



SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY INITIATIVE

MINUTES OF THE

Sustainable Forestry Initiative, Inc. SIC Regional Meeting – Charleston, SC

03/26/2009

Submitted to SIC Regional Chairs 05/08/09; Approved by SIC Regional Chairs _____

This document will serve as the record of the proceedings of the March 26, 2009 meeting of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative, Inc. (SFI Inc.) SIC committees.

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ACTION #	Action Item Description	Responsible	Deliver by:
#01- MAR - 09- SIC-SC	Amy Doty will brief Rob Worthington on the potential green building regulation in KY and provide assistance to KY as needed/requested.	Amy Doty	April 15, 2009
#02-MAR-09-SIC-SC	Amy Doty will post all workshop information on the SIC members only section of website. TN and KY SIC chairs will provide further information to Bryan Hulka, NC SIC chair.	Amy Doty	May 20, 2009
#03-MAR-09-SIC-SC	Amy Doty will provide more information regarding the Southeast Builders Conference to the Florida SIC for future support and participation opportunities.	Amy Doty	April 20, 2009

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PARTICIPANTS

	NAME		COMPANY
1	Robert	Bauer	KY Forest Industries Association
2	Kevin	Bowman	Grant Forest Products
3	Ronald	Byrd	Sonoco
4	Roddy	Cooper	New South Lumber Company
5	Chris	Erwin	Alabama Forestry Association
6	Joey	Ferguson	Resource Management Service LLC
7	Steve	Fowler	Weyerhaeuser Company
8	Cinda	Francis	WV SIC
9	Kevin	Gallagher	AbitibiBowater
10	Donna	Gallaher	GA SIC/Center for Forest Business
11	Leland	Gauron	KapStone Charleston Kraft LLC
12	Cheryl	George	Packaging Corporation of America
13	David	Gerhardt	MWV
14	Chris	Gordy	Norbord South Carolina, Inc.
15	Barry	Graden	AbitibiBowater Incorporated
16	William	Guthrie	Weyerhaeuser

17	Judy	Haney	KapStone Kraft Paper
18	Robert	Hicks	Plum Creek Timber Co.
19	Kevin	Hoyt	Huber Engineered Wood, LLC
20	Matt	Jones	Rayonier
21	Tim	Kirven	Sonoco
22	Al	Lyons	Hancock Forest Management
23	Robert	Maddrey	Georgia Pacific
24	Drew	Marczak	Plum Creek
25	Robert	Radspinner	Plum Creek Timber Company
26	Pat	Reddish	Newport Timber LLC
27	Michael	Rushton	Norbord South Carolina, Inc.
28	Tom	Sarno	Hancock Forest Management
29	Eric	Smith	KapStone Charleston Kraft
30	Ken	Stuart	Domtar
31	Steve	Tomlin	International Paper
32	Virgil	Wall	Norbord South Carolina
33	Monica	Warren	Georgia-Pacific LLC
34	Marj	Welch	SFI Inc.
35	Mike	Windhorn	AbitibiBowater, Inc
	SFI Inc. Staff		
36	Amy Doty		Manager, Community Outreach
37	Rick Cantrell		Vice President and COO
38	Lisa Fox		Marketing Coordinator

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AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION ITEM
Welcome and Introductions	Amy Doty welcomed all SIC meeting participants and provided an overview of the meeting objectives. Amy Doty provided the antitrust reminder.	
SFI Standard Review	Participants were asked if there were any additional questions regarding the SFI Standard Review and the draft 2010-2014 SFI Standard, with respect to requirements for the SFI Implementation Committees. All participants felt the SFI Standard Review Workshop adequately covered this information and no further discussion was warranted.	
SIC Governance Review and Discussion	<p>Amy Doty provided an overview presentation of the history of the SIC Governance document and the proposed changes to the document from the SIC Governance Review Ad-hoc Committee. The Ad-hoc committee's proposed changes include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clarify the core mission of public outreach to only include educational opportunities furthering SFI program recognition, support and awareness. 2. Clarify the secondary mission of public outreach to focus on marketing and paid advertising. 3. Provide additional clarification and examples of public outreach by defining as two major categories: educational outreach (core mission) and marketing/advertising (secondary mission). 4. Consider elevation to core mission the secondary mission of "encourage family forest owners to participate in the American Tree Farm System or similar programs as appropriate." 5. Provide additional clarification around regulatory issues related to inconsistent practices and their relation to the SFI Standard, i.e. timber theft. 6. Develop a provision to update the SIC Governance document on a regular basis, i.e. concurrent with SFI Standard review process. <p>Participants were asked to provide feedback on the proposed changes.</p> <p>Regarding all changes to the public outreach updates, participants felt additional clarification regarding SIC requirements as indicated in the draft 2010-2014 SFI Standard were required. Since the SIC public outreach requirement was removed from the draft SFI Standard, some participants felt the core mission dealing with public outreach should move to a secondary mission. Alternatively, the SFI Standard Review Task Force should consider adding the public outreach requirement back to the SFI Standard, thus leaving public outreach as a core mission would be acceptable. SIC representatives requested the SIC Governance document should be very clear regarding SIC requirements, based on the SFI Standard.</p> <p>Regarding the elevation of the American Tree Farm System (ATFS) or similar program promotion among family forest landowners, participants felt this item should stay a secondary mission. Participants felt this objective should remain a secondary mission and ATFS promotion to family forest landowners should be left up to the state/province to deem appropriate. If left as a secondary mission, the wording should be flexible to account for the varying degrees of support and activity regarding ATFS.</p>	

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	<p>Participants agreed to additional clarification surrounding the inconsistent practices process. Amy Doty noted other SIC regional meetings suggested tying all inconsistent practices clarification to the SFI Standard and to be consistent with the language from the SFI Standard and the SFI Interpretations document.</p> <p>All participants agreed to the suggested provision for updating the SIC Governance document on a regular basis, and felt tying to the SFI Standard review process was appropriate and sufficient.</p> <p>Amy Doty led discussion through the entire SIC Governance document and sought feedback from participants regarding any required or suggested updates. Participants suggested an update to the Vision Statement the word “first choice” to “preferred choice”.</p> <p>In addition to the proposed core mission priority updates, participants suggested updating core mission A by using same language from the SFI Standard regarding qualified and certified logger professionals.</p> <p>In addition to the proposed secondary mission priority updates, participants suggested the following updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Secondary Mission A – clarify and use the same language from SFI Standard regarding qualified and certified logging professionals; and - Secondary Mission C – change the word “manufacturers” to “facilities”; - Secondary Mission D – update language based on the reporting requirements noted in Objective 15.2 <p>Participants discussed expanding the secondary mission priorities to include information from SFI Standard Objective 4 regarding wildlife habitat and biodiversity research requirements for landowner program participants. Since some program participants do not have the resources available to conduct such research, SICs would be a good avenue to provide additional research opportunities for program participants.</p> <p>Under the SIC Organization heading, sub-heading projects, the reference to the SFI Standard should be updated with new SFI Standard reference. The remaining areas were sufficient, and do not require additional updates. Additionally, participants suggested updating the overview/summary table by changing column 4 heading to “SIC Focus.”</p> <p>Doty reviewed the next steps and process for updating the SIC Governance document. After conducting all SIC regional meetings, the SIC Governance Review Ad-hoc committee will review all suggested updates and edits to the SIC Governance document. A final Governance document will be provided to the SFI Inc. Resources Committee and SFI Inc. Board of Directors for review and approval in July 2008. The final SIC Governance document will be provided to all SIC chairs and coordinators by August 31, 2009, and further discussion will be held at the SFI Annual Conference in Nashville, TN on Sept. 22, 2009.</p> <p>All participants were urged to provide any additional feedback or suggestions to the SIC Governance Review Ad-hoc</p>	

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	<p>committee member in their region, or to contact Amy Doty directly.</p> <p>Additional discussion regarding SIC participation by program participants in all states with operations. SFI Inc. staff provided the steps an SIC should take to engage the program participant, i.e. discussion at local level to encourage participation. SFI Inc. also noted if the program participant is SFI-certified, the certification audit will pick up on the non-conformance and will require SIC participation. If these avenues do not work, SICs could take steps to process an inconsistent practice for the program participant, followed by notice to SFI Inc. of non-participation for further investigation.</p> <p>Group also discussed the SFI Standard requirements regarding logger training of a “crew leader” vs. “dealer/owner” vs. “whole crew.” SFI Inc. provided intent behind the SFI Standard training requirements. There are differing interpretations of requirements by many auditors and consultants. SFI Inc. noted a conference call/webinar will be held with all certification bodies to discuss the draft 2010-2014 SFI Standard in more detail.</p>	
<p>SIC Roundtable</p>	<p>SIC representatives from each state provided brief overviews of their plans for 2009. All represented SICs are continuing promotion of the SFI program in their specific state and are working to continue the growth of the SFI program in this economic climate. North Carolina is maintaining existing continuing education programs, including ProLogger training. They are also continuing active promotion of ATFS and holding landowner workshops. South Carolina is focusing on the annual teacher’s tour and work with Project Learning Tree. Florida is focusing on growing the SIC membership and SFI program participation. They are also continuing work with Project Learning Tree and looking at future marketing initiatives. Georgia is continuing their successful direct mail projects and trying to reach out to new landowners. GA SIC has also created a BMP Implementation Ad-hoc committee to review existing compliance and future compliance needs. Alabama is currently developing a forestry tour and education session for Auburn University’s architecture college, and also continuing annual teachers tours and field days. AL SIC is also supporting the local tree farm committee by helping to enroll additional acreage in program. Tennessee provided an update on their Habitat for Humanity project, noting great progress by the SIC and program participants. TN SIC also recently finalized their by-laws. They are currently sponsoring local Project Learning Tree programs and annual teachers tours and conservation workshops. Kentucky recently developed a working group to review certification for small sawmills and hosted a workshop to provide additional SFI information to sawmill owners. Currently they are funding a BMP project through the University of Kentucky and also working on a invasive species studies. KY SIC is also assisting with ATFS audits. KY SIC noted potential green building regulation in KY, referencing LEED only. ACTION: Amy Doty will brief Rob Worthington on the potential green building regulation in KY and provide assistance to KY as needed/requested. West Virginia is continuing support of ATFS and providing in-kind assistance to Project Learning Tree. WV has begun an advertising program focusing on SFI program awareness and program participation, trying to increase new SFI participation in the state. They too have finalized their by-laws. SIC is also keeping watch on legislation and regulations regarding green building, and working to ensure inclusivity of all credible programs.</p>	<p>#01- MAR - 09- SIC-SC</p>

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	<p>Group further discussed the recent sawmill workshops in Tennessee and Kentucky, and each SIC agreed to provide information to interested SICs, specifically North Carolina. ACTION: Amy Doty will post all workshop information on the SIC members only section of website. TN and KY SIC chairs will provide further information to Bryan Hulka, NC SIC chair.</p> <p>Participants discussed upcoming tradeshow, noting a regional AIA show and participation by the SC, NC, and GA SIC. ACTION: Amy Doty will provide more information regarding the Southeast Builders Conference to the Florida SIC for future support and participation opportunities. Some participants charged SICs to develop budget line item to cover various opportunities arising throughout the year, including tradeshow of interest.</p> <p>Participants discussed the recent Mississippi State University paper preference release and actions taken to urge University to be more inclusive in their policies. Group charged all SICs to visit with their respective universities to start the conversation and inquire regarding the appropriate individuals at University to discuss issue further.</p> <p>Amy Doty provided an update on recent happenings at SFI Inc. and the SFI program. Participants were also made aware of the upcoming SFI webinar series, including proposed topics. Information will be sent to all interested stakeholders, and SICs should encourage their members and associated staff to participate. Participants were also asked to provide Amy Doty with any additional topics of interest.</p>	<p>#02- MAR - 09- SIC-SC</p> <p>#03- MAR - 09- SIC-SC</p>