



# SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY INITIATIVE

## MINUTES OF THE

### Sustainable Forestry Initiative, Inc. SIC Regional Meeting – Little Rock, AK

04/02/2009

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

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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 Regional committees.

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<b>ACTION #</b>	<b>Action Item Description</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Deliver by:</b>
<b>#01- APR-09-SIC-AK</b>	SFI Inc. will provide a copy of the revised SIC Governance document to all SIC leadership and request a one-week review prior to the Resources committee meeting	Amy Doty	May 30, 2009
<b>#02- APR-09-SIC-AK</b>	SIC leadership should provide Amy Doty with any website links to online training, for posting to the SIC member's only page, as examples for other SICs.	SIC Chairs	Ongoing

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**PARTICIPANTS**

	<b>Committee members</b>	<b>Company</b>			
			8.	Sam Lane	Plum Creek Timber Co.
1.	Mike Boyd	Evergreen Packaging Inc.	9.	James Matthews	Georgia-Pacific
2.	Ken Bragg	Resource Management Service	10.	George Rheinhardt	USDA/Natural Resources Conservation Service
3.	Max Braswell	Arkansas Forestry Association	11.	Mark Smith	Hancock Forest Management
4.	Jim Crouch	Bibler Bros. Lumber Co.	12.	Charles Wells	Temple-Inland
5.	Brenda Heindl	International Paper Co.		<b>SFI Inc. Staff</b>	<b>Title</b>
6.	Bill Kuhn	Georgia-Pacific	12.	Amy Doty	Manager, Community Outreach
7.	Miles Lacy	Green Bay Packaging Inc.	13.	Rick Cantrell	Vice President and COO

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<b>AGENDA ITEM</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION ITEM</b>
<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>	Amy Doty welcomed all SIC meeting participants and provided an overview of the meeting objectives. Amy Doty provided the antitrust reminder.	
<b>SFI Standard Review</b>	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.	
<b>SIC Governance Review and Discussion</b>	<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"> <li>1. Clarify the core mission of public outreach to only include educational opportunities furthering SFI program recognition, support and awareness.</li> <li>2. Clarify the secondary mission of public outreach to focus on marketing and paid advertising.</li> <li>3. Provide additional clarification and examples of public outreach by defining as two major categories: educational outreach (core mission) and marketing/advertising (secondary mission).</li> <li>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.”</li> <li>5. Provide additional clarification around regulatory issues related to inconsistent practices and their relation to the SFI Standard, i.e. timber theft.</li> <li>6. Develop a provision to update the SIC Governance document on a regular basis, i.e. concurrent with SFI Standard review process.</li> </ol> <p>Participants were asked to provide feedback on the proposed changes.</p> <p>Regarding all changes to the public outreach updates, many SIC members felt public outreach was a key tool for promotion and building the use of the SFI program, however felt “public outreach” was the wrong term for the core mission item. Group suggests finding an alternate term for the “educational public outreach” term.</p> <p>Regarding the elevation of the American Tree Farm System (ATFS) or similar program promotion among family forest landowners, participants noted many states are already supporting ATFS through various ways, but by elevating to a core mission we should not duplicate what the state tree farm committees are already accomplishing. A recommendation is to change the word “encourage” to “support”. Some participants felt the ATFS promotion piece should be moved out of the SFI Standard procurement objectives and to the objective dealing with the SICs. Staff reiterated the intent is to ensure</p>	

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	<p>family forest landowners are practicing good and sustainable forest management, while at the same time growing the PEFC program. A participant stated SICs should promote “landowner management plans” and encouraged SICs to work with their local USDA NRCS technical committees regarding forest stewardship plans.</p> <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. Staff also noted SFI Inc. wants to ensure all SFI Standard conformances and compliance issues are investigated and addressed.</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.</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. A request was made to also provide further definition of the word “outreach” as it relates to a core mission priority. Group also suggested adding footnotes within the Governance document referencing the SFI Standard clause. Participants also felt the SFI Standard requirements regarding “cooperative efforts for research with SICs” should not be a requirement for SICs. Staff reiterated this is an option but not a requirement.</p> <p>In addition to the proposed secondary mission priority updates, participants suggested the following updates:                      - Secondary Mission D – felt this was ok, but noted it is hard to get numbers due to proprietary nature of information.</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. Participants requested SFI Inc. staff provide a copy of the revised and final SIC Governance document to all SIC leadership prior to submitting to Resources Committee and SFI Inc. Board for approval. <b>ACTION:</b> SFI Inc. will provide a copy of the revised SIC Governance document to all SIC leadership and request a one-week review prior to the Resources committee meeting.</p> <p>All participants were urged to provide any additional feedback or suggestions to the SIC Governance Review Ad-hoc committee member in their region, or to contact Amy Doty directly.</p>	<p><b>#01- APR - 09- SIC-AK</b></p>

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<p><b>SIC Roundtable</b></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. Arkansas is trying to focus their efforts, however due to economic hardships little focus is being put on the SIC activities. AK also received two new participants and working to grow the program further. Louisiana is continuing their education efforts and developing new training modules for 2009, including a GPS training session. LA SIC is also partnering with the Alabama SIC for online training. They also host 8 meetings per year. Mississippi hosts 4 meetings per year, and focusing their current efforts on educational outreach, including the MSU paper preference issue. They've received additional participants in 2008. MSU also hosts the MS SIC's logger training program and completely overhauled the training program in 2008. Texas is continuing their education efforts and currently looking at more online classes. <b>ACTION:</b> SIC leadership should provide Amy Doty with any website links to online training, for posting to the SIC member's only page, as examples for other SICs. The TX SIC is also hosting workshops on forest roads and stream crossings.</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><b>#02- APR - 09- SIC-AK</b></p>