Training Facility. The training sessions will focus on tree felling properly and what signs point to properly felled trees.

NEW BUSINESS

The North Carolina Tree Farm program will be hosting a workshop on September 21, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the New London Volunteer Fire Department. The workshop will detail balancing commercial production and habitat management to meet a variety of landowner objectives.

The Sustainable Forestry and African American Land Retention Project is holding a landowner workshop on Wednesday, September 28, 2016 at Roanoke Chowan Community College in Ahoskie.

The Sustainable Forestry and African American Land Retention Project's Annual Retreat is October 3-6 in Greenville, SC.

The NCFA's 2016 Annual Meeting will take place at the Grove Park Inn in Asheville this year from October 5-7. Appropriately in a presidential election year, this year's theme will be Campaigning for Forest Health. The room rate at the Grove Park will be \$239. *The NCFA's room block ends on September 2, 2016 - please call the Grove Park ASAP.* The Grove Park number is (800) 438-5800. Registration for the meeting will be \$350 and \$250 for a spouse/guest. Meeting materials have been mailed and there is an option to register online. For sponsorship opportunities, please contact Ann Harper at aharper@ncforestry.org or (800) 231-7723 ext. 1.

The North Carolina Project Learning Tree will be holding a training workshop designed for forestry professionals on November 7-9, 2016 in Fuquay-Varina, NC. Participants will be trained in PLT, discover links between forestry and K-12 educational standards, and learn how to create dynamic presentations for K-12 students.

Bryan Hulka mentioned the need to show a program for biodiversity for the fiber sourcing side as the new SFI standard. He polled the group on how they were meeting this requirement in third-party audits. Several members discussed the use of the Natural Heritage Program data as well as participation in wildlife workshops.

ADJOURN

There being no further business and on motion and second, the meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Submitted by: Chris Brown, NCFA Senior Director of Communications