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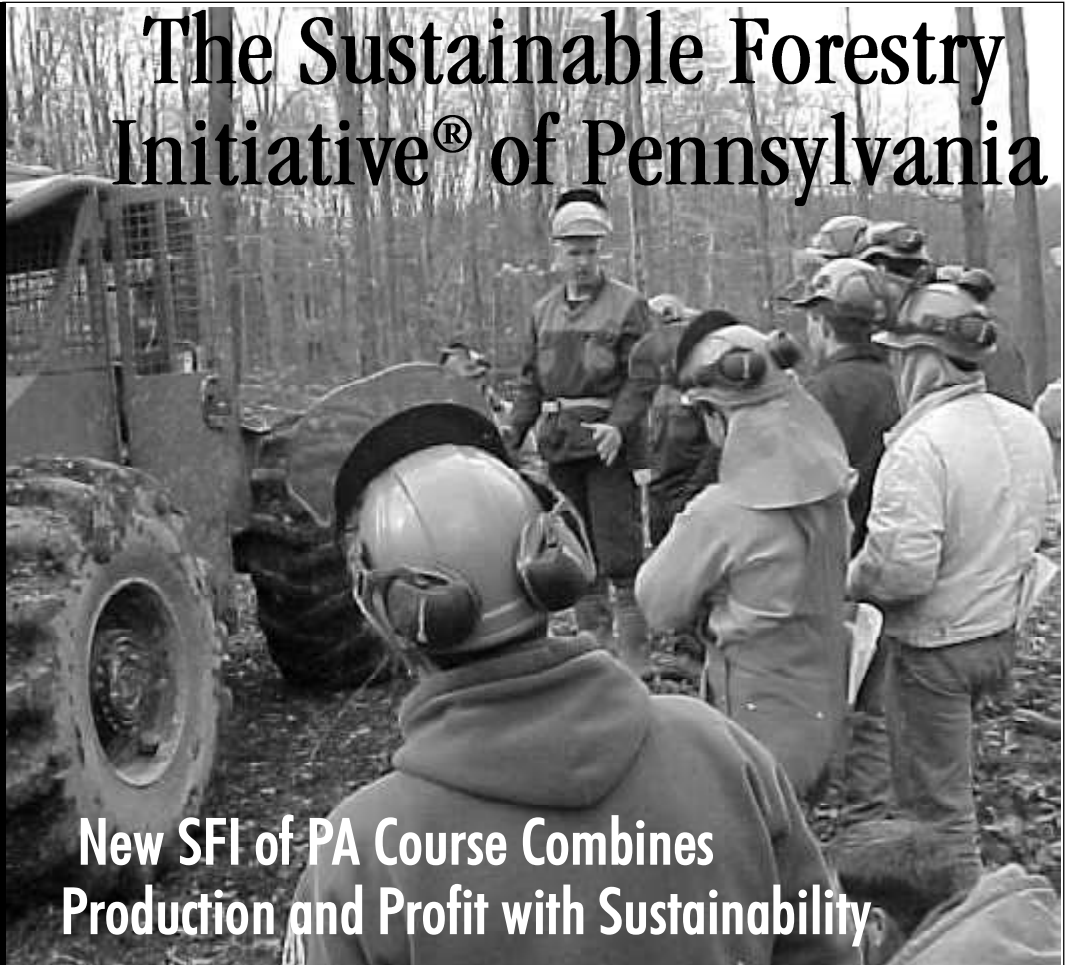
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New SFI of PA Course Combines Production and Profit with Sustainability

Central PA logger and SFI of PA course facilitator, Martin Melville described the new course on Job Layout and Profitable Skidding as tying together all the different threads that represent the Sustainable Forestry Initiative. The former SFI of PA Training Manager said, "This is the one that connects everything SFI of PA stands for in one course. It links production and profit with sustainability."

Job Layout and Profitable Skidding is an all day outdoor course that stresses interaction between the cutters and the skidder operators—gaining profitability through improved efficiency, safety and time management. The course was brought to Pennsylvania by John Adler of the Yankee Forest Safety Network and the New England Woodland Training. Adler is a Vermont logger, and one of the course developers. This course is usually taught over a period of two days, but has been condensed into an intensive one-day Pennsylvania version. In teaching harvesting methods, Adler observes, "A person has to commit to a change of work habit—that is when the difference is made." Adler combines practical working tips with his own philosophy, "A professional is someone who is in control of the situation."

Job Layout and Profitable Skidding was originally conceived by Soren Erikson, whose well-known Game of Logging courses are also offered by SFI of PA. Erikson felt job layout was the next step after obtaining good saw skills. Erikson presents that the ideal logging job should be run safely and profitably; that efficient cutting methods combined with a well planned job layout, would increase productivity. Mead-Westvaco recently contracted Erikson on a consultant basis to train their woods crews in Job Layout. The goal is to work with greater efficiency in order to gain an upper hand in the marketplace. SFI of PA is pleased to be offering a similar course to the logging and sawmill community of Pennsylvania. In an increasingly global market, Job Layout may provide the needed edge to compete with new Russian hardwood markets recently opened up by logging companies in Sweden and Finland.

Job Layout uses a process to develop a plan, implement it, and then evaluate it. Planning a harvest for maximum efficiency requires the execution of the plan be reviewed at job completion in order to see how well the plan worked and what could have been done differently. Instead of randomly tackling a harvesting job, Job Layout uses a technique of thoughtful preplanning, using a system of color coded ribbons for skidder trail layout. Careful attention is paid to the contour of the land in deciding where to intersect trails, make turns and locating the trees marked for harvest.

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(Issue #12)

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 SFI of PA program works to ensure the progress of the national initiative, here in Pennsylvania.

Implementation Committee (IC) Members

Kevin Stout, Chairman
Georgia-Pacific Corp.*

Matt Andrews, Deer Park Lumber
D. Wayne Bender, PA HDC

John Bouch, Pro. Timber Harvesting Inc.
Bill Bow, Appleton Papers, Inc.

Charlie Brown,
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Tom Buzby, Weaver, Inc.*

Blair Carbaugh, Private Landowner

Dan Evans, Weyerhaeuser*

Jim Finley, Penn State University

James Grace, Bureau of Forestry

Bob Hobbes, Hobbes Forestry

Jeff Kochel, Forest Investment Associates*

Dave & Mark Krumenacker,
Krumenacker Lumber Co.

Rich LaBrozzi, RAM Forest Products

John Levavasseur, Temple Inland Forest Products*

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Joe Glover, Plum Creek Timber Co.*

Ken Roberts, Mead Westvaco*

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Sue Swanson, AHUG

Susan Stout, USDA Forest Service

Todd Waldron, Craftmaster Manufacturing, Inc.

Mark Webb, Webb Forestry Consulting

Jay Farrell, AF&PA Liason

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



Vermont Logger John Adler of the Yankee Forest and the New England Woodland Training discusses changing work habits with course participants. (Cover photo: Dan Hartranft reviews skidder safety with Clearfield County participants.)

Job Layout and Profitable Skidding (continued)

There is a strong emphasis on safety throughout the entire course, from identifying and marking snags and dead trees in the preplanning, to ongoing communication between skidder operators and cutters. John Adler recommends the use of radios for better communication between cutters and skidders. Radios improve safety, reduce wasted time and help with learning. As Adler says, "They make the parts of the system work." In constantly working with unknown variables in the woods, "Deadwood Management" is crucial to safety. Since a dead tree on a harvest site is inherently totally unpredictable, getting deadwood on the ground first when opening skid trails is important. Likewise, identifying snags and flagging them with orange ribbon saves time and worry later on. Skidder injuries are also covered, since injuries can occur getting on and off the skidder as well as during actual skidder operation.

The terms "Hot Logging" and "Cold Logging" are frequently used in describing the methods for approaching a job. "Cold Logging" is the complete separation of the cutting and skidding operations. This eliminates potential accidents from the two working in proximity. Becoming reckless while trying to hurry through a job is another source of accidents. By getting the wood on the ground, the cutter is able to make more rational decisions using safety as his model rather than getting a full hitch ready for the skidder. Planning allows the cutter and skidder to interact as efficiently as possible. The best way to do this is by practicing the three R's of logging. They are: Reconnaissance, locating the boundaries of the site and determining what is in it (i.e. tree species, hazards, and geographic features). Record those features and hazards when sketching a map of the site. The map will also show where the skid trails will go and the color flagging system used to identify those trails. Relay all the planning information to co-workers and contractors so everyone is on the same page before the job begins. These practices will save time/money during "Hot Logging."

"Hot Logging" is the type of logging we are most familiar with; the crew is completely engaged in their work and the machinery is going full throttle. They start a job with little or no pre-planning and the skidding function is matched to the felling operation. This offers no flexibility to the skidding (being able to build full hitches, sort by product, etc.) and results in the constant interaction between the cutter and the skidder operator. This is what we are trying to avoid because of the high potential for accidents.

The course examines how "Hot Logging" is conducted—with a lot of wasted time and motion or moving with maximum efficiency. To that end, the course is also a study in time management, requiring a skidder to run a full hitch on every trip to the landing. Consideration is given to the tree species of each load. Adler suggests the practice of cutting trees on the days when it is too wet to skid, therefore getting the inventory on the ground in order to increase the actual working days in the woods. Planning is a key to improving productivity. Through planning, a logging job can be more profitable while preserving the residual trees, soil, water and site quality, contributing to the overall aesthetics of the job.

Job Layout is a course that will add value to a harvesting operation while complementing sustainable practices with site considerations and layout technique. Job Layout and Profitable Skidding will be offered extensively during the drier months of summer and early fall. The facilitators will be Dan Hartranft and Martin Melville, both highly skilled and knowledgeable independent loggers. ■

SFI of PA IC Member

Jeff Kochel of Forest Investment Associates

Jeff Kochel's decision to become a forester came out of a 9th grade Civics class when all the students were asked to choose a profession. Growing up in the country near Erie PA, Jeff already had a strong love of the outdoors, but his high school advisers didn't know what a forester did and Jeff had to do his own research. His research became the crux of his paper for Civics class and the spring board for a life-long career in forestry.

In 1971 Jeff graduated from the School of Forestry at Penn State. During his college summers Jeff worked for the U.S. Forest Service on the Kalamath National Forest in California, the Willamette National Forest in Idaho and the Ocala National Forest in Florida. After graduation, Jeff spent a year working for Bartlett Tree Expert Company outside of Pittsburgh until he was hired by the Hammermill Paper Company in Warren County. In 1973 he went into land management in Mc Kean County for Hammermill. Three and a half years later he transferred out to Wisconsin and spent eight years there procuring wood for Hammermill. In 1985 Jeff was back in Pennsylvania and working for Hammermill land management in Potter and McKean Counties. He continued in that position for ten years after International Paper (IP) acquired Hammermill. IP sold the land to Forest Investment Associates (FIA) five years ago and they hired Jeff. He has been associated with the same land in northwest Pennsylvania for nearly 30 years.

Jeff has been in the unique position of witnessing land management goals carried out on the same tracts by three different owners. He elaborates on the diversity of ownership, "Keep in mind the tracts were maturing over this time and changing with the ownership. Hammermill owned the resource (about 170,000 acres) to service a manufacturing facility. IP broke the land off as a separate entity to be a profit center—it was its own business. It had to make money and respond to short term fluctuations in company requirements for income. FIA has an institutional investor perspective which is not influenced by short term market fluctuations but rather is interested in maximizing the value of the asset for the long term. They are all different management perspectives, however every owner was committed to managing the land sustainably. FIA has purchased more land to manage, bringing the total to near 220,000 acres."



Forester Jeff Kochel of Forest Investment Associates.

"Nationwide FIA are 800 acres shy of a million acres that they manage. We have long term management plans for every tract designed to maximize the long-term asset value and remain sustainable. Currently FIA's northern and Atlantic regions are SFI third party certified, with their southern region is working through the process to become certified. The income for the investments are generated through the harvest of timber. We sell stumpage to the forest products industry, either negotiated or through a bid basis. FIA decides what is cut, how it is cut, and when it is cut. We have to make an acceptable return on whatever investment the owner has made. In the long run, managing on a sustainable basis adds value to the land base. Sustainability is more than just growing trees. Sustainability is sustaining the interaction of the forest ecosystem—water, plants, animals, and trees."

Jeff had several "wake up" calls during his career that made him highly aware of the issue of sustainability. He relates, "When I first started working for Hammermill, the stands were closed in and inaccessible. Over a five to eight year period, there was a big push to open up these lands, build roads, and do entry level thinning. At that time, the deer herd was so high everything looked like a park. As a new forester, I thought I would do a good thing and open up some space around the crop trees and let the forest regenerate. So we conducted a lot of thinnings and then I left and went to Wisconsin for eight years. I came back in the mid-eighties and those same stands were full of beech brush and striped maples with large expanses of dense fern. That was quite dramatic to see the resulting interference. My first wake-up call to sustainability was back in 1976 when we were doing what we *thought* were regeneration harvests, small clear-cuts—only they didn't regenerate. The Allegheny National Forest was having the same problem—the timber was maturing, but we couldn't grow it back. That was our first cooperative research project with the Warren Lab; to use herbicide spray to remove fern. Since most of our land

**"Forest management begins with deer management."
—Jeff Kochel**

is on the Allegheny plateau all the different land managers have had a close, working relationship with the Warren Lab." FIA realizes the interfering vegetation problem is here to stay and has an herbicide treatment program to address it. To mitigate the deer impact, FIA tries several approaches from fencing and fertilizing, to trying to control the herd through cooperative hunting. Jeff states, "Forest management begins with deer management. I am optimistic we can get the herds under control, but we have to be very aggressive. I am encouraged by the direction the Pennsylvania Game Commission is going in helping to balance the deer herd with the habitat."

Jeff feels that in order for the forest products industry to flourish it needs sustainable forestry statewide put into practice by professionals, and to be accountable. He sees SFI of PA as the perfect program to address those issues and carry the word through education and its own reputation. He likes the fact that all the parties involved work well together to support each other and improve the professionalism of the industry. The credibility of the SFI program is very helpful in addressing people's concerns outside the industry on how PA's forests are managed. During his two years on the IC Board, Jeff has noticed a greater level of trust develop among its members, resulting in more cooperation and efficiency in resolving issues and getting things done.

Jeff says, "The next big step for SFI is the Timber Harvest Assessment Form because we need to verify to what degree sustainable management is being conducted in the state. Hopefully that form will lead us to areas where further education and other issues need to be addressed in order to improve the practice of sustainability."

The other important role Jeff sees SFI playing is keeping all the different entities involved with timber harvesting up to speed on critical issues. Examples being: changes in the E & S plans, threatened and endangered species, new regulations and demands from the general public. He says, "The SFI Implementation Committee is an excellent group to work with industry to coordinate and educate changes that are needed. The Timber Harvest Assessment Form is a way of raising the bar and bringing everybody up to speed through education within the industry. Parallel to that it would be a great goal to provide sustainable forestry information to the general public and key decision makers in the state, making issues that are crucial to our industry higher in profile. So people find out who we are and what we do—and why we are doing it."

"Did You Get Your Doe?" NY Times Reports on PA's New Deer Harvest

Using hunters to manage an out of control deer population caught the attention of The New York Times who published an informative and lengthy article on Pennsylvania's latest hunting efforts in their December 29, 2002 issue. The well balanced article followed PA Game Commission biologist, Dr. Gary Alt as he traversed the Pennsylvania countryside near Montrose during the end of deer season talking to hunters. Peppered with memorable Alt quotes like, "Every year, we've almost exterminated the adult bucks right out of the population," the article sheds light on the complicated issues of restoring balance in a habitat overrun by a species. Dr. Alt's discussions with skeptical hunters on the changes they are witnessing in the field is very positive.



SFI program secretary Carolyn Clark, in the SFI of PA office in State College.

Clark Hired as SFI of PA Secretary

Carolyn Clark joined the staff of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative of Pennsylvania as secretary on November 18, 2002. A recent graduate of Binghamton University in New York where she received a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies, Carolyn moved to State College last summer with her husband Tony, who is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Physics at Penn State University.

Her work experience at the Office of International Student & Scholar Services on Binghamton University's campus, sharpened her secretarial skills. Carolyn is enthusiastic about combining her educational background and love of nature with her talents as secretary. She looks forward to getting to know everyone involved with the SFI of PA and learning about the forest products industry and sustainable forestry.

In Brief

SFI of PA Featured in *Cleaning Up PA's Watersheds*

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection published a 16 page booklet spotlighting watershed success stories from around the state. Entitled, "Cleaning Up Pennsylvania's Watersheds" the publication states sustainable forestry practices in Pennsylvania are making a difference in pollution prevention.

Biological surveys at five harvesting sites where Best Management Practices (BMPs) were implemented reflect consistent stream conditions both prior to and after harvesting. The publication also gives descriptions of the two SFI of PA courses concerned with water management, Environmental Logging and Advanced Environmental Logging as well as an overview of the SFI program.

Penn State Unveils Sustainable Forestry Web Site for Teachers

Natural resources educator Sanford (Sandy) Smith, with the assistance of information specialist Laurie Schoonhoven and student Nathan Botic, have developed a Web site for teachers whose curricula include sustainable forestry and natural history. The site can be found at <http://sfrc.cas.psu.edu/>. The site is innovative and original because it allows teachers to exhibit and share lesson plans related to sustainable forestry. Lesson plan topics include forest biology, wildlife management and water conservation, written for grades kindergarten through 12. Currently there are more than 120 lesson plans on the site, with a submission and review process in place for new lesson plans. "School teachers often create unique and useful lesson plans for their classes, but beyond their own students, no one ever sees or benefits from their work," says Smith. "New lesson plans will be added from upcoming institutes and individual submissions. All of the lesson plans are created by real teachers for use in their classrooms."

Also included on the web site is an extensive list of links to many educational natural resource sites.

Marconi Departs After Five Years of Service

SFI of PA secretary, Judy Marconi, was instrumental in getting the SFI program up and rolling during the early years. Judy was the pleasant voice that answered the phone in the SFI office and she created and managed the training program database of several thousand names. Her easygoing personality and calm efficiency, as well as her knowledge of the organization were a great asset to the SFI of PA and will be missed.

Mullen's Passing a Loss to the Community

Chris Mullen of Weyerhaeuser passed away from a sudden heart attack, early on the morning of November 25th. Chris was among the elite in terms of service to the SFI of PA program. From the very beginning, there were many of our training program activities in the Johnsonburg area that Chris either made happen or played a key role in. In the six years SFI of PA has been functioning, Chris was crucial in coordinating the training programs in the counties comprising and surrounding the Allegheny National Forest. He was a cheerful, easygoing guy who preferred the background to the spotlight in doing anything and everything to make sure the job got done.

Beyond his involvement with the SFI of PA, Chris was the past president of the Allegheny Hardwood Utilization Group (AHUG) Board and a current member of HLMA Board. He also worked tirelessly in the delivery of Project Learning Tree Programs in schools across the 14 counties AHUG covers. There were many other organizations Chris was involved with which will miss his dedicated and capable assistance. Chris was 48, and is survived by his wife and two children. A fund has been established in memory of Chris. Donations may be made to "The Chris Mullen Memorial Fund" in care of AHUG, P.O. Box 133, Kane, PA 16735.

Bob Bauer's Tragic Death

Bob Bauer, NW Regional Forester for the PA Game Commission, died in a farming accident on December 31, 2002. He was 56 years of age. Bob was a strong proponent of sustainable forestry practices, a tireless champion of educating people about the forest resource and the countless benefits we derive from it, a facilitator for SFI of PA training courses like Environmental Logging, and one of nicest people you'll ever meet.

It seems like there were very few good things that happened in NW Pennsylvania that Bob was not a part of in some fashion. Our forests had a great friend and supporter in Bob Bauer. He enjoyed taking groups of school age children into the forest and talking to them about the marvelous gift of this resource. He was, without a doubt, the strongest friend we (the SFI of PA) had in the PA Game Commission.

Bob's family has requested that memorials be made to the Penn State School of Forest Resources, Bob Bauer Fund, 113 Ferguson Building, University Park, PA 16802. Bob's death need not represent the end of his shining light, if we who knew, loved, admired and respected him will continue his mission. Knowing Bob, he would be pleased were we to do so. We owe it to him. ■

Partners Program Spotlight:

Heacock Lumber

Finding unique niches in the forest products market seems to come naturally to Heacock Lumber's two owners, Duval Denlinger and his father-in-law/partner, Duane Hunsberger. One-fifth of their business is selling surveyor stakes which makes good use of low grade hardwood. Heacock Lumber also produces: form boards for swimming pool construction, specialty lumber cut to order, board and batten siding, oak beams and posts for interior framing, long lengths of lumber up to 35 feet, fencing, cut lumber for housing, mulch, and sawdust for garden centers and farmers. The mill processes approximately a million and a half board feet a year.

The wood is procured within a hundred mile radius from the mill in Plumsteadville, located in the heart of suburban Bucks County. Heacock Lumber uses the services of consulting foresters who have timber out on bid. The foresters Heacock Lumber works with have the objective of sustainability in managing the forest for landowners. Duval, who is in charge of procurement, visits each site and reviews the job with the forester. Heacock Lumber has one subcontracted logging crew working for them full time. Because they are located in the Philadelphia suburbs Heacock Lumber will purchase logs from local tree surgeons, though there is often metal imbedded in the trunks and the wood varies in quality. Occasionally they will buy wood from companies that clear land for new housing. This expanding suburban area is quickly eroding the forested land base in the eastern part of the state. Heacock Lumber procures 20 to 30% of its wood from New Jersey.

The Heacock family started the business in 1918 and built the mill at the present location in the 1930s. It was sold to Winfield Hunsberger in 1974. Duval has a degree in accounting but was always interested in the sawmill business. Joining Heacock Lumber in 1993, he has worked every job at the sawmill to familiarize himself with the process, with the exception of running the headsaw.



Duval Denlinger, manager and wood buyer for Heacock Lumber, his father in-law and joint owner, Duane Hunsberger unloads a log truck in the background.

"It is not that people don't want the products we offer; they don't want the source of those products to come from their own backyard." —Duval Denlinger

The good stewardship aspect of the SFI program with its care for the resource is what attracted Duval to SFI of PA. Spurred by what he perceives to be an information/education gap in the general public between resource availability and where their wood products come from.

An ongoing issue in their procurement region is the regulations mandated by different townships. Duval comments, "The perfect way to do logging and forestry, in the township's mind, is to leave the woods alone and not do a thing with it. They reflect the public sentiment of seeing a log truck going down the road and thinking, 'they are killing the forest.'" Suburban culture with its high quality of life and convenient shopping is often psychologically detached from resource extraction and processing, making Heacock Lumber an anomaly among the strip malls along Route 611. This leads to Duval's concern about public education regarding eastern hardwood forests and harvesting. He elaborates, "Education for children and adults is a big task. Adults often have preconceived ideas, so for a person not growing up in a logging/sawmill area, it will be more difficult to get them to think differently. It is not that people do not want the products we offer; they don't want the source of those products to come from their own backyard."

Suburbanites are not shy about their disdain for logging and frequently harass Heacock's truck drivers and crew—even to the point of closing down one logging job when a neighborhood banded together to protest harvesting in an adjacent wood lot. Yet local land taxes are so high, a landowner often needs to sell his wood to offset costs. The irony is that township ordinances make timber harvesting very difficult; financially strapped landowners with limited options choose to sell their land to housing developers for big money. The land is then taken out of forest production forever.

Duval notes that part of the price of doing business in suburbia is that insurance rates are higher. There are few companies that will insure sawmills, leaving no room for shopping around for the best rate. Duval said his insurance rates often jump 20 to 30% each year. As Duval says, "This isn't a cost that can easily be passed on to the customers. If our grade lumber suddenly shot up 20 or 30%, our buyers would stop buying from us. Our market is competitive, sawmill insurers are not."

In closing, Duval feels strongly about SFI of PA's continuing role in making information on sustainable forestry available to the public. He said, "The more education we can get out there the better. It is important to increase the public's understanding of forestry issues. From here down to Philadelphia, there aren't too many wood lots left. I don't want to see what happened here continue across the rest of the state. I hate to see wood lots go so quickly." ■

Indicators of Deer Impact for Pennsylvania Forests

by

Susan Stout

Project Leader, USDA Forest Service, Forestry Sciences Laboratory

Jim Finley

The Pennsylvania State University School of Forest Resources

Seventh in a Series

Introduction:

Throughout this series, we have emphasized the impact white-tailed deer have on the ability of forest landowners to sustain their forests over time. Most often, this concern arises because too many deer can completely change forest vegetation, eliminating species they prefer or that are very vulnerable to browsing and favoring less preferred or more resilient species. The best-known example of this change is the growing dominance of Pennsylvania forest understories by hay-scented and New York fern, species that have been shown to increase over time where deer impact is high. In turn, the shade cast by these ferns prevents the establishment and growth of tree seedlings. But when hunting or fencing leads to a dramatic reduction in deer density, some potentially interfering plants that have historically been controlled by deer can increase in dominance, thus reducing forest seedling survival and growth. Pin cherry is such a species.

Because deer impact can have such important implications for forest health, it's important for all who care about the forest — landowners, foresters, loggers, wildlife biologists, botanists, and others — to recognize the level of deer impact. There are several research studies currently underway to develop a specific, inventory-based method for assigning deer impact, but results are not yet final. What we present here is a subjective approach for assigning an index value between 1 and 5 to the impact deer are having on the forest. This scale will help identify areas that are high priority for some corrective measure, whether it's increasing hunting pressure or area fencing, and also alert landowners and others to locations where high-deer preference foods like pin cherry have the potential to dominate understory communities. It is especially important to assign a value on this scale when planning a timber harvest. In some cases, efforts to reduce deer impact may be required to ensure that the outcome of the timber harvest is sustainable, for example, through establishment of new seedlings of the desired species. Basically, the index reflects a continuum between low deer impact forests where a variety of natural factors, especially light, interact with local deer to determine the size and species composition and height of understory vegetation, and high deer impact forests in which the impact of deer overrides other factors.

Deer Impact Index of 1 — Very Low:

This level is only assigned inside a well-maintained deer fence. When planning deer fencing, landowners and managers should pay attention to the presence and abundance of species such as pin cherry and grapevine, which may have been controlled by deer in the area in the past.

Deer Impact Index of 2 — Low:

The understory plant community is free to respond to a wide array of other factors including light, seed source, and local plant-plant interactions. Browsing will be observed only infrequently and concentrated on species locally preferred by deer. Seedlings of most species in the overstory will be present, and their height will reflect environmental conditions—taller in gaps and where local competition from shade tolerant understory plants or suppressed trees is low, shorter where understory competition is intense or overstory shade great. Seedlings of the species most vulnerable to deer browsing and those locally preferred by deer will exist and grow as much as local light and nutrient conditions allow, as will shrubs and herbaceous plants that are highly preferred. The shrub layer, or woody vegetation in the 2-foot through 10 feet tall vegetation layer, is a key indicator of deer impact. In many forests, for example, *Rubus* (blackberry and raspberry) species will germinate and grow at low deer impact, and their height will be very responsive to local variation in understory light conditions. However, where deer impact has been high for long periods, seed source for shrubs may have been reduced or eliminated, so absence of a shrub layer is not necessarily a good indicator of current conditions. Similarly, the presence of a healthy shrub layer may be a good indicator, unless the shrub is a low-deer preference species like mountain laurel or striped maple. Flowering woodland plants can also be good indicators. Where present, wild lily of the valley, trillium, and Indian cucumber appear to be good deer impact indicators, too. Plants of these species in low deer impact areas are more abundant and larger, and a higher proportion flower. When Indian cucumber has two or even three tiers of leaves, it is quite likely a low deer impact area.



Deer Impact Index of 1, or Very Low, is assigned only inside a well-maintained deer fence.



“Deer Impact Index of 2, or Low, occurs when deer impact allows other factors such as light and seed source to drive the species composition and height of advance regeneration, forming a complex carpet like this one, even in uncut stands.”

Deer Impact Index of 3 – Moderate:

Browsing evidence will be more common and will affect a wider array of species; species most vulnerable to deer browsing will be noticeably sparser in both the understory and shrub layers. Height variability still will be observed within the stand, although the most preferred species will be limited in height growth by browsing.



Deer Impact Index 3, or Moderate, shows heavy browsing on preferred species, like blackberry and raspberry. Less preferred species may still be able to respond to light variation and seed source, but preferred species will be limited in abundance and height by deer browsing.

Deer Impact Index of 4 – High:

A high proportion of the seedlings will be of the same height, independent of their shade tolerance and local lighting conditions, and close examination will show evidence of browsing on the leaders of many seedlings. Browsing is the primary controller of understory plant height, across all species. Vulnerable and preferred seedlings will be virtually absent, although the understory will have plants in it. Vegetation in the shrub layer will be sparse, with the exception of species that are of low preference to deer or are resilient to repeated browsing, such as beech and striped maple. For example, *Rubus* species often will be rare or absent at this level of deer impact, even in forest types and lighting conditions where they should be common.



Deer Impact Index of 4, or High, is assigned when preferred species are very sparse or absent, and all plants are nearly the same height as a result of persistent deer browsing, as shown in this picture of small black cherry seedlings.

Using the Deer Impact Index:

Once the Deer Impact Index has been determined, it can help landowners, foresters, and others plan to sustain their forests. Where deer impact is high or very high, efforts to reduce it are essential even if no timber harvest is planned in the immediate future. Area fencing or increasing hunting pressure and success on the area will add to the diversity and vigor of understory plant communities, and make the forest more resilient to natural disturbances and more ready for future planned timber harvests. Where deer impact is moderate, a more flexible approach might be considered, monitoring to ensure that increases in deer impact don't occur and watching the understory carefully for evidence of species shifts or development of desirable understory plant communities. Where deer impact is low or very low, there are unusual opportunities to watch vigorous plant communities develop and change over time, as well as a need to address plants like grapevine and pin cherry that can create problems.

Summary:

Careful observation of forest understory plant communities can help land managers, landowners, loggers, wildlife biologists, botanists and others recognize the impact that white-tailed deer are having on particular forest areas. ■

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Below, Deer Impact Index of 5, or Very High, is associated with almost bare forest understories and a pronounced browse line, as shown in this photo.

Deer Impact Index 5 – Very High:

This category is reserved for stands in which deer have virtually eliminated the understory. Under this condition, visitors to the forest observe a very pronounced browse line and almost no understory plants. It's important not to confuse this condition with forest situations in which very low light conditions inhibit the development of an understory, such as dense hemlock stands. To determine deer impact in situations like that, it's easiest to visit the forest edge or look for gaps where understory light levels are higher, and base the assessment of deer impact on those areas.

Once the level of deer impact is recognized, management plans can incorporate specific strategies geared to the appropriate deer impact level to sustain forests.



Partner Spotlight:

Matson Lumber

Located in the beautifully preserved Victorian town of Brookville, Matson Lumber is possibly the oldest family owned business in the region. Immigrating from Ireland, John Matson was one of the first residents in Jefferson County. He built the first sawmill there in 1804. Two hundred years later, Jack Matson is a ninth generation sawmill owner. Jack has a degree from Lehigh University in International Business. Matson's niche is to produce high yield lumber for world markets. Seventy percent of Matson Lumber's product is packed into shipping containers before leaving the mill for destinations overseas. Jack's grandfather, current chairman of the board, Robert D. Matson, initiated the overseas exporting of hardwood lumber in 1970. Matson Lumber now does business in over 21 countries. He also purchased thousands of acres of forest land as a means of ensuring resources for the company's future. Along with other family members involved in the business, Robert A. Matson, Barb Conti, and Becky Matson, Jack envisions a strong future in pursuing the global market. Their overseas sales representatives are looking for customers who want high yield lumber, shipped to specification on time. The distinctive Matson logo stands for well packaged and manufactured lumber to their customers at home and abroad.

Brookville has always been a crossroads, founded on the twin resources of timber and coal. The town became a railroad hub in the 1800s. Matson Lumber operates two sawmills on the edge of town with their central office on Main Street. They produce 1.9 million board feet a month consisting mostly of red oak, hard maple, black cherry, and poplar. The highest quality lumber is then placed in one of the twenty-four drying kilns for sixty days before being packed in containers for shipment. Matson Lumber also operates a pre-drier which is about the size of a football field and is kept at 95 degrees generating 95% humidity from the green lumber. The pre-drier uses less energy and reduces the time the lumber spends in the regular driers down to eight days. The driers make the lumber look cleaner and brighter than if it was air dried.

Matson employs six foresters who supervise twelve to fourteen contracted logging crews (depending on the season). Barb Conti keeps track of the amount of SFI of PA training the foresters and loggers have had and keeps everyone up to date. The logging crews have become generational, cutting for Matson over decades. Matson keeps enough timber in reserve so their crews can work year round. The wood is procured from an 80 mile radius from the mill and is taken from private, state, and company forest lands. One of Matson Lumber's largest



Jack Matson and Barb Conti beside the Matson logo.

assets is the 30,000 acres of company forest lands scattered over six counties located near the Allegheny National Forest. Harvesting this company land is very selective and is either guided by best management practices or a strong hardwood market. Most of their wood is procured from private timber sales, where the landowners are familiar with Matson Lumber's reputation of caring for the resource. Many sales happen by word of mouth from landowners who are pleased with Matson's harvesting jobs on neighboring tracts.

Fashion dictates the different species of American hardwoods that are in demand overseas. Red oak worked well when dark stains were in vogue, but now the popularity of light woods has increased the demand for hard maple, cherry, and poplar. The only "value added" Matson Lumber produces is planing boards for their west coast business.

Matson is faced with the ongoing demand from European buyers for certified lumber. Many contracts specify FSC wood and SFI certification has yet to catch on among European buyers. Jack Matson feels the SFI program is the better of the two systems but wishes it had more weight with European governments. He says, "Their perception of SFI is that it is a forestry management system set up by American timber companies, whereas FSC is independently monitored, making it unbiased. It is all political. The European Parliament and the British Parliament will have FSC written into any government work they approve, but the general public could care less. My importers tell me that if the FSC wood costs a nickel more, the European public won't buy it. I view certification in terms of how much market share you can keep and how much more you can gain."

In analyzing global competition Jack says, "I like the SFI program because in the future it is going to set us apart from the countries in the former Soviet Block and their timber. They are moving along much faster than anyone anticipated. If it comes down to the general public

deciding to buy American hardwoods over Yugoslavian hardwoods because of certification. That is where the SFI niche comes in, to retain our market share."

Jack would like to see the SFI program publicizing the forest products industry's good work in taking care of the forests. Then the timber industry could shed the image that harvesting is bad, reassuring the public they are not the enemy but more like long-term farmers. They are growing a product that is renewable. The industry is not over-cutting or over-using the resource. He says, "It seems the Europeans and even the Asians are better educated about how well we take care of our forests than their American counterparts, that we are growing more fiber than we are cutting. But my old friends from college automatically assume our industry goes into a forest, clear cuts it, destroying the homes of rabbits, squirrels, deer and bear. We need to counter that perspective. Most people do a good job in the woods, their livelihood depends on it. Matson would not have lasted nine generations in the same business if they didn't do a good job."

Jack notes that stumpage is still at an all time high and that the price of kiln dried red oak has gone up and down, but currently it is the same as it was in 1983. He says, "To be in the timber business today, you have to run a calculator. If you buy timber at the wrong price, then sell the lumber at the wrong price, you can work eighty hours a week and still lose money every day. That is the biggest issue right now."

With more companies using dry kilns for lumber, Jack notices the prices for green lumber are moving faster than for the dried. Drying kilns are thought of as a "value added" component in the market allowing a mill to ship more. But now, Jack finds selling their lumber green can provide a better profit margin than running it through Matson's drying system. Jack says, "You have to be sharp with your pencil. You look at these guys who are real hard workers but are losing their sawmills because they had no idea the market wouldn't take care of them forever."

Growing up in a lumber mill family, where generations of uncles and aunts worked for the family business, was unique. Barb Conti, Jack's aunt, in charge of personnel and benefits, recalls how family vacations were tied in with sales trips. She says, "From the time we were very young we would stop at sawmills and manufacturing plants making sales calls. The kids would wait in the car while our parents conducted business—until we were old enough to join them. We entertained customers in our home, had them for Thanksgiving—Matsons have a strong relationship with people. Twice I've kept our foreign customer's teenage children for the summer, to let them experience the United States. It is all part of our culture." ■

Participation in the SFI of PA Program

The SFI of PA program can continue to grow with your support. We encourage everyone to participate through a variety of ways. Call the office for details, (814) 867-9299.

Partners Program

This program is designed primarily for sawmills. It requires the company to formally commit to abide by and promote the use of sustainable forestry practices wherever and whenever possible. The annual financial fee paid by the company is based on the amount of sawmill lumber production during the prior year of operation and from logs procured in Pennsylvania.

Supporters Program

Supporters are those companies, primary or secondary processors, that want to support the efforts and activities of the SFI of PA. Supporters Program participants pledge to promote the use of sustainable forestry practices and commit to make a meaningful financial contribution each year to the SFI of PA.

Loggers/Foresters Participation

The SFI of PA has a program specifically for professional loggers and foresters. Membership is on a company basis. If, for example, a company consisting of an individual logger or consulting forester wants to join, the fee is \$100.00 annually. For each additional employee the fee increases by \$50.00 per person per year.

Individual Membership

Anyone who wants to financially support the SFI of PA can do so by becoming an Individual Member. The cost is \$50.00 per year and entitles the person to receive the SFI of PA Newsletter and the Annual Progress Report.

SFI of PA Survey
Attention Loggers!
*Would you attend
Advanced Logger Rescue Training
in PA during 2003?*

We expect the fee for this course to be about \$140. per person, though the cost may vary depending on how many attend. (Each session is limited to 20 individuals).

If interested please contact SFI of PA Training Manager, Ray Noll at (888) 734-9366 or by e-mail at sfi@penn.com by March 28, 2003.

Thank You!

SFI of PA Program Partners

Partners Program Participants are committed to the SFI Standards and pay a set fee annually based on sawmill production from Pennsylvania sawlogs.

- Appleton Papers, Inc.(5)
- Baker's Lumber Company, Inc. (4)
- Blue Ox Timber Resources (4)
- Bonham Log & Lumber, Inc. (4)
- Brode Lumber (4)
- BroJack Lumber Company, Inc. (2)
- Brooks Lumber & Timber Harvesting (5)
- Brookville Wood Products (3)
- C.J. Charles Lumber, Inc. (3)** ☒
- Carl Hunsberger's Sawmill (4) ☒
- Champion Lumber Company, Inc. (3)
- Clear Lake Lumber (4) ☒ ☒
- Cornerstone Forest Products (5) ☒ ☒
- Craftmaster Manufacturing, Inc.(1)
- Cubbon Lumber & Land Co., Inc. (4)
- Cummings Lumber (4) ☒ ☒
- Custead's Sawmill, Inc. (4) ☒
- DA-JAC Lumber (2)
- Deer Park Lumber (5)
- Dwight Lewis Lumber Co. (1)
- James Doliveira Lumber (2)
- Edwin Johnson & Sons (4)
- C.A. Elliot Lumber (3)
- Forest Investment Associates (2)
- Georgia-Pacific Corp. (7)
- The Glatfelter Pulp Wood Co. (7)
- Heacock Lumber (2)
- Hoffman Brothers Lumber, Inc. (4)
- R.J. Hoffman Lumber (3)
- Hyma Devore Lumber (4) ☒
- Kern Brothers Lumber Company (2)
- Gerald King Lumber (5)
- Krumenacker Lumber Company (4)
- Kuhns Brothers Lumber (5) ☒ ☒
- L & H Lumber Company, Inc. (2)
- Lapp Lumber Company (4)
- Lauchle Lumber (5) ☒
- Lee Brothers Lumber Company (1)
- Randy Leeper Lumber (2)
- Mead Westvaco (7) ☒ ☒
- Matson Lumber Company (2)
- Mountain Hardwoods (5) ☒ ☒
- Mt. Valley Farms & Lumber Products (3) ☒ ☒
- Ongley Hardwoods (2)
- Ordie Price's Sawmill (2)
- P & S Lumber Company (2)
- Patterson Lumber Co. Inc. (2)
- Pine Creek Lumber (5)
- Plum Creek Timber Co. (1)
- RAM Forest Products (5)
- *Salem Hardwood, Inc.
- Solt's Sawmill (3)
- St. Marys Lumber Co., Inc. (4) ☒
- Sterling Forest Products (2)
- *Temple-Inland Forest Products
- Tuscarora Hardwoods, Inc. (3)
- W. B. Shaffer Lumber (5)
- Weaber Inc. (7) ☒ ☒
- Wheeland Lumber (5) ☒ ☒
- Weyerhaeuser (7) ☒ ☒

**denotes new company, ()= years as participant
Visit our web site for e-mail addresses (☒) and web site links (☒) for these Partners and Supporters!*

SFI of PA Program Supporters

Supporter Companies help to promote sustainable forestry practices and pledge meaningful financial contributions.

- Babcock Lumber (3)
- Bailey Wood Products, Inc.(2)
- Bingaman & Son Lumber (3) ☒ ☒
- Catawisa Lumber & Specialty Co. (1)
- Coastal Lumber (3)
- Hobbess Forestry Services (2)
- Horizon Wood Products (2)
- Keystone Chipping, Inc. (1)
- Noll's Forestry Services, Inc. (2)
- *Ochs Forestry Consulting, Inc.
- Penn State University (1)
- (Forest Land Management Office)
- Pennco International, Inc.
- TimberLeads, Inc. (2)
- Red Rock Enterprises LLC (3) ☒ ☒
- Sylvandale Forestry (2)
- Woodland Forest Products (1)
- *denotes new company*

Please send me information on

SFI's Partners

SFI Supporters

SFI Program in general

send to:

SFI of PA, 315 South Allen Street,
Suite 418, State College, PA 16801

Name: _____

Company: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, & Zip Code: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Sawmill _____ Manufacturer _____

Forester _____ Logger _____



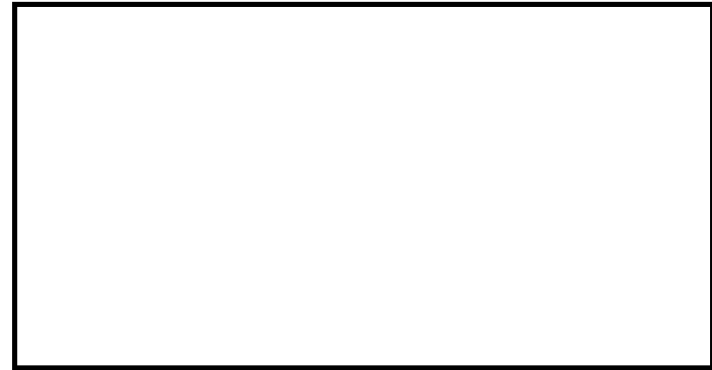
SFI of PA In Action



Participants in the Job Layout and Profitable Skidding course plan out a series of color flagged skid trails that will increase the efficiency of "hot logging."



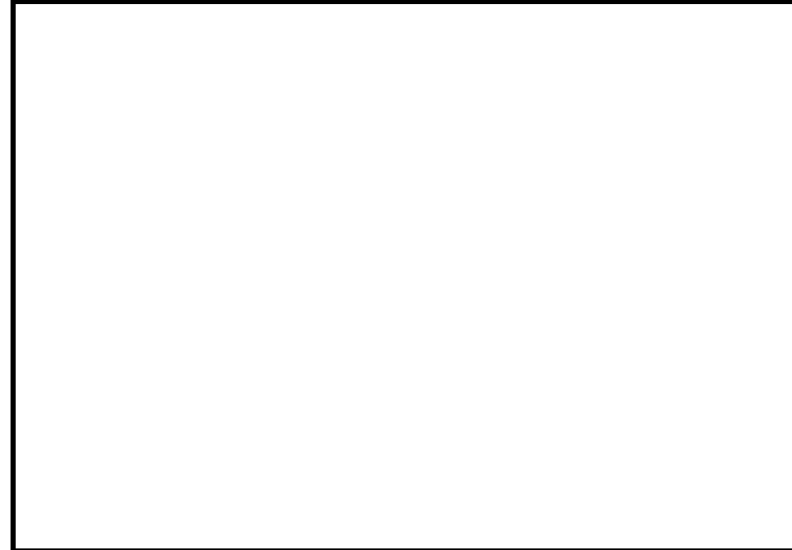
SFI of PA program manager, Ken Manno speaking to state legislators in Harrisburg.



Ken Manno addresses the PA Association of Conservation District Directors at their regional meeting in Greensburg, PA.



Chandis Klinger of the American Chestnut Foundation speaks to the Northern Tier Hardwood Association fall meeting.



Participants in the Sustainable Silviculture course held in Wysox in October note the regeneration species in a given plot.

Ken Manno in the SFI of PA booth weathers the heat at Penn States's Ag Progress Days in August.



At a recent SFI of PA training meeting, instructor Jim McQuaide makes a point about the new GPS/Terrain Navigation course he has developed, to facilitator Dan Hartranft.



Continuing Education Courses Completed since September 2002

Core Training Completed

Since September 2002 the following individuals have completed Core Level training with the SFI of PA. Core Level Courses are First Aid & CPR, Logging Safety, and Environmental Logging.

Rick Bailey	New Tripoli
Fred Bradford	West Decater
Billy Brewster	Wysox
Gerald Broughton	Morris
David Brown	Manchester
Charles F. Brown, Jr.	Seward
David W. Burger	Drums
Jason Cameron	Kingsley
John Confer	Sigel
Kevin Dobrinski	Tunkhannock
Emory Eckstrom	Sheffield
Dan Evans	Johnsburg
Amos S. Fisher	Lancaster
Richard Gallaher	Irvona
Curt Gosnell	Ridgway
Marvin E. Hoover	Karthus
Marvin R. Hoover	Karthus
Daniel Karg	Kennerdell
Richard Krause	Neelyton
Richard Krause Jr.	Orbisonia
Mark Kulka	Warren
James Karpinski	Ridgway
Jeb Laughman	Spring Grove
Thomas Litchfield	Ellicott City
Michael J. Marriner	Arnot
Steve Martz	Ringgold
Mark Mekos	Morris
Mark A. Mercer	Ridgway
William Miller	Hampstead
Scott Morgan	Indiana
Alan Naylor	Granite
David Niederriter	Marble
Jason Oliver	Butler
Tammy L. Owens	Westminster
Joseph H. Peachey	Kinzers
Leon Peachey, Jr.	Kinzers
James L. Pearson	Russell
Verney Peters	Huntingdon
James Rill	Manchester
Daniel J. Rorabaugh	Burnside
Timothy J. Roth	Spring Grove
Fred L. Schindewolf	Lawrenceville
Guy Sexton, Sr.	Peach Bottom
James Shuler	Barton
Franklin E. Steiner	Reading
Arlan Jay Stoltzfus	Lancaster
John K. Stoltzfus	Lancaster
Levi Stoltzfus	Lancaster
Levi K. Stoltzfus, Jr	Lancaster
Ted Wakefield	Grand Valley
George Wettlaufer, III	Dushore
James Wilson, Jr.	Forest Hill
Gary R. Wolfe	Pine Grove
Heath L. Wolfe	Pine Grove

Forest Ecology	Woodrow W. Adams III	Mt. Airy
	Kevin Arnsberger	Biglerville
	Brandon Bevan	Lebanon
	Van Bickford	Lebanon
	Larry Cleaver	Howard
	James B. Davis	Clearfield
	Brandon A. Derr	Aspers
	Sanford Ebersole	Lewisburg
	Ken Eyer	Tyrone
	Victor Fabrycki	Biglerville
	James Feldman	Pleasant Hall
	Jim Friday	Tyrone
	Larry S.Gantz	Biglerville
	Samuel W. Gates	Howard
	Robert L. Green	Gettysburg
	Jon Hand	Lebanon
	Troy L. Holtry	Orrstown
	Tim Iraca	Coalport
	Dave Jackson	Bellefonte
	Neal D. Klingler	Biglerville
	Francis E. Klingler	Biglerville
	Craig A. Maben	Thompsontown
	Ben Martilotta	PA Furnace
	Lee McCoy	Grove City
	Roland Mohn	Waynesboro
	Randy Mohn	Waynesboro
	Allan Moon	Annapolis
	James A. Movinsky	Clymer
	Galen L. Myers	Orrstown
	Verney Peters	Huntingdon
	Lynn C. Price	Everett
	George E. Rabenstein	Orbisonia
	Patrick D. Sherren	Warriors Mark
	Lewis Stern	Fort Loudon
	Steven U. Stoltzfus	Paradise
	Jonathan F. Stoltzfus	Lewisburg
	Fred F. Stoltzfus	Lewisburg
	Jeff Stover	Paradise
	Michael D. Waldron	Biglerville
	Beryl Weaber	Lebanon

Job Layout & Profitable Skidding

Steve Banks	LaJose	Dave Krumenacker	Carrolltown
Lonnie Batdorf	Carrolltown	Kevin Krumenacker	Carrolltown
James Boyd	Brookville	Mark Krumenacker	Carrolltown
Tim E. Brown	Ebensburg	Chris Leiden	Coalport
Ray Coates	Coalport	Lee McCoy	Grove City
Mike Davenport	Montrose	Joe McKennas, Jr.	Tunkhannock
James Davis	Clearfield	Joe Miller	North Cambria
ShayDurandetta	Olanta	Ray Noll	State College
Mark Eckenrod	Marion Center	JoePontzer	St. Marys
Joe Esposti	Mahaffey	Ken Sacolic	Ebensburg
John Flynn	Kersey	Doug Shaffer	West Middlesex
Doug Gates	Glasgow	Rick Shaffer	Brookville
William Geisler	Curwensville	Patrick Sherren	Warriors Mark
Dale Gericke	Reedsville	Robert G. Shields	St. Marys
John Holt	Olanta	Tom Shields	St. Marys
Paul Holtz	Carrolltown	Brian Squires	St. Marys
		P. Herm Weiland	Carrolltown
		Ron Westover	Nicktown
		Steve Wilhoit	Indiana

Game of Logging III

Charles Burts	Montrose
Lee Burts	Friendsville
Mike Davenport	Montrose

Buying Standard Timber

Thomas Honeyford	Montrose
William Nasser	Kingsley
Robert Ord	Kingsley
William Ord	Kingsley

Estimating Standing Timber Volume

Harry Bohlman	Pipersville
Richard Deppen	Collegeville
Nathan Fite	Dauphin
Andy Gessner	Lykens
Jeffrey Halley	New Bloomfield
JimLapp	Paradise
Dan Long	York
Reed Perkins	Warren Center
Helen Riggins	Pipersville
Philip Gregory Rodel	Wyalusing
Richard Ruis, Jr.	Tobyhanna
Robert Stryker	Chalfont
Robert Wawrousek	Oley
Kevin Arnsberger	Gettysburg
Michael Baker	Fayetteville
Lonnie Batdorf	Carrolltown
Scott Blair	Kingsley
Todd Clark	Everett
Jerry Clark	Everett
James Clark	Montrose
Vic Gilbert	York Springs
JoeyGilbert	East Berlin
Jeremiah Hornbaker	Mercersburg
Michael Jones	Ft. Loudon
James Kauffman	Fayetteville
Neal Klingler	Biglerville
Craig Kniseley	Brookville
Michael Konitsky III	North Cambria
Michael Kusko, Jr.	Fayetteville
Daniel McGary, Jr.	North Cambria
William Nasser	Kingsley
Bill Parr	Orrtanna
Henry Rhinehart	Fayetteville
Willis Swope, Jr.	Lock Haven
Albert Weaver	Springville
Casey Weicht	Everett
Zane Weicht	Everett
James Wilson, Jr.	Forest Hill

Game of Logging I

Bill Albert	Tyrone
Jake H. Bean	Norristown
Richard Bender, Jr.	McClure
Tim E. Brown	Ebensburg
Scott R.Cary	Northumberland
Jim Chesney	Huntingdon
Nicholas Christine	Millville
Lewis Curley	East Waterford
Douglas E. Dunlap	Huntingdon
Tom Ermlich	E. Greenville
Anthony A. French	Centre Hall
Brian M. Guethler	New London
Aaron Hoffman	Mt. Pleasant Mills
Caleb Hoffman	Mt. Pleasant Mills

Game of Logging I (continued)

Mark A. Hritz	Bryn Mawr
Michael R. Hunsicker	Quakertown
Neil Itle	Martinsburg
Ryan Kessler	Thomasville
Harold T. Kirsch	Colver
Rodney Kniseley	Brookville
Rodney Lessard	Nicktown
J. Tom Lumadue	Loretto
Pete Martin	Port Murray
Carl Martin	Doylestown
Wayne J. Martin	Washington
Gene L. McMillen	Quarryville
Christopher Melville	Centre Hall
James A. Movinsky	Clymer
Larry L. Newswanger	Pottsville
Paul E. Noll	Loretto
Marshall Pearson	Philadelphia
Campbell Plowden	State College
Larry D. Reed	McVeytown
P. Greg Rodel	Wyalusing
Philip V. Rodel, Jr.	Southampton
Troy A. Rosenberry	Fannettsburg
Gary T. Rosenberry	Fannettsburg
Kenneth John Sacolic	Ebensburg
F. Russell Sherwood	Lewistown
Brett W. Shope	Huntingdon
Warren Shope II	Huntingdon
Troy Solley, Sr.	Burnside
Todd Spigelmyer	Mifflintown
Randy Welch	Burnside
Curtis Whaley	Bryn Mawr
Kenneth L. Wolfe	Schuylkill Haven
Joshua W. Woodling	Johnstown
Daniel J. Yoder	Belleville

Sustainable Silviculture

Koy Bancroft	Centerville
Andy Benscoter	Laceyville
Christopher Brown	Towanda
Andy Bryant	Little Meadows
John Bunce	Centerville
William Capwell	Little Meadows
Steven Carey	Williamsport
D. Bruce Christine	Tyrone
Nelson Clayton, Jr.	Meshoppen
Chad Clouser	Wellsboro
James E. Condon II	DuBois
Kermit D. Dennis	Centerville
Greg Denochick	Morrisdale
George Wagner	Little Meadows
Warren Walk, Jr.	Tyrone
Doug Walker	Tunkhannock
Albert Weaver	Springville
Andrew Scott Freemer	Brockway
Paul Fremer	Brockway
Calvin Gardner	St. Marys
Joseph D. Glover	Brookville
Darrell Graham	West Decatur
Jeff Graham	West Decatur
Norman M. Hilfiger	Covington
Richard Hilfiger	Covington
Michael Hoffman	Kersey
Dan Karg	Kennerdell
Mark Kulka	Warren
Curt Lejedal	Forksville
Mark D. Maines	Morrisdale
Adam Manzer	Nicholson
Erick Merryman	Shipperville
Randy Minnier	Dushore
Michael Molynoux	Forksville
Curtis F. Shadle	Wellsboro
Michael T. Shaffer	Dushore
Bruce L. Spickerman	Nicholson
David Vanderpool	Little Meadows

SFI of PA Training Calendar
Now on the Web www.sfiopa.org
under Training Calendar—updated monthly





The Sustainable Forestry Initiative
 315 South Allen Street, Suite 418
 State College, Pennsylvania 16801

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SFI OF PA TRAINING PROGRAM NEWS

Limited Numbers of Courses Offered In

2003

Please Attend When Courses Are Available In Your Region

In the new year the SFI of PA will be rolling out its training program based primarily on information from our database which determines what training is needed in the different geographical regions around the state. Courses whose costs are reduced by a Customized Job Training Grant from the Department of Community and Economic Development, as well as the Hardwood Development Council will also be offered. The underwritten courses are **Environmental Logging, Advanced Environmental Logging, Business Management, Job Layout and Profitable Skidding, Forest Ecology, Sustainable Silviculture, Wildlife**. Costs for these courses will be \$45. per session for 2003.

Because of the cost reduction to the participants these courses will be offered frequently over the next year. Other SFI courses not covered by grant will be offered on a sliding scale depending on actual cost.

If you are SFI trained, **stay current**. You can make a difference as a professional who has the knowledge to sustain the resource.

First Aid/CPR as requested in the northern tier, call Cindy Bird at the Northern Tier Hardwood Association for registration, (570) 265-8441.

SFI of PA February Training Schedule for 2003

Call the SFI of PA to register and for confirmation of exact location, (814) 867-9299 or (888) 734-9366. Schedule is subject to change, courses with less than 15 participants will not be held. More courses are added each month. SAF CFE credit available for most courses.

January		
GOL II	Friday, Jan. 24	Susque. Co. call 570 756-2429
GOL I	Saturday, Jan. 25	Susque. Co. call 570 756-2429
February		
Job Layout and Profitable Skidding	Friday, February 7	Lycoming County
First Aid and CPR	Saturday, February 8	Wmspt. Red Cross 570 326-9131
GOL III	Saturday, February 8	Susque. Co. call 570 756-2429
GOL I	Monday, February 10	Susque. Co. call 570 756-2429
First Aid and CPR	Friday, February 21	Berks County Ag. Center
GOL II	Saturday, February 22	Susque. Co. call 570 756-2429
GOL II	Monday, February 24	Susque. Co. call 570 756-2429
Logging Safety	February TBA	Bedford area
Business Management	February	Bedford area
Business Management	February	Somerset area
March		
Estimating Standing Timber	March TBA	Johnstown area
Logging Safety	Friday, March 21	Berks County Ag. Center
April		
Environmental Logging	Friday, April 11	Hawk Mt. Schuylkill Co.
Environmental Logging	April TBA	Bedford area
Environmental Logging	Thursday, April 17	Wellsboro/Mansfield area
Environmental Logging	Thursday, April 24	Sullivan County
May		
Job Layout & Productive Skidding	Thursday, May 8	Towanda area