

The Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Implementation Committee (SIC)



Summer
Issue 2006

- 1 Study of Oak Regeneration Yielding Eye-Opening Conclusions
- 3 Special Tear-Out 2006 Block 2 Training Schedule
- 4 Mark Your Calendar
- 5 In Brief
- 7 Recent Training Course Participants
- 8 PA SFI Outreach
- 9 PA SFI Program Participants
- 10 Report: When it Comes to Forest Management, Aesthetics Matter
- 11 PA SFI Outreach

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STUDY OF OAK REGENERATION YIELDING EYE-OPENING CONCLUSIONS – Reprinted with permission from Penn State Ag Sciences News

UNIVERSITY PARK, PA. – After more than a decade of closely monitoring regeneration of oak trees on forest tracts around Pennsylvania, researchers in Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences have begun to understand why stands of the state's most important tree are not replacing themselves after they are harvested.

Amid a raging debate between hunters angry about deer numbers being reduced by the Pennsylvania Game Commission to spur oak regeneration and state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources officials – who claim too many deer have over-browsed forest habitat – scientists in Penn State's School of Forest Resources have quietly been measuring the growth of young oaks for 11 years.

Studies conducted across the state by Penn State and the U.S. Forest Service have found that fully 50 percent of the stands studied don't have the regeneration to replace themselves, according to Jim Finley, professor of forest resources. "So where the canopy has been disturbed – where there has been cutting and there should be regeneration on the ground because there is sufficient light – half the time it is not happening," he says. "And that's a major problem."

In 1995, professor of forest biology Kim Steiner and colleagues began a study of stand development on state forest lands within the central third of the commonwealth. "The smallest research tract is 13 acres, the largest is 225 acres," he says. "Some tracts are fenced to exclude deer and some are not, and they differ in a few other important ways. But all are harvested soon after we begin measuring, so the study spans both the old and the new developing stands.

We are currently monitoring the development of 70 forest stands and our data begin with conditions of the previous mature stand and continue at three-year intervals with characteristics of the new developing stand," adds Steiner. "All of our several thousand plants are permanently marked and can be relocated exactly with global positioning system instruments."

Finley explains that the inventory conducted by the U.S. Forest Service in Pennsylvania is showing a species shift from northern red oak, which had been the most common species, to other species that are less valuable both commercially and ecologically. Red oak was number one – now it is 10th and red maple is first. Black birch used to be the sixth most common species; now it is second. Black cherry is now number three. "What is important is that neither maple nor birch nor cherry are preferred browse by deer," Finley says.

continued on next page



Summer 2006

(Issue #20)

The Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) program is a voluntary, industry driven effort developed to ensure that future generations will have the same abundant, healthy, and productive forests we enjoy today. Created in 1995 by the American Forest & Paper Association (the national trade organization representing the United States forest products industry), SFI is a program of comprehensive forestry and conservation practices.

In order to broaden the practice of sustainable forestry in our state, an Implementation Committee was formed to develop the Sustainable Forestry Initiative of Pennsylvania. Today, the PA SFI program works to ensure the progress of the national initiative, here in Pennsylvania.

SFI Implementation Committee (SIC) Members

Dan Evans, Chairman, Weyerhaeuser*

Matt Andrews, Deer Park Lumber

John Bouch, Timberlink, LLC

Bill Bow, Appleton Papers, Inc.

Charlie Brown, Glatfelter Pulp Wood Co.*

Tom Buzby, Weaber, Inc.*

Keith Craig, PA HDC

Jim Finley, Penn State University

James Grace, Bureau of Forestry

Bob Hobbes, Hobbes Forestry

Dave Jackson, Penn State Cooperative Ext.

Val Kelmeckis, Temple Inland*

Mark King, Craftmaster Manufacturing, Inc.

Jeff Kochel, Forest Investment Associates

Dave Krumenacker, Krumenacker Lumber Co.

Rich LaBrozzi, RAM Forest Products

John Levasseur, Hancock Forest Mangement

Paul Lyskava, PFPA

Ken Manno, PA SFI

Gene Odatto, Bureau of Forestry

Ken Roberts, NewPage Corporation

Ron Rohall, PACD

Pat Sherren, NewPage Corporation

Dave Sienko, Sienko Forest Products

Kevin Stout, Allegheny Wood Products.*

Susan Stout, USDA Forest Service

Sue Swanson, AHUG

Mark Webb, Webb Forestry Consulting

Jonathan Wirth, Walker Lumber Co.

Jay Farrell, AF&PA Liason

*DENOTES AF&PA MEMBER COMPANY

Questions or comments regarding the PA SFI newsletter, contact 814-867-9299, 888-734-9366, or via e-mail at sfi@penn.com.

Study of Oak Regeneration Yielding Eye-Opening Conclusions

(continued)

Finley maintains that decades of browsing by an overpopulation of white-tailed deer have played a role in what is happening in the forests across the state. "I don't think deer overpopulation is the sole reason, but it certainly contributes greatly," he says. "We've found if we put up fences, we can affect the shift. We can put up a fence to keep deer out, and after we get the forest headed in the right direction, we can build the deer population back up. We believe if you take the deer numbers down, Oaks and other valuable trees will begin to come back."

Perhaps the most surprising conclusion to be drawn from the research, according to Steiner, is that conditions at the time of harvest play a very large role in the development of the future stand. To achieve reliable regeneration, fencing of oak stands to keep deer out should occur before harvest. "We have seen repeatedly that doing a shelterwood cut (when some oaks are left to provide seed for regeneration) is not a reliable substitute for a good population of seedlings already present when the stand is cut." He explained.

"Shelterwoods can succeed if a heavy seed crop occurs in the first year, but heavy seed crops are unpredictable. Seedlings that germinate in later years do not survive well under competition from established plants that got there first.

But we have also disproved a widespread notion that oak seedlings must be large at the time of overstory harvest in order to succeed in the next stand. Quantity can make up for size because the forest environment is not homogenous. Some small seedlings start out in advantageous conditions and can survive the early battle for space. That seems obvious, now that we know it, but our findings go against conventional wisdom and practice.

Steiner and Finley believe the most important thing to come from their work with DCNR is an oak-stocking guide that accurately predicts regeneration. "Before foresters harvest a stand of oaks, they want to know if the stand can regenerate itself successfully," Steiner says. "By supplementing our data set with some archival data that DCNR had collected over a period of decades, we were able to develop mathematical models that predict the contributions that both seedlings and sprouts will make to future stand stocking.

The oak-regeneration guide is a powerful tool, according to Finley. "We can look at a stand and say with some confidence that if we cut today, here's what we will see 30 years in the future," he says. "We can predict with some certainty when it is necessary to fence and when it is not because we can tell from what is on the ground whether the deer pressure is light or heavy.

It may seem counterintuitive to erect a fence before tree cutting, but that's what is needed for adequate oak regeneration in Pennsylvania, contends Steiner. "Probably the most important thing is that we are beginning to understand the critical importance of keeping deer pressure low for several years in advance of harvest," he says. "We aren't sure yet how far ahead, but we believe it's something on the order of five years or more. ■



Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative[®] SIC

Block 2 Schedule 2006: August 1 - October 17, 2006

CORE COURSES (Must complete Environmental Logging, Logging Safety and First Aid/CPR to complete SFI Core Training Requirements. First Aid/CPR may be taken through other entities. To receive credit, send us a copy of your First Aid/CPR cards.)

COURSE DATE	COURSE NAME	LOCATION	REGISTRATION DEADLINE	COST
(Tues.) 8/15/06	First Aid/CPR	Montgomery Co. Ag. Ext. Office, Creamery	(Tues.) 8/8/06	\$80.00
(Weds.) 8/23/06	Logging Safety	Dauphin Co. Cons. Dist. Office, Dauphin	(Weds.) 8/16/06	\$55.00
(Thur.) 8/24/06	Environmental Logging	Forest Co. Cons. Dist. Office, Tionesta	(Thur.) 8/17/06	\$55.00
(Tues.) 8/29/06	Logging Safety	French Creek Park, Elverson	(Tues.) 8/22/06	\$55.00
(Thur.) 8/31/06	Logging Safety	Kane Community Center, Kane	(Thur.) 8/24/06	\$55.00
(Weds.) 9/6/06	Logging Safety	BOF Office Forbes S.F., Laughlintown	(Weds.) 8/30/06	\$55.00
(Thur.) 9/14/06	Environmental Logging	Appleton Paper, Roaring Spring	(Thur.) 9/7/06	\$55.00
(Fri.) 9/15/06	First Aid/CPR	BOF Office Michaux S. F., Fayetteville	(Fri.) 9/8/06	\$65.00
(Tues.) 9/19/06	Logging Safety	USFS Lab, Irvine	(Tues.) 9/12/06	\$55.00
(Tues.) 9/19/06	Logging Safety	Pine Creek Lumber Co., Mill Hall	(Tues.) 9/12/06	\$55.00
(Weds.) 9/20/06	Logging Safety	Appleton Paper, Roaring Spring	(Weds.) 9/13/06	\$55.00
(Thur.) 9/21/06	First Aid/CPR	Kane Community Center, Kane	(Thur.) 9/14/06	\$65.00
(Tues.) 10/3/06	Logging Safety	Warriors Mark United Methodist Church, Warriors Mark	(Tues.) 9/26/06	\$55.00
(Weds.) 10/4/06	Environmental Logging	Warriors Mark United Methodist Church, Warriors Mark	(Weds.) 9/27/06	\$55.00
(Thur.) 10/5/06	First Aid/CPR	Warriors Mark United Methodist Church, Warriors Mark	(Thur.) 9/28/06	\$35.00
(Tues.) 10/10/06	Environmental Logging	Jefferson Co. DCNR Office, Brookville	(Tues.) 10/3/06	\$55.00
(Tues.) 10/17/06	Environmental Logging	Sullivan Co. DCNR Office, Dushore	(Tues.) 10/10/06	\$55.00

FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY! PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE FOR MORE DETAILS!

PLEASE NOTE: Due to recent updates, Logging Safety may now be taken for Continuing Education credit! If you have taken this course in the past, you may retake it for your yearly Continuing Education requirement! However, this block is the final opportunity you will have to receive Continuing Education credit for Environmental Logging!

CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES (must complete one per year to remain current)

COURSE DATE	COURSE NAME	LOCATION	REGISTRATION DEADLINE	COST
(Tues.) 8/1/06	Forest Pests & Disease	Ricketts Glen S. P., Red Rock, Luzerne Co.	(Tues.) 7/25/06	\$ 55.00
(Weds.) 8/2/06	Forest Pests & Disease	Penn State Forest H.Q., McAlevys Fort	(Weds.) 7/26/06	\$ 55.00
(Thur.) 8/3/06	Forest Pests & Disease	Kane Experimental Forest, Lamont	(Thur.) 7/27/06	\$ 55.00
(Thur.) 8/10/06	Game of Logging II	Powdermill Nature Reserve, Ligonier	(Thur.) 8/3/06	\$110.00
(Tues.) 8/22/06	Game of Logging I	Sullivan County, TBA	(Tues.) 8/15/06	\$110.00
(Weds.) 8/23/06	Game of Logging II	Susquehanna County, TBA	(Weds.) 8/16/06	\$110.00
(Sat.) 8/26/06	Game of Logging II	French Creek Park, Elverson	(Sat.) 8/19/06	\$110.00
(Weds.) 8/30/06	Game of Logging I	Cornwall State Game Lands, Lebanon	(Weds.) 8/23/06	\$110.00
(Thur.) 8/31/06	Game of Logging II	Cornwall State Game Lands, Lebanon	(Thur.) 8/24/06	\$110.00
(Thur.) 8/31/06	Intro. to Forest Mgmt.	BOF Office Forbes S.F., Laughlintown	(Thur.) 8/24/06	\$ 55.00
(Fri.) 9/1/06	Game of Logging III	Richfield, Snyder Co.	(Fri.) 8/25/06	\$110.00
(Thur.) 9/7/06	Wildlife	BOF Office Kittanning S.F., Clarion	(Thur.) 8/31/06	\$ 60.00
(Sat.) 9/16/06	Hemlock Woolly Adelgid	West Forest High School, Tionesta	(Sat.) (See Pg. 4 for details)	\$ 15.00*
(Thur.) 9/21/06	Garage Safety (W.J. Cox Assoc.)	Keystone Chip Mill North, Kane	(Thur.) 9/14/06	\$ 15.00*
(Thur.) 9/21/06	Wildlife	BOF Office Michaux S.F., Fayetteville	(Thur.) 9/14/06	\$ 60.00
(Fri.) 9/22/06	Garage Safety (W.J. Cox Assoc.)	Keystone Chip Mill South, Woodland	(Fri.) 9/15/06	\$ 15.00*
(Tues.) 9/26/06	Game of Logging I	Poe Valley State Park, Centre Co.	(Tues.) 9/19/06	\$110.00
(Weds.) 9/27/06	Game of Logging II	Poe Valley State Park, Centre Co.	(Weds.) 9/20/06	\$110.00
(Weds.) 9/27/06	Intro. to Forest Mgmt.	Appleton Paper, Roaring Spring	(Weds.) 9/20/06	\$ 55.00
(Thur.) 9/28/06	Game of Logging III	Cornwall State Game Lands, Lebanon	(Thur.) 9/21/06	\$110.00
(Tues.) 10/3/06	GPS for Forest Management	Lewis Lumber, Picture Rocks	(Tues.) 9/26/06	\$ 75.00
(Thur.) 10/5/06	Game of Logging I	DCNR Office, Penfield	(Thur.) 9/28/06	\$110.00
(Fri.) 10/6/06	Game of Logging II	Jefferson County, TBA	(Fri.) 9/29/06	\$110.00
(Weds.) 10/11/06	Game of Logging IV	Cornwall State Game Lands, Lebanon	(Weds.) 10/4/06	\$110.00

*** TO RECEIVE SFI CREDIT, PLEASE ADD \$15 TO THE REGISTRATION FEE. LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED**

For additional information, please contact the SFI office at (814) 867-9299 or Toll free at (888) 734-9366.

Upon receipt of your completed registration form and payment, participant will receive further, more detailed information regarding the classes registered for. For the most up to date schedule, visit www.sfilofpa.org.

To Register for One or More of These Courses by Mail, Send Completed Form & Check (made out to PA SFI SIC) to: 315 South Allen Street, Suite 418, State College, Pennsylvania 16801

Name Attending: _____

Name, Date & Location of Courses Attending: _____

(Use back for additional space)

Street Address: _____

City, State, & Zip Code: _____

Telephone Number: _____ A Check is Enclosed for \$ _____

Mark your calendars

DIVERSE GROUP TO TAKE CLOSE LOOK AT SERIOUS FOREST INSECT THREAT: Tionesta – A coalition of concerned forest scientists, conservation groups, forestry professionals, and others are inviting the public to take a close look at an invasive insect that potentially threatens the region's hemlock trees.

"Hemlock Woolly Adelgid – What Does it Mean & What Can You Do?" will be the subject of a public informational meeting and workshop at the West Forest High School on Saturday, September 16 from 9 to 3, with an optional field trip afterwards.

The meeting will include talks by nationally recognized experts on the importance of hemlock trees to area forests and the threat posed by the hemlock woolly adelgid, an introduced insect that feeds on the hemlock's starch reserves, usually leading to the death of infested trees.

As of 2005, the insect had been found in Elk and Tioga counties, and is moving north and west. Hemlock trees in eastern Pennsylvania have already been severely affected.

The meeting will include information about how the adelgid has affected forests already infested as well as details about options to protect hemlock trees and replace them where they have died. There will be information geared toward everyone from the homeowner with a favorite single hemlock in the yard to woodland owners, anglers concerned about the role of hemlock in maintaining stream temperature, and wildlife enthusiasts concerned about the special role of hemlock for many wildlife species, from deer to warblers.

The morning session will consist of several informational talks, while the afternoon sessions will be breakout groups in which participants can focus on their particular interests, from protection to replacement to woodland management and conversations with agency officials about priorities for treatment and replacement on public lands.

The goal of the meeting is to provide participants with the information they need to make informed decisions about managing their land, or providing input to management of public land once the adelgid arrives.

The meeting is being cosponsored by Allegheny College, Allegheny Hardwood Utilization Group, Friends of Allegheny Wilderness, the Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry, the Pennsylvania Game Commission, Penn State Cooperative Extension, Weyerhaeuser, and the US Forest Service. For more information and to register for the meeting, please contact AHUG, the Allegheny Hardwood Utilization Group, at (814)837-8550 or hardwood@penn.com. A fee of \$15 will cover the costs of the meeting and includes a buffet lunch. **To receive SFI Continuing Education credit for this program, please send proof of attendance and \$15.00 administration fee to the PA SFI office.**

FORESTS FOR LIFE JUBILEE

WHEN: SEPTEMBER 23, 2006 8:30 AM TO 3:30 PM

WHERE: WYNDHAM HOTEL, HARRISBURG/HERSHEY, PA
(Hosted by: The Pennsylvania Forestry Association)

WHY: We know that 70% of Pennsylvania's forests are privately owned. These private forests provide 80% of industry's raw material. Forests provide both economic and environmental benefits – they touch our lives daily. The decisions that the more than 500,000 private forests owners make today affect tomorrow's forests.

We hope to reach a new segment of forest owners; those who have not traditionally been part of the discussions about sustaining our forests, and to create an opportunity for them to learn about forests and their values, how important they are, and what valuable contributions they make to the Commonwealth.

The Forests for Life Jubilee will bring private forest owners, industry, managers, environmental organizations, government agencies, and educators to one place to talk and consider the benefits and threats to Pennsylvania's working forests. Imagine having a diverse set of forest-focused stakeholders talking about land use planning, forest regeneration, wildflowers, water, and wildlife for example. Imagine listening to and learning from people who depend upon and love forests for the values they provide.

A registration fee of \$25.00 will include materials and lunch.

If you have questions or want more information about the Forest for Life Jubilee, contact:

Linda Finley
Forests for Life Jubilee
Pennsylvania Forestry Association

DUGGAN TO LEAD AF&PA – On July 14, the American Forest & Paper Association announced that it had named Juanita D. Duggan to succeed Henson Moore as its President and Chief Executive Officer, effective October 25. Ms. Duggan has served as President and CEO of the Wine and Spirits Wholesalers of America since 1998.

“This is a wonderful opportunity, one that I am eager to jump into headlong,” she stated. “The forest products industry is a vital contributor to the American way, making the wood and paper products that people across the world rely on, managing millions of acres of America’s forestland, and employing more than a million hard working Americans. I am extremely excited to build upon the numerous policy victories Henson has led and am honored AF&PA’s member companies have asked me to follow in his footsteps.”

Moore commented that his successor “brings all the necessary qualities to step right in and lead our industry, continuing the work we have begun, and identifying and addressing the new challenges the industry must face and resolve. I look forward to working with her to make this transition as seamless as possible.

Sustainable Forestry Board (SFB) UPDATE – July Issue of SFI Monthly – On June 19th, the SFB executed a contract with the Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Schemes (PEFC) that granted authority to the SFB to use and administer the PEFC logo in the United States. This means that as the PEFC US National Governing Body, the SFB can now license SFI Program Participants in the US and Canada to use the PEFC logo and labels. All certified SFI Program Participants with forest management operators can license to use the PEFC forest management logo with no additional audits necessary. Program Participants can license to use a PEFC on-product label by completing an audit to the PEFC Chain-of-Custody (CoC) standard. CoC certificates are also available for organizations in the supply chain that certify to the PEFC CoC standard. If you want more information about the PEFC logo, visit www.pefc.org or contact the SFB.

In addition, the SFB is pleased to announce the first PEFC logo licensee in the US: Seguin Moreau. Seguin Moreau successfully completed a PEFC Chain-of-Custody audit conducted by SGS on June 22 at their Napa Valley manufacturing plant in California. Seguin Moreau is an international wine barrel manufacturer that creates custom made wine barrels in the traditional method of hand toasting oak wood over open flames. The company gets its name from its founders, two coopers from Cognac, Seguin and Moreau. This prestigious cooperage was the first in the world to meld scientific research and the art of wine barrel, with the ultimate goal of creating truly personalized wines. For information, visit <http://www.seguin-moreau.fr/anglais.htm>.

For more information on becoming a PEFC logo licensee or on the SFB, please contact Allison Welde, SFB Program Director at (703)797-2508 or welde@aboutsfb.org.

UK BUILDING RESEARCH ESTABLISHMENT (BRE) GIVES SFI TOP GRADE – March 2006 SFI Monthly - The Building Research Establishment (BRE) has released its 2006 Ecohomes guidance and timber credits in the United Kingdom. Ecohomes is the LEED equivalent in the UK for residential construction. Unlike LEED and its inherent anti-wood bias, Ecohomes gives preference to wood over other building materials throughout its rating system. BRE has given the SFI program its highest rating in the 2006 timber credits, ensuring all SFI certified products will secure all points available in Ecohomes.

This follows a rigorous assessment of all of the major certification schemes conducted by BRE covering extensive criteria for environmental and social performance. One of the many criteria for the assessment was that a top tier system must “comprehensively address a consultation process with the local community”.

The guidance developed by BRE provides a good summary of the assessment criteria and can be found on the Ecohomes website. For more information, visit www.breeam.org/ecohomes.html.

UPDATE ON TRANSITION OF SFI PROGRAM TO THE SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY BOARD - In 2004, the American Forest & Paper Association (AF&PA) Board of Directors met and decided that within 3 to 5 years (now 2 to 4) the management components of the SFI Program, for which AF&PA has responsibility, should transition to the Sustainable Forestry Board. The AF&PA Board believed this was a logical evolution and was necessary for enhanced credibility of the program.

Some program elements (e.g. SFI Annual Report, External Review Panel) transferred to the SFB in January 2006. Both organizations then directed AF&PA and SFB to assemble a transition task group to begin work on a transition plan that would transfer all remaining responsibilities during 2006.

The task group has met several times and developed a draft business plan for the new SFI program enterprise that has been reviewed by both the SFB and the AF&PA Forestry CEO Committee. The timetable calls for the complete transition plan to be approved by the respective Boards in July of 2006, with all SFI elements transferred to the SFB by December 2006.

In Brief (continued)

CANADIAN SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY CERTIFICATION COALITION PUBLISHES NEW SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT STATUS REPORT – June 7: The Canadian Sustainable Forestry Certification Coalition has just released new statistics on the three sustainable forest management standards in Canada: Canadian Standards Association (CSA), Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), and the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI).

There are currently 296.9 million acres of forestland certified in Canada, making it the largest area of 3rd party independently certified forests in the world. Of those 296 million acres, 179.2 million are certified to CSA, 41 million to FSC, and 76.7 million to SFI.

AMERICAN TREE FARM SYSTEM BEGINS PEFC ENDORSEMENT PROCESS – Forestry Service Spring 2006 – The American Tree Farm System (ATFS) has announced that it has completed its initiative to re-engineer its certification program to fit the Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Systems (PEFC) and is now ready to apply for PEFC endorsement.

To assure a successful endorsement audit, ATFS has contracted with Abusow International, Ltd. to begin a gap analysis of PEFC endorsement requirements. After the analysis is complete, Abusow et al will take ATFS through the PEFC endorsement application process. Following the application submission, PEFC will contract with a third-party auditor who will audit ATFS to the PEFC standards.

COST CLIPPING STEPS (In a National Survey) – Loggers were asked to describe actions they've taken in the last two years to reduce overall costs. The list includes: monitoring all aspects of business more diligently; keeping equipment in top shape; staying away from marginal products – “leave them standing or on the slash pile” – more self repair work; paying more attention to job layout and logging plan so as to reduce equipment wear and save fuel; phasing out older, high maintenance machinery for newer, more productive units; watching time cards closely; hiring fewer workers; not working in bitter cold conditions; staying on the job at night instead of driving back and forth; finding better low grade markets; cutting back on machine idling time; becoming more organized; working longer hours across four days; switching to processors on track-type carriers and going to on-board scales on lighter trucks and trailers; bypassing traditional equipment dealers (where possible) for parts; making every minute count and improving overall operational flow; mechanizing more to reduce workers' comp rate; keeping trailers loaded ahead of trucks. More back hauls for trucks; being more careful on the job; operating with a small, tight, experienced crew; lower standard of living; shopping for fuel and going away from name brand tires, filters, etc.; downsizing; hiring veterans and preaching-practicing safety; working to minimize downtime; working smarter; taking one larger service truck, instead of two, to the work site; keeping equipment longer; more employee training; shorter haul distances; picking better jobs; staying on the job; slowing the pace; trimming employee benefits; putting together a landowner assistance program to compete with consultant foresters; reducing equipment inventory and hiring Mexicans for manual felling and topping; reducing overtime; setting load quotas for number of working hours, depending on conditions; planning errand trips better to consolidate travel; minimizing moves, new jobs; building better landings and skid roads; adding a forwarder that burns less fuel but hauls more wood; using the Internet to locate parts and supplies at better prices.

Converting to a processor to replace four men; parking two trucks; sorting more species; “building a fuel tank so I can get fuel to my processor with my forwarder and thus save valuable machine time and keep production going;” and putting equipment quality before price.

Here's a related comment from an innovative thinker: “We don't work on days when we can't reach maximum production due to mill buying schedules. We do most of our delimiting in the woods to increase skidder payload of merchantable material. We don't drag limbs to the deck and then drag them away like most do these days. We only buy equipment and overhaul it to a certain extent. Our newest machine is 8 years old.”

SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY BOARD NOW SERVES AS PEFC NATIONAL GOVERNING BODY FOR U.S. - With the endorsement of the SFI Standard by the Programme for Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes (PEFC), the SFB is now the United States PEFC National Governing Body. This distinction brings many opportunities for the SFB and SFI Program, including:

- Participation in the PEFC General Assembly, one of the most important leadership bodies of the PEFC Council, along with PEFC-endorsed systems in over 25 countries worldwide.
- Direct influence into the PEFC mutual recognition and standard setting processes.
- Representation of all PEFC endorsed systems in the US.
- Use and control of the PEFC Label and Chain of Custody certification for SFI Program Participants.
- Global market acceptance of SFI certified products.

In its new role, the SFB is proud to announce it will host the PEFC General Assembly Meeting, scheduled for October 26-28, 2006 in Portland, OR.

PEFC is a global organization that endorses national forest certification systems that meet their minimum requirements for sustainable forestry. For more information on PEFC visit www.pefc.org.

EMERALD ASH BORER SURFACES IN ILLINOIS - The Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) has announced that the emerald ash borer has been detected in northern Illinois. The pest was found in the yard of a Kane County home east of Lily Lake. The homeowner discovered the beetle and alerted the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's Illinois field office, which sent the bug to its lab in Romulus, Michigan, for identification and notified IDOA nursery inspectors.

Inspectors have not determined how the beetle arrived in Illinois, but suspect it may have been transported here in contaminated firewood from a quarantined area in Michigan. Michigan and Illinois are two of the five states where EAB infestations have been confirmed. The others are Indiana, Ohio and Maryland.

In response to the discovery, the director of the IDOA said that the agency will conduct an extensive survey of ash trees in the area to determine the extent of damage.

CORE TRAINING COMPLETED

Since January 2006, the following individuals have completed Core Level training with the PA SFL. Core Level Courses are FA/CPR, Logging Safety, and Environmental Logging.

Curtis Aravich	DuBois
William Bailey	Benton
David Carver	Centre Hall
Percy K. Clair	Osterburg
Verner E. Clark	Karthus
Kenneth R Cotton, Sr.	Dorset, OH
Richard Cunningham	DuBois
Jesse Duclou	Dysart
Mike Esposti	Grampian
Greg Felmlee	Wilcox
Allen Fencil	Donegal
Gregory Gordon	DuBois
Lee Graham	Morris
John Hensley	Clearfield
John Holt	Clearfield
Joe Howsare	Everett
Jeffrey Krug	Loretto
Gary Laslow	Brookville
Jason Litzinger	Clearfield
Paul Lupo	Mill Hall
Jesse Martinson	DuBois
Kerry R Morrison, Jr.	White
Paul Scarlata II	Biglerville
Darrin Shugarts	Clearfield
Johnathon Skidmore	DuBois
Mast Stoltzfus	Millerstown
John Sutorog	Marion
H Michael Taylor	Biglerville
Henry L. Taylor	Biglerville
John Thomas	Pleasant Gap
Richard Thomas	Pleasant Gap
Arnold Timblin III	Houtzdale
David Weaver	Alum Bank

Continuing Education Courses Completed Since January 2006

BUYING STANDING TIMBER

Bill Barrick	St. Thomas
Kevin E. Black	Chambersburg
Troy Coons	Fayetteville
Mark Hart	Doyleburg
Troy L. Holtry	Newburg
Rodney E. Monn	Shippensburg
Adin Otto	Carlisle
Gary T Rosenberry	Fannettsburg
Troy A Rosenberry	Fannettsburg
Jody M Rotz	Spring Run
Theodore J Summers	Shippensburg
H Michael Taylor	Biglerville
Henry L Taylor	Biglerville

ESTIMATING STANDING TIMBER

William Anderson	Reynoldsville
Paul J Byler	Harrisville
Jeffrey A Deems	Volant
Jode M Delp	Brookville
Kevin Forsythe	Brookville
Jon Hoffner	Morrisdale
Denny Iorfida	Brookville
Edwin B Kerchinski	Brookville
James Savitz	Pittsfield
Key Seybert	West Middlesex
Terry L Shaffer	Harrisville
Paul Sorek	Brookville

GAME OF LOGGING 1

Bradley J Allen	Kane
Charles S Allen, Sr.	Grand Valley
DeWayne Allen	Grand Valley
Robert C Anderson	Clarendon
Mike Asel	Kane
Chris Barrile	Kane
Robert Braum	Wilcox
Patrick R Bright	Kane
Ryan Bright	Mt. Jewett
Daniel E Britton	Smethport
Joseph W Britton, Jr.	Smethport
Joseph W Britton, Sr.	Smethport
Mike Depto	Kane
Randy Depto	Kane
Aaron J Gelder	Clarendon
John Holt	Kane
John Hutchins	Kane
Doug Karlene	Kane
Mark Lapp	Port Allegany
Rod Luchs	Ridgway
John Luchs, Jr.	Ridgway
Gordon McClintick	Kane
Jason V McGarvey	Port Allegany
Jay McGuire	Kane
Jason Mendell	Kane
John Morgan	Sheffield
Doug A Olewinski	Wilcox
Donald Park	Ridgway
James Pierce	Kane
Blaine Puller	Smethport
Gary T Rossmann	Kane
Robert Schmidt, Jr.	Kane
James Snyder, Jr.	Kane
Kenneth Spaich	Hazel Hurst
Edward Straneva	Wilcox
Wayne Tadder	Kane
Dave G Taylor	Port Allegany
Mark Taylor	Port Allegany
Robert Thompson	Mt. Jewett
Andy Wildnauer	Johnsonburg
Shane Wildnauer	Johnsonburg
John A Williams	Kane
Paul Williams	Johnsonburg
Michael Wingard	Sigel
Scott W Zimmerman	Wilcox
Stanley M Zimmerman	Wilcox

INTRO TO FOREST MANAGEMENT

Bill Bow	Roaring Spring
Donald E Cessna, Sr.	Clearville
Douglas Cessna	Clearville
John Cessna	Clearville
Richard E Clark	Everett
Kenneth R Klahre	Clearville
Aaron Lebendig	Claysburg
Ronnie Northcraft	Artemas
Randy L Piper	Latrobe
Kenneth Roberts	Cumberland, MD
David W Shaffer	Boswell
Zane J Weicht	Everett
Allen Weyant	Claysburg
Stephen P Yokum	Bedford

LOGGING COSTS

John Dunn	Beach Lake
Ryan Dunn	Honesdale
William G Dunn	Beach Lake
Allan Kowalczyk	Hawley

Craig A Olver	Honesdale
Mark Sickler	Tunkhannock
Louie J Stone	Thompson
Gerald Timinski	Thompson
Jim Watson, Jr.	Beach Lake
Brian H Williams	Tafton

MECHANICAL HARVESTING SAFETY

Michael Becker	Laurelton
Donald Bratz	Ickesburg
Andrew Carlson	Kane
David C Carver	Centre Hall
Larry Cleaver	Howard
Bruno Couture	Cortland, NY
Gus Crissman	Bradford
Tim Crissman	Rew
Jeffrey A Deems	Volant
Stephen Detsch	Kersey
Shay Durandetta	Olanta
Cy Emer	James City
David Felix	Loganton
Samuel W Gates	Howard
William Geisler	Curwensville
Sheldon J Graybill	Belleville
Thomas E Hanes	St. Marys
Troy A Hanes	Benezette
Michael J Hartzler	Belleville
Robert G Haynes	Snow Shoe
William J Haynes	Snow Shoe
Charles Hemphill	Genesee
Jerry Himes, Jr.	Belleville
Ross Howard	Kane
Tim Iraca	Coalport
Alfred Jewart	Austin
Peter Johnson	Laurelton
DeWayne King	Harrisville
Bob Kirchner	St. Marys
Joseph Kocjancic	Johnsonburg
Donald T Kovalick	Frenchville
David Kriegel	Johnsonburg
Rodney Lecker	McDonough, NY
Eugene W. Lucia	Ludlow
Ken Main	Port Allegany
Christopher Melville	Centre Hall
Martin Melville	Centre Hall
Reuben Nearing	Ludlow
Dan Oleary	Marienville
John M Portzline	Laurelton
Mark C Potter	Laurelton
Mick Powell	Spring Mills
Gary T Rossman	Kane
Mark J Selfridge	Curwensville
Ken Seybert	West Middlesex
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Robert G Shields	St. Marys
Thomas P Shields	St. Marys
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Jim Sluga	Mt. Jewett
Chris Smith	Smethport
James Snyder, Jr.	Kane
Perry Swanson	Kane
Willis F Swope, Jr.	Lock Haven
John Urmann, Jr.	Ridgway
Brad Wendt	Laurelton
John A Williams	Kane
David Wolfe	Schuykill Haven
JoAnn Wolfe	Schuykill Haven
Kenneth L Wolfe	Schuykill Haven

Mike Yasurek	Kane
Ryan Zandt	Belleville
Allen Zuraski	Johnsonburg

WILDLIFE

Jacky Ayotte	Warren Center
James Ayotte	Little Meadows
Richard Bennett, Jr.	Austin
Brandon Bevan	Lebanon
Steven N Bucks	Grantville
Brian M Deeb	Palmyra
Jeffrey A Deems	Volant
Joshua Elliott	Warren Center
Cy Emer	James City
Andrew Scott Freemer	Brockway
Paul Fremer	Brockway
Dean Geiman	Hanover
Bryon Gregori	Johnsonburg
Thomas E Hanes	St. Marys
Troy A Hanes	Benezette
Jeremy Hicks	Unityville
Brad Houseknecht	Muncy Valley
Roy Hubler	Drifting
William D Johns	Emporium
James Karpinski	Ridgway
Kim Kern	Spring Grove
Gregory Kirr	Pittsfield
Ralph Laughman	Spring Grove
Lois Lavoie	West Middlesex
Josh J Lenker	Lebanon
Doug Maines	Woodland
Victor Marquardt	Unityville
Matthew T McCanna	Lebanon
Shawn McCanna	Lebanon
Brian Minier	Benton
Bill Niece	Port Allegany
Charles L Poust, Jr.	Muncy
Nathan A Poust	Hughesville
Shane Richart	Dushore
Ken Seybert	West Middlesex
Paul Shaffer	Manheim
Terry L Shaffer	Harrisville
Richard Swatsworth	Woodland
Brian Sheetz	Lebanon
Mark Wansack	West Middlesex
Beryl N Weaver	Lebanon
Elvin N Weaver	Lebanon
Dane M Wodrig	Muncy
Daniel F Wolf	Bernville
Edward Wollschlage	Le Raysville

MISCELLANEOUS COURSES

Charles S Allen, Sr.	Grand Valley
Norman Asel	Kane
Travis Asel	Kane
Michael Becker	Laurelton
Alan D. Benner	Brookville
Paul Bidwell	Eldred
James L Boyd	Kersey
Donald Bratz	Ickesburg
Charles R Brown	Spring Grove
Lewis Bundy	DuBois
Scott R Cary	Northumberland
Jerry Causer	Smethport
James A Chapman	Youngsville
John Daugherty	Knox

(continued on page 9)



JAPAN INCLUDES PEFC CERTIFIED PRODUCTS IN NEW TIMBER PROCUREMENT POLICY – According to the newsletter of the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes (PEFC), the Japanese government has just included products certified to the PEFC in its new Public Timber Procurement Policy. Thus, PEFC-certified wood products will be preferred in Japanese public construction and procurement. Because Japan is one of the world's largest importers of paper and timber products this decision will positively affect top timber exporters, such as the USA and Canada.



PA SFI OUTREACH

The PA SFI program, in cooperation with the Penn State School of Forest Resources, provided a Forest Ecology and Management Workshop for 15 educators at the 2006 PA Association of Agricultural Educators (PAAE) Summer Institute held in State College in July. More than 14 hours of instruction was provided to the group over a three-day period, which included both classroom and field exercises. Instructors were Jim Finley, Professor of Forest Resources PSU SFR, Mike Wolf, Forestry Extension Educator, Penn State Cooperative Extension, Josh Gruver, PSU SFR Ph.D. candidate, Laurie Schoonhoven, Project Assistant in the School of Forest Resources, and PA SFI Program Manager Ken Manno.



The Forest and Ecology Management workshop began with a few hours of classroom session to review the agenda for the next couple of days. Participants also viewed a powerpoint presentation on the history of Pennsylvania's forest to understand how our forest today link to past cutting.

GLOBAL FOREST INDUSTRY LEADERS SIGN SUSTAINABILITY LEADERSHIP STATEMENT: June 9 – The International Council of Forest and Paper Associations (ICFPA) signed a leadership statement on sustainability during the second meeting of the ICFPA Global CEO Roundtable, a gathering attended by 59 company CEOs and association presidents representing some of the largest pulp, paper and wood companies in the world.

The statement commits the global forest products industry to continually improve sustainability performance by promoting sustainable forest management world-wide, combating illegal logging, environmental management, supporting and encouraging the recovery of pre- and post-consumer paper and wood products, creating solutions to global climate change and energy supply objectives and investing in workers and communities.



Participants included Robert Born, Central Greene School District, Dominic Centonze, Eastern Lebanon County High School, Cliff Day, PA Department of Education, Douglas Gayman, Chestnut Ridge High School, Jim Harrold, Somerset County Technology Center, Samuel Heyler, Bradford High School, John Hines, East Juniata High School, Michael Macheska, Spring 2006 Graduate, PSU, Roy Maurer, Upper Dauphin Area, Lehman Metzler, Lancaster Mennonite School, Kyle Norman, Spring 2006 Graduate, PSU, Clifford Wallace, Mohawk High School, Larry Way, Clearfield Area School District, Ron Weaner, Dover High School, and Chris Weller, PA Department of Education.



The classroom session was followed by a "walk in the woods." This photo shows Jim Finley of the PSU School of Forest Resources talking with the teachers about the species composition of this particular stand, and the age class of the trees. While there were quite a variety of diameters (DBH) and tree heights present in the stand, most of the trees were 70 to 90 years old.

(continued on page 11)

Misc. Courses Completed since January 2006 (cont. from Page 7)

Brian M Deeb	Palmyra
Robert Domville	Warren
Victor Fabrycki	Biglerville
David Felix	Loganton
Phil Frantz	Friendsville, MD
Larry S Gantz	Biglerville
Dean J Geiman	Hanover
Dan Gregory	Kane
Christopher Guth	Endeavor
Mike Hale	Westfield
Thomas R Hartman	Kane
Steven Hawkes	Brookville
Jeff A Hoko	Spring Grove
Curtis J Hollabaugh	Garland
Charles E Housler	Kane
James M Hulings	James City
Paul M Iampietro	Chambersburg
Neil Itle	Martinsburg
Peter Johnson	Laurelton
Gary Karlene	Kane
Kim Kern	Spring Grove
Suzanne Klingler	Johnsonburg
Larry Kness	Hazel Hurst
Scott Kurtzman	Spring Grove
Lester J Lapp	Port Allegany
Ralph Laughman	Spring Grove
Josh Lenker	Lebanon
Seth Luchs	Ridgway
Thomas Luchs	Ridgway
Matt McCanna	Lebanon
Shawn McCanna	Lebanon
Robert H McCullough	Spring Grove
Mike A McEntire	Smethport
Paul Neal	Brookville
David A Nelson	Spring Grove
Paul Noll	Loretto
Richard Park	Youngsville
Grant Postlewait	Port Allegany
David B. Schultz	Westfield
Paul Shaffer	Manheim
Brian C. Stiber	Lewisburg
Dave Wahlberg	Kane
Michael D Waldron	Biglerville
Malcolm D Waskiewicz	Coudersport
Ronald A Weisenstein	Sharpsville
Brad Wendt	Laurelton
Christopher A Whitsel	Hesston
Thomas R Wieland	Spring Grove
John A Williams	Kane
Scott Wolbert	Marienville
Scott Zimmerman	Wilcox

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 Lee Brothers Lumber Company (4)
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 Mountain Hardwoods (8) ☒☜
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REPORT: When It Comes to Forest Management, Aesthetics Matter (Note: While the PA SFI SIC may not completely agree with all that is suggested in this article, it certainly offers some compelling thoughts which are worthy of consideration.)

On the list of items that influence the way foresters and other land management professionals do their jobs, aesthetics is likely to be low on the list. However, according to Robert L. Ryan, a landscape architect at the University of Massachusetts – Amherst and author of the recently released USDA Forest Service report *Social Science to Improve Fuels Management: A Synthesis of Research on Aesthetics and Fuels Management*, land managers may want to keep it somewhere near the top.

“Aesthetics matter,” Ryan said. “The public judges forest management by how it looks, and if they don’t like what they see, they consider it to be bad management.”

Why should foresters care? As Ryan writes in the report, “fuels management, like many other aspects of forest management on public land, can be highly controversial. The public’s concern that forest thinning projects will significantly impact the scenic beauty of the forests in which it recreates and resides is often a root cause of this controversy.”

The goal of the report, writes Ryan, is to “help managers reduce fuels hazards in a manner that respects, or even improves, the scenic beauty of the forest.” To achieve that goal, Ryan synthesized a large body of research pertaining to forest management and aesthetics produced over the course of the past 40 years and found that, (1) although beauty resides in the eye of the beholder, there is a consensus about what the public considers a “scenic forest,” and (2) there are several strategies that land managers can use to conduct fuels management activities while maintaining a forest’s scenic beauty.

According to Ryan, the research shows that the public’s idea of a “scenic forest” is rather consistent and that it applies to a wide range of forests from different regions. Among the aspects of a scenic forest are:

- The presence of large, mature trees.
- An open forest structure that allows for visual access through the understory.
- A limited amount of thinning; while large clearcuts are considered to have a negative effect on scenic beauty, it was found that partial clearing in a dispersed pattern may be visually acceptable.
- The absence of down wood (or slash).

In addition, the results of low-intensity prescribed fire were found to improve scenic beauty, although the short-term effects of fire – dead wood and scorched trunks – were deemed unattractive.

Ryan notes, however, that what the public perceives as beautiful or scenic may differ markedly from what land managers find pleasing (or at least acceptable) given that managers are likely to view the aesthetic effects of forest management more positively than the public. To get around this discrepancy, which Ryan suggests may be the cause of controversies over such management activities as harvesting or thinning, the report offers several strategies that managers can use to both manage hazardous fuels and scenic beauty. Among the strategies are:

- Involving the public in the planning process.
- Using multidisciplinary teams when planning fuels management projects.
- Planning the location of treatments to avoid scenic areas.
- Using thinning to enhance visual access in the understory.
- Removing woody debris and slash after thinning.
- Providing information about fuels management through signs and brochures that explain the management activity and offer a timeframe for regeneration.

Although the aim of his research is to help land managers incorporate public attitudes regarding forest aesthetics into their management efforts, Ryan stresses that his objective is not to limit the use of certain land management techniques that may diminish the scenic quality of forests.

This is not necessarily an either/or situation,” he said. “In most instances there is a way to accomplish both forest management goals and maintain scenic beauty.”

Ryan also noted that, although it’s important to be aware of how management activities may affect the aesthetic value of a forest, managers need not apply the strategies contained in his report to an entire forest. Rather, he suggests that managers break the forests under their care into “management zones” and use the aforementioned strategies in those areas where the public is more likely to encourage management activities.

Further, Ryan is quick to point out that, in the long term, “management activities often improve the scenic beauty of a forest”; thus, he is a strong advocate of involving the public in the forest management planning process.

“Involving the public in the planning process allows land managers to gauge the aesthetic impacts of forest management before work begins,” he said.

(continued on page 12)

Continued from page 8:

The instructional components of the program focused on the history of Pennsylvania's Forests, an Ecology and Silviculture review, an overview of a computer program being developed to provide over-time outcomes depending on what type of timber harvest is conducted, how to conduct plot samples and collect the data, and what causes species composition of a stand to shift. This marks the third consecutive year that the PA SFI program and the School of Forest Resources at Penn State have conducted training at the PAEE Summer Institute.



The group was also instructed by Jim Finley as to the importance of identifying advanced regeneration on a stand, and how to determine the threats to that regeneration. The presence of desirable seedlings does not guarantee a sustainable outcome. A heavy white-tailed deer population, poor soil conditions, and interfering plants are just a few of the many threats to successful stand regeneration.



Mike Wolf, PSU Extension Forester, leads the group in conducting a stand analysis in preparation of the teachers breaking into small groups to do the same. Different groups conducted their analysis based on different harvest prescriptions so they could better understand how certain harvesting approaches produce markedly different outcomes in terms of what remains on the site and what the stand composition will most likely be in the future.



Dominic Centonze, Eastern Lebanon County High School, Roy Maurer, Upper Dauphin Area, and John Hines, East Juniata High School conduct a one-tenth acre plot inventory. In this process, shade tolerant and shade intolerant trees of every size class are inventoried, as well as interfering plant growth in the plot, how much sunlight is reaching the forest floor, evidence of deer browse and soil conditions.



Larry Way, Clearfield Area School District, Robert Born, Central Greene School District, Samuel Heyler, Bradford High School, and Kyle Norman, a spring 2006 graduate in education from Penn State, conduct a milacre inventory of regeneration to determine if adequate regeneration of desirable species exists. Whether it does or does not will determine what harvest prescription is most appropriate and when it should be carried out.





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REPORT: When it comes to Forest Management, Aesthetics Matter

(Continued from page 10)

Ryan added that involving the public in the forest planning process also gives managers the chance to conduct what he calls an “educational intervention” and show how a particular management activity that may not be aesthetically pleasing at first will enhance the scenic beauty of a forest in the future.

Ultimately, said Ryan, the key is to involve the public in the process of forest management.

“The public judges forest management by the way it looks, but managers’ aesthetic preferences are likely to be different,” he said. “It’s hard to see something from another’s perspective so it’s important to involve the public in the planning process.

The report, *Social Science to Improve Fuels Management: A Synthesis of Research on Aesthetics and Fuels Management*, is the latest in a series of USDA Forest Service publications exploring the social aspects of hazardous fuels management. The report is available online from the Forest Service at www.ncrs.fs.fed.us/pubs/gtr/gtr_nc261.pdf. The Series editors are Pamela Jakes and Susan Barro, social science leaders, North Central Research Station, USDA Forest Service with assistance from Sarah McCaffrey, research social scientist.

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funding for printing the PA SFI Newsletter provided by the Pennsylvania Hardwood Development Council