

# TREELINE

## NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH CAROLINA FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

### FORESTRY DAY IN THE LEGISLATURE - APRIL 16, 2013

**T**he NCFA's Forestry Day in the Legislature will take place on Tuesday, April 16, 2013. Forestry Day is our membership's best opportunity to sit down with lawmakers and discuss issues impact forestry and the forest products industry.

"We encourage our members to make Forestry Day a priority," stated Bob Schaefer, the NCFA's Executive Vice President. "With so many new lawmakers in Raleigh, it is important for our membership to be involved and engaged in sharing information about what our industry and the forest resources in our state. This information is what helps shape public policy down the road."

The NCFA has set up a block of rooms at the DoubleTree Brownstone for two nights for those members who will be attending Forestry Day and the Board of Directors meeting the next day. Members can check in on April 15<sup>th</sup> and check out the 17<sup>th</sup>. The room rate is \$109 per night.

There will be a special presentation during this year's Forestry Day as legislative leaders will be presenting Linda Slocum with the Order of the Longleaf Pine Award that was awarded by then Governor Beverly Perdue to Bob Slocum shortly after his passing. Slocum led the NCFA for 23 years and was instrumental in developing and shaping public policy that impacted forestry, forest management and the forest products industry.

Forestry Day starts with a 9:30 a.m. meeting under the tents set up on the Halifax Mall, which is the grass area between the two legislative buildings. Members will be given information about important pending legislation and general talking points about forestry to share with lawmakers. Members will then be released to visit with their elected officials in their offices and invite them to the luncheon. All lawmakers and staff receive an invitation two weeks prior from NCFA staff. Registration materials will be out in the mail and online at [www.ncforestry.org](http://www.ncforestry.org) later this month. ■



(l-r) NCFA members Ted Graham, Representative Mitch Gillespie, Chris Logan and Tom Lassiter pose for a photo during last year's Forestry Day in the Legislature. Forestry Day is one of the more popular events with the members of the General Assembly and their staff. The informal luncheon is a great way for NCFA members to meet up with lawmakers.

### ENVIVA SHARES VISION WITH NORTHAMPTON COUNTY LANDOWNERS ASSOCIATION

**U**nder the expert guidance of North Carolina Forest Service County Ranger Rodney Black, the Northampton County Forestry Association held its annual awards dinner in February. This event continues to grow in numbers each year as landowners come out to hear updates from Ranger Black and his staff in addition to a special guest speaker. Of course, the highlight of the evening is when Black presents the Northampton Landowner of the Year.

The 2013 Landowner of the Year for Northampton County was Thomas Lee Davis. Black presented Davis with the award for his stewardship over the years and active management of his forestland.

The NCFA's Bob Schaefer was given the opportunity to speak and he took a few moments to stress the important role landowners can play in the political and regulatory process by staying involved with the issues.

Northampton landowners heard updates from several state agencies and local sponsors.

The evening concluded with a featured presentation by Edward Sontag, the Director of Fiber Sourcing for Enviva. Sontag presented an overview of Enviva and how it has gone from a board room vision to a physical reality in North Carolina with the completion of one facility in Ahoskie and the construction of another in Northampton County. Sontag said his one takeaway for landowners is that Enviva is for real, and the company will be depending on Northampton County landowners to supply their facilities. ■



Enviva's Director of Fiber Sourcing, Edward Sontag, was the featured speaker at the Northampton County Landowners Association Meeting.

### MARKET BASED CONSERVATION INITIATIVE (MBCI) ROLLS OUT INFORMATION CAMPAIGN

**T**he Market Based Conservation Initiative (MBCI) is reaching out to landowners, state agencies and non-profits to advertise its new conservation easement program that is designed to protect our military need for training airspace in North Carolina.

The voluntary program has targeted 18 counties from eastern North Carolina into the piedmont. The path of the project is a two mile swath the shape of a horseshoe. The counties include: Beaufort, Bertie, Carteret, Craven, Duplin, Edgecombe, Franklin, Halifax, Harnett, Johnston, Jones, Lenoir, Martin, Nash, Onslow, Pamlico, Sampson and Wake.

In exchange for the easement, the landowner has some restrictions such no structures over 100 feet tall, constructing no landfills which require a permit, and projecting no upward shining light. Once a property is determined to be under the military flight path, the owner of the property can apply to receive financial incentives to keep their land in agriculture, forestry, wildlife, or other compatible conservation land uses. The landowner is paid annually over the easement term. Easement terms may range from 10 to 30 years.

Landowners interested in this program can make an initial inquiry by completing an application. Those applications will be sorted and ranked in accordance with program guidelines.

The program will be implemented through fixed term contracts that are between the landowner (continued on page 6)



A new conservation easement program, MCBI, will create opportunities for landowners who may fall under the military's flight training path.

## 2013 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ashley Faircloth <i>Chairman of the Board</i>	Bernard Rose <i>Piedmont Vice President</i>
Allen Plaster <i>President</i>	Fred Hardin <i>Western Vice President</i>
Ray Allen <i>President Elect-Treasurer</i>	Michael Walters <i>Chairman of the Board</i>
Frank Rackley <i>First Vice President</i>	Forestry Mutual Insurance Bob Schaefer
Jim Durham <i>Eastern Vice President</i>	<i>Executive Vice President</i>

## 2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Allen, Ray	Lassiter, Tom
Ashcraft, David	Lin, Kenneth
Bardon, Bob	Listerman, Ed
Batts, Dwight	Logan, Chris
Beasely, Dianne	Long, Jim
Bissette, Scott	Lumpkin, Parker
Cain, Kenny	Marshburn, Charlie
Corey, Billy	McCollum, Keith
Culp, John	McLaurin, Boyd
Davis, Joel Henry	Newcomb, Stephen
Decker, Greg	Overbey, Bill
Doster, Tony	Owen, Wib
Durham, Jim	Pate, Greg
Evans, Joe	Phillips, Ron
Faircloth, Ashley	Plaster, Allen
Graham, Ted	Rackley, Frank
Gray, John	Raynor, Fay
Gray, Jim	Ricks, Riddick
Hanks, Jeff	Rose, Bernard
Hardin, Fred	Shaffer, Rodney
Hazel, Dennis	Snyder, William
Hendrix, David	Stuart, Ken
Henson, Steve	Teel, Jamie
Howard, Brad	Thompson, Marshall
Hulka, Bryan	Thrash, Dale
Hull, Maurice	Vollinger, Mark
Hunt, Perry	Walters, Michael
Inman, Tom	Watzin, Mary
Jackson, Jimmy	Wiseman, Mark
Kenley, Charles	

## DO YOU HAVE A NEWS ITEM?

TreeLine is the monthly newsletter of the North Carolina Forestry Association. News items and photographs should be sent to Chris Brown at [cbrown@ncforestry.org](mailto:cbrown@ncforestry.org).

The NCFA, the state's oldest forest conservation organization, is a private, nonprofit partnership of forest managers, landowners, mill operators, loggers, furniture manufacturers and others that actively promote healthy, productive forests by supporting the efforts of landowners and forestry-related businesses and organizations that responsibly manage or use forests.

NCFA, 1600 Glenwood Ave., Suite I, Raleigh, NC 27608. Telephone (919) 834-3943 or (800) 231-7723. ■



## NCFA ADDRESSES REGULATORY ISSUES IMPACTING LOGGERS AND LANDOWNERS

**N**CFA staff is currently addressing two regulatory issues impacting members in the first quarter of 2013.

The first issue is the temporary driveway access permit law. It is the law in North Carolina that whenever an access road is being tied into a state road, a permit must be applied for all entities except for those involved in agriculture since they have an exemption. The permit is \$50.

The DOT divides the state into 29 different engineering districts. This issue is more of a problem in some districts than others.

Members are asked to contact the NCFA's Jack Swanner immediately if they are encountering a problem with driveway access. At this time, the NCFA encourages its members to take the time to apply for the \$50 permit and road access before hauling wood off of a tract of timber.

The NCFA is working this problem from two different angles at this point. Since the North Carolina Forest Service is now in the Department of Agriculture, and timber production is in fact agriculture, the NCFA will be pursuing the opportunity to gain the same exemption agriculture now enjoys.

A second option is to pursue the establishment of a new formal procedure within DOT's work zone format where an entrance to a road would be considered a work zone.

There have been several meetings on this proposal and it possibly could be worked into next year's ProLogger training module.

The second issue is the definitions and enforcement of North Carolina's Present Use Tax program. The program is enforced by county tax assessors. Each assessor has a technical guidance manual that has been established by a technical advisory committee, which the NCFA has a seat on, and it is distributed throughout the state.

There have been problems in previous years of counties failing to follow the guidelines set forth in this technical guidance manual and there are surely more disputes to occur in the future.

Currently, the NCFA and the North Carolina Farm Bureau are reviewing the current definitions of the Present Use Value program's legislation and the technical guidance manual in an effort to further clarify some trouble spot areas. One such issue is the Limited Liability Company (LLC) ownership category. Some county tax assessors have sought to remove any LLC's from the program, not realizing that LLC's can be established for the sole purpose of producing timber. This and other areas are to be addressed in revisions to the technical manual and possible legislation this session. ■

## AT THE NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

**T**he North Carolina General Assembly has been in session for a few weeks. The first steps taken by this Republican led group have been to address some workers' compensation issues as well as a federal healthcare bill that calls for the state to set up its own program to run the national healthcare program or let the federal government run the program from Washington. Governor Pat McCrory supported the General Assembly on both issues.

McCrory signed House Bill 4, Unemployment Insurance Fund Solvency & Program Changes. The new law reduces workers unemployment benefit by roughly one third on the average, reducing the top benefit of \$535 a week down to \$350. The reductions are sought to pay back the \$2.58 billion the state owes the federal government. While it is cutting benefits, the bill also calls for employers' state unemployment taxes to increase slightly in order to pay off the debt. Once the debt is erased, the federal unemployment tax that companies are paying now will be reduced to the the ballpark figure of \$21 per employee.

McCrory also signed legislation to not set up a state arm of the national healthcare program. North Carolina became one of the few states to pass up the federal dollars that were associated with establishing the state running the program.

In addition to addressing fiscal issues impacting the state, the North Carolina General Assembly has also taken steps to consolidate several standing committees and commissions that influence the state's environment and certain industries with the introduction of Senate Bill 10. The bill, entitled Government Reorganization and Efficiency Act, reduces the size of 11 different boards/commissions (continued on page 3)



*Driveway access has become a growing concern for loggers in certain counties. The NC DOT divides the state into 29 different engineering districts. Loggers in some districts have been required to obtain access permits.*

## At The NC General Assembly...(from page 2)

and in some cases, ends the terms of all members on select commissions.

Of interest to forestry, the Coastal Resources Commission will drop in size from 15 to 11 members and all current members' terms are terminated. The Coastal Resources Advisory Council drops from 45 to 20 members and ends terms of current members.

The Environmental Management Commission gets reduced from 19 to 13 members. All terms end. The Wildlife Resources Commission increases the number of appointments from the General Assembly by two while reducing the Governor's appointments by two. All terms will now be two years.

NCFA staff have followed this deliberations on this bill and has ensured that forestry interests will be properly represented with the new committee structures. The bill, which has been debated more in the House than the Senate, is now in a Conference Committee comprised of members of the Senate and House.

Another hot topic early in this legislative session has been the issue of fracking, which is the drilling for natural gas through a hydraulic process. After it was discovered that North Carolina may be home to natural gas deposits in the piedmont, the issue was explored last year and a fracking moratorium was established until a study commission could study the issue further.

Senate Bill 76, entitled the Domestic Energy Act, sets to eliminate that moratorium and make several other changes in an effort to make fracking a reality in North Carolina starting in March of 2015. The bill has passed the Senate quickly and has now been moved to be considered by the House.

In other landowner related legislation, House bill 101 has been introduced. It seeks to repeal the state's estate tax. The bill has passed its initial reading and has been referred to the Appropriations Committee. ■



NCFA Marshall Thompson and Ray Allen share a laugh during the 2012 Annual Meeting that was held in Asheville.

## NCFA'S ANNUAL MEETING SET FOR NEW BERN IN OCTOBER

The NCFA's Annual Meeting, "Dynamic Markets, Sustainable Opportunities" will take place in New Bern on October 2-4, 2013 at the DoubleTree by Hilton New Bern - Riverfront. The room rate for the Hilton will be \$139 and members are encouraged to make their reservations ASAP by calling (252) 638-3585.

The format of the meeting will be the same as in the past few years, starting with a recreational activity on Wednesday afternoon followed by a welcome reception that evening. The Thursday speaking program will focus on three elements: the forest resource; markets, both old and new; and the opportunities that are available to landowners, loggers and members of the forest products industry. A band will provide entertainment on Thursday evening. On Friday, the meeting will conclude with a Board of Directors meeting. ■

## NATIONAL ISSUES - FOREST ROADS, TAXES

The Forest Roads issue continues to "break new grounds" for the Supreme Court, which is not always a good thing. The Supreme Court recently allowed supplemental briefs on the case that it originally took up in the first week in December in light of the newest EPA rules when petitioned by the state of Oregon.

Those briefs were submitted first by the State of Oregon and then other briefs were supplied by the forest products interests, the Solicitor General, and finally, the Northwest Environmental Defense Center (NEDC) this past week.

At the end of the day, it is easy to correctly assume that three of these groups represent a common belief on this issue. They would like to see the Supreme Court to vacate the decision by the Ninth District Court, which established logging roads as "industrial sources of pollution" in its controversial decision, and to establish that the EPA has the proven ability to regulate forest roads through Best Management Practices and Forest Practice Guidelines. There is no need for a special permit.

The NEDC has already taken steps towards further litigation by challenging the EPA's new rules on this issue that were published on the opening day of the Supreme Court case back in December.

Regardless of how the Supreme Court handles this current case, the NEDC's lawsuit against the EPA is already in the works.

Forestry interests remain vigilant and are determined to see the EPA's authority to regulate water quality issues remain intact and that forestry continues to be classified as a non-industrial activity.

There is also prep work being completed on legislation to solve this issue if the Supreme Court were to fail to resolve this issue.

During the past month, the newest litigation at the district court level has been suspended

until the Supreme Court issues some sort of decision on the original case. The Court's decision, which could come in March, would set the course for that newest court battle.

In terms of taxes, there have been discussions on a comprehensive tax reform bill being introduced in 2013. The last time Congress undertook a substantial tax reform was back in 1986. Forestry interests are focusing on three specific timber tax issues: 1) Deduction for timber growing costs, 2) Timber revenue subject to capital gains, 3) Deduction and amortization of reforestation costs, have been listed as an expenditure by the Joint Tax Committee (JTC). This committee establishes a list before each Congressional session of tax breaks that if removed, would generate income for the federal government.

It is important to note that this is a long and exhaustive list and the tax provisions for timber are "shrimp among whales" in the sea of tax provisions. The JTC estimates that the tax expenditures for these three provisions in 2013 is \$900 million, and \$4.5 billion for the five year period of 2013-2017 inclusive.

Repealing these provisions will significantly reduce investment in forestry and create very significant job and economic impacts that could dwarf any cost savings. According to a study prepared by Quantria, at the request of the National Alliance of Forest Owners, repealing these provisions would lead to a \$34 billion reduction in domestic receipts annually from timber and lead to the loss of 140,000 jobs in the forestry, wood products and pulp and paper industries. The report can be found at: <http://nafoalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/Quantria-9-2012.pdf>.

Forestry interests will be reaching out to the House Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Finance Committee to educate them on the positive impacts these tax provisions have for forestland owners and the environmental benefits these forestlands provide for all citizens. ■

## THREE COMMUNITIES EARN FIREWISE STATUS

Three North Carolina communities recently earned the Firewise Community Status for their commitment to making their communities more informed about wildfire danger and taking preventative steps towards limiting wildfire risk. The National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) Firewise Communities program encourages local solutions for wildfire safety by involving homeowners, community leaders, planners, developers, firefighters, and others in the effort to protect people and property from wildfire risks. The program is co-sponsored by the USDA Forest Service, the U.S. Department of the Interior, and the National Association of State Foresters.

Carolina Trace, which is in Lee County, has a total of 19 different property owner associations and 1,500 homes so it was a challenge to get their Firewise Board organized. Sam Buchanan, Matt Garner and Don Watson worked closely with this community to educate them and bring them on board. Surprisingly, a large portion of this community has an abundance of Mountain Laurel in the understory, which poses an increase to their wildfire threat.

Waterford Place, which is in Transylvania County, has 62 residences. County Ranger Ken McJunkin and Transylvania Assistant County Ranger Frank "Buster" Rogers worked with the Brevard Fire Department to educate the residents and make them aware of their threat from wildfire.

Laurel Acres, located in Buncombe County, is a small community located near Swannanoa. Buncombe County Ranger Rob Townley and the Swannanoa Fire Department worked together to help the residents understand that they were at risk from wildfires. The 30 residents have been working for the last year developing their mitigation plan to reduce their risk and have started a successful program in their community.

If you would like to learn more about the Firewise program, you can go online at [www.ncfirewise.org](http://www.ncfirewise.org) or by calling one of the Firewise Coordinators in North Carolina: Mountain Region, Greg Yates, 828-665-8688; Piedmont Region, Greg Hicks, 919-542-1515; Coastal Region, John Willis, 252-520-2402. You may also contact the statewide Firewise Coordinator, Gary Wood, at 919-553-6178. ■





## MODULE 13 TRAINING UP AND RUNNING

The required annual training for 2013, Module 13, has started and several classes have already been completed. A complete listing of classes is included in this issue and the most up-to-date list is emailed out weekly and posted on the NCFA's website under the ProLogger section.

ProLoggers are encouraged to check with their suppliers on when a class will be held in their area. Companies that are hosting classes are also encouraged to let the NCFA know when and where they are holding classes so they can be updated on the website and newsletter.



### Module 13 Training Calendar

3/14	5:30 PM	James River Equipment, Mt. Gilead
3/14	5:30 PM	James Sprunt CC, Monk Auditorium, Kenansville
3/25	5:00 PM	GP Dudley CNS Training Room, Dudley
4/9	6:00 PM	Domtar, Plymouth
4/11	5:30 PM	Weyerhaeuser Pulp Mill, New Bern
4/11	6:00 PM	Forsyth County Ag Center, Winston-Salem
4/12	12:30 PM	Chatham County Ag Center, Pittsboro
4/29	5:00 PM	GP Dudley CNS Training Room, Dudley
5/21	5:30 PM	McDowell CC, Marion
6/25	6:00 PM	Roaring River VFD, Roaring River

If you are hosting a class, please e-mail Chris Brown at [cbrown@ncforestry.org](mailto:cbrown@ncforestry.org) so your class can be added to this list.

### ProLogger Base Class

The Safety, Logging and Transportation Committee has established two dates for the ProLogger base course for 2013.

April 24-26, 2013 at Lenoir Community College in Kinston

June 12-14, 2013 at Forsyth Community College in Winston-Salem ■

## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO AUDIT CSA PROGRAM

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Office of Inspector General (OIG) issued a Memorandum stating its intent to audit the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA's) implementation of its Compliance, Safety, Accountability (CSA) program.

According to the memo from Joseph W. Comé, Assistant Inspector General for Highway and Transit Audits, to FMCSA, at the September 13, 2012, hearing on truck and bus safety programs before the House Transportation and Infrastructure Highways and Transit Subcommittee, members of Congress and the trucking industry expressed concerns about CSA implementation, particularly the Safety Measurement System (SMS) evaluation of carrier performance and risk.

Following the hearing, the Chairman and Ranking Member of the subcommittee requested that the OIG evaluate FMCSA's implementation of CSA. Specifically, the audit will assess whether FMCSA has: Established adequate controls to ensure the quality of the data used to evaluate carrier performance and risk, and effectively implemented CSA enforcement interventions.

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) is currently reviewing CSA's identification of the highest risk carriers, and OIG will coordinate with GAO during its audit to avoid duplication of work. OIG plans to begin its audit in January 2013 and will coordinate with FMCSA's audit liaison to schedule an entrance conference.

Background: At the end of 2010, FMCSA implemented its CSA program intended to improve commercial motor vehicle safety by focusing enforcement efforts on higher risk carriers. The centerpiece of CSA is the SMS, which uses seven safety improvement categories called Behavior Analysis and Safety Improvement Categories to evaluate carriers' performance and assess their potential crash risks. CSA also includes a wide array of enforcement interventions, such as targeted roadside inspections and compliance reviews, aimed at improving carrier safety. ■

## SHAVER WOOD PRODUCTS ANNOUNCES MANAGEMENT SUCCESSION

Wilson "Chad" Shaver was named the Executive Vice President by the Shaver Wood Products' Board of Directors, effective January 1, 2013, via a press release from the company. Chad Shaver began working at Shaver Wood Products prior to his graduation from high school and after his graduation from Haywood Technical Institute. He is familiar with all phases of the business. Shaver Wood Products was founded in 1973 by Richard "Jimbo" Shaver and is one of the largest independent wood processors in Western North Carolina. ■

## WOOD PELLET EXPORTS TO EUROPE ON RISE ALONG WITH LOG IMPORTS TO CHINA

According to the North American Wood Fiber Review, wood pellet exports from North America to Europe were up over 70% in the third quarter of 2012. The increase is the result of the rapid expansion of wood pellet production in both the United States southeast region and British Columbia has dramatically increased pellet exports from North America to Europe the past year, according to the North American Wood Fiber Review. In the third quarter of 2012, total shipments were over 860,000 tons. The growth is expected to continue with numerous plans for adding capacity, particularly in the southern U.S.

In other export news, according to the Wood Resource Quarterly, log imports to China from New Zealand and the United States were up 26 percent in the second half of 2012 and Chinese log prices reached new record highs. Log imports to China were off to a slow start in 2012 but in the second half of the year, shipments picked up with New Zealand and the United States gaining the biggest market shares. The Chinese domestic log market also heated up, with log prices reaching record high levels.

Demand for imported softwood logs in China increased in the second half of 2012 after declining during the first six months of the year. Total imports in the second half of 2012 were up nine percent, but the increase was not equally distributed between supplying countries. Shipments from New Zealand and the United States were up 29 percent and 20 percent, respectively, while Russian exports to China fell nine percent in the second half of 2012. Log imports for the full year were down 15 percent from 2011, which was the first decline since 2008. From 2008 to 2011, China's imports increased by as much as 70 percent to a record 30 million in 2011. Despite the decline in 2012, the total import volume was still the second highest on record. And for the month of December, there have never been more logs unloaded in Chinese ports than in the December of 2012.

The reports in this article can be found at [www.woodprices.com](http://www.woodprices.com) and are provided by the Wood Resources International, LLC. ■

## MID-ATLANTIC LOGGING & BIOMASS EXPO SEPTEMBER 20-21, 2013 SMITHFIELD-SELMA AREA

The 2013 Mid-Atlantic Logging & Biomass Expo will take place on September 20-21, 2013 in the Smithfield-Selma area. The site will be close to where it was held in 2011. The SLTC will once again be supporting Expo partners North Carolina Association of Professional Loggers (NCAPL), Hatton-Brown Publishers and the NCFA in the hosting of the show. The goal in 2013 is to grow the show beyond equipment dealers to include more exhibitors of outdoors equipment, both recreational and business. ■



**MID-ATLANTIC  
LOGGING & BIOMASS EXPO**



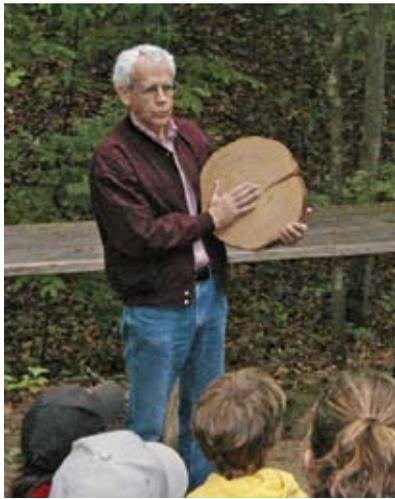
## TIMBER TAX WEBSITE ESTABLISHED FOR LANDOWNERS

The National Timber Tax Website was developed to be used by timberland owners, as well as a reference for accountants, attorneys, consulting foresters and other professionals who work with timberland owners regarding the tax treatment of timber related activities. The website is [www.timbertax.org](http://www.timbertax.org). ■

## NEW N.C. STATE SCHOLARSHIPS HONOR ZOBEL AND KELLISON

The Richard and Rita Porterfield Charitable Trust established a scholarship endowment dedicated to the late Bruce Zobel and Robert Kellison. Zobel and Kellison, professors, mentors and friends to innumerable N.C. State University students over their decades of service to the profession of forestry, will be recognized in perpetuity through this endowment.

These “teachers” positively affected the lives and work of many natural resource managers here at NC State and around the world.



Dr. Bob Kellison is shown here teaching at one of the NCFEA's Forestry & Environmental Camp.

The endowment states, “The recipient of this scholarship should ever strive to be such a positive influence on others throughout their careers.”

Dr. Bruce Zobel served N.C. State University for 55 years in the field of forest genetics and founded the Camcore program in gene conservation and forest genetics. During his tenure, Dr. Zobel received numerous awards including the Alexander Quarles Holladay medal for career achievements and contributions to the university.

Dr. Robert Kellison, Professor Emeritus of Forestry, came to NC State in 1966 to pursue his MS and PhD. He joined the faculty and became a leader in the areas of forest genetics and silviculture. Because of their contributions, our natural environment as well as the populous of the world has ultimately benefited. ■

## RAYMOND ESTABLISHES FOREST PRODUCTS SCHOLARSHIP AT N.C. STATE

Art Raymond, a 1969 alumnus of the College of Natural Resources, has established the A.G. Raymond Forest Products Scholarship Endowment in the fall of 2012 to provide need-based undergraduate scholarships for Wood Products students in North Carolina State University's Department of Forest Biomaterials.

Having headed his own consulting firm specializing in wood products manufacturing and currently serving as Senior Vice President of Hooker Furniture, Art understands the importance of combining knowledge driven science with sound business practices to create usable, sustainable products for the consumer in the global market. Art has served since 2002 on the N.C. State Natural Resources Foundation Board of Directors on the Executive Committee, Budget Committee and Chair of the Development Committee. He is also an Adjunct Professor in the College of Natural Resources and has served as a guest lecturer in Industrial Engineering, as well as, an active member of both the N.C. State Alumni Association and the Wolfpack Club.

This endowment will be used to provide need-based undergraduate scholarships for wood products students in the College of Natural Resources. Awards will be for one academic year and may be renewable based on specific criteria being met. ■

## FOREST PRODUCTS EXPO EXPANDS FLOOR PLAN FOR THIS YEAR'S SHOW

The Southern Forest Products Association (SFPA) has announced expansion of the floor plan for the 32nd Forest Products Machinery and Equipment Exposition – EXPO 2013. Citing increased interest in exhibit space for this event, set for June 5-7 at Atlanta's Georgia World Congress Center, exposition director Eric Gee has made available to exhibitors an additional 3,000 square feet of exhibit space.

With well over 100 companies under contract to display the latest forest products machinery, products and services, the show is attracting many first-time exhibitors. “The expansion of EXPO 2013 will allow us to accommodate the recent steady surge in demand for exhibit space,” Eric says. “The enlarged floor plan includes some prime spaces along the main aisle,” he adds.

Registration to attend EXPO 2013 is now open. Complete registration information, housing details and other show facts are available by visiting [www.sfpaexpo.com](http://www.sfpaexpo.com).

For more information about EXPO 2013, visit [www.sfpaexpo.com](http://www.sfpaexpo.com). Contact Eric Gee at 504/443-4464, ext. 214 or by e-mail at [egee@sfpa.org](mailto:egee@sfpa.org). ■

## NEW MEMBERS

MEMBER	CITY
<i>Brushy Mountain Dry Kiln, LLC.....</i>	<i>Greensboro</i>
<i>Chip n Log, Inc.....</i>	<i>Summerfield</i>
<i>Goodwin Trucking.....</i>	<i>Wadesboro</i>
<i>Jain Hunting Club.....</i>	<i>Chapel Hill</i>
<i>Timothy Kornegay Logging.....</i>	<i>Albertson</i>
<i>Leach's Timber Thinning LLC.....</i>	<i>Pikeville</i>
<i>James G. Reid Ent., Inc.....</i>	<i>Gatesville</i>
<i>James R Tilley III.....</i>	<i>Raleigh</i>
<i>Tim-Con Forest Products, Inc.....</i>	<i>Williamston</i>

## CATERPILLAR INTRODUCES NEW C SERIES KNUCKLEBOOM LOADERS

The new Cat 579C and Prentice 2484C knuckleboom loaders from Caterpillar Forest Products feature an engine that burns less fuel, an upgraded hydraulic system and 35% more lift at full reach than previous models. The new loaders also have a right-side operator's cab with a walk-up platform and enlarged doorway for safe access to the cab.

“Like previous models, the new C Series models are fast and smooth with superior multifunction capability. With the new hydraulics, they're more reliable, and with the new engine, more fuel efficient, too,” said Blake Vaughn, Caterpillar Forest Products product performance engineer.

The 579C and 2484C loaders, the first models in the C Series line to be introduced, are powered by the 129.5 kW (174 hp) Cat C6.6 ACERT engine. In designing the engine to meet U.S. Tier 4 Interim emissions regulations, new technology was incorporated to ensure that changes would not reduce the life of the system, increase operating costs or reduce productive uptime. The new engine burns at least 5% less fuel than the previous C6.6. The automatic engine idle down feature and the variable speed engine fan that cools only as required, further reduce fuel consumption.

Three operating modes give operators the flexibility to match hydraulic power to the job requirements, from thinning small pine to clear cutting big hardwoods. For normal loading operations, the Economy Mode provides fast cycle times and the most fuel economy. The Run Mode allows more hydraulic power for more demanding jobs and the Power Mode provides the most muscle for heavy duty delimiting, slashing and loading applications.

These loaders lift 4572 kg (10,079 lb.) at full reach, compared to 3375 kg (7,441 lb.) with the previous models. “The boost in lift capacity is right where the operator can use it most – at full reach,” Vaughn said. “The lift capacity in the previous models was already strong throughout the rest of the range of motion, so with the increase in lift at full reach, it gives operators that much more capability.”

The C Series has an excavator-style Negicon piston pump hydraulic system, a robust, reliable system with a simple valve design and big spools to allow fluid to pass through easily. The increase in hydraulic line size also accelerates grapple opening and closing. Other improvements to increase the loaders' reliability include: solid state controls, Cat ToughGuard™ hoses and O-ring face seals, and beefed up boom tube clamps.

A number of design changes improve serviceability. The filters for fuel, hydraulic oil, engine oil, pilot and case drain are all accessed and serviced standing safely on the ground. The hydraulic return filter is mounted on the outside of the hydraulic reservoir, a design widely used in excavators. ■



# LANDOWNERS' CORNER

## LANDOWNERS CAN SIGN UP FOR CRP PROGRAM AT FSA

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) has announced the next general Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) signup, entitled Signup 45, will be held from May 20, 2013, through June 14, 2013. Land that is not currently enrolled in CRP, as well as land with a contract expiring on September 30, 2013, may be offered for enrollment during Signup 45.

Changes to the national environmental benefits index (EBI) used in previous general signups are not expected. Conservation plans prepared by NRCS or Technical Service Providers will need to be completed at some date (yet to be determined) in order for the new contracts to become effective on Oct. 1, 2013. In terms of continuous signup status, the FSA has not authorized continuous signup enrollment at this time.

The FSA will provide further notification when its county offices are permitted to begin accepting offers under continuous signup criteria. Questions about the CRP signup can be addressed to Matt Flint, Assistant State Conservationist with USDA-NRCS, at (919) 873-2124. ■

## NC TREE FARM PROGRAM SCHEDULES WORKSHOP FOR WILKES COUNTY

The North Carolina Tree Farm Program will host the Wilkes-Yadkin Landowner Workshop on Friday, May 3, 2013 at the Windsor Crossroads Community Building in Yadkin County. The workshop will be a free event for landowners and will include a lunch. Foresters will be able to earn CFEs.

It will feature a live chainsaw demonstration presented by Bryan Wagner of Forestry Mutual Insurance. Other topics will include Safety on the Tree Farm, Using Certified Trained Loggers, Forest Management and Wildlife Habitat, and Stream Crossings.

The meeting site and Tree Farm are located just west of the I-77 and U.S. 421 intersection, which is about 25 miles west of Winston-Salem. More detailed directions, agenda, and registration information to follow. If you have questions, please contact Steve Cox at [stevecox@surry.net](mailto:stevecox@surry.net). ■



## MCBI Program Offers Conservation Opportunity... (from page 1)

and the North Carolina Foundation for Soil & Water Conservation.

Participating landowners must have a conservation or land management plan and they can implement their plan by using the various conservation programs which are available through the counties' local Soil & Water Conservation Districts as well as other statewide programs.

The MBCI has a dual purpose of protecting rural working lands, including agriculture, forestry, wildlife and other similar open space land uses, and their associated natural resources while providing training space for our military.

The program has been developed over the past two years of planning by an experienced set of conservation organizations and agencies interested in making a difference in protecting the rural working lands of eastern North Carolina, providing additional income for rural landowners, and supporting military training needs. Overall, 30 stakeholder organizations are engaged in this initiative to contribute leadership, technical expertise, program administration skills, information and monetary resources to MBCI.

The North Carolina Foundation for Soil & Water Conservation (the Foundation), the North Carolina Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts (the Association), 18 local Soil & Water Conservation Districts (the Districts), the North Carolina Agriculture Development & Farmland Preservation Trust Fund, the North Carolina Forestry Association, the NC Farm Bureau, the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, North Carolina State University, the U.S. Marine Corps Installations East (MCIEAST - includes all U.S. Marine Corps Installation east of the Mississippi River) and others are responsible for organizing this program.

Funding for MBCI is made possible by the Office of the Secretary of Defense through the U.S. Navy and MCIEAST. Other costs associated with implementing the program are covered by the North Carolina Agriculture Development & Farmland Preservation Trust Fund and other sources.

Any land that is submitted for consideration must be enrolled in the county's Present Use Valuation taxation programs for agriculture, horticulture, or forestry, or the Wildlife Conservation Program. If not yet enrolled, the land must be enrolled during the county's next available sign up period. Landowners will have to provide evidence of an active land management plan in effect or agree to develop one. Land management plans may include conservation plans, forest management plans, wildlife management plans, forest stewardship plans, or other such plans that include the use and management of agriculture, forestry, or wildlife land and associated natural resources. Landowners who may rent or lease their land for farming purposes may continue to do so as long as the land remains in agriculture, forestry, or wildlife.

For more information on this project, contact the local Soil & Water Conservation Districts listed below or by going online at [www.ncagr.gov/SWC/findyourdistrict](http://www.ncagr.gov/SWC/findyourdistrict).

Beaufort	252.946.4989	Ag Building - 155 C Airport Road, Washington NC 27889
Bertie	252.794.5305	County Office - P.O. Box 566 - Windsor NC 27983-0566
Carteret	252.222.6360	303 College Circle, Morehead City NC 28557
Craven	252.637.2547	302 Industrial Drive, New Bern NC 28562
Duplin	910.296.2120	165 Agriculture Drive - Suite B, Kenansville NC 28349-9058
Edgecombe	252.641.7900	P.O. Box 10, 201 Saint Andrew Street, Tarboro NC 27886
Franklin	919.496.3137	101 S Bickett Boulevard - Suite B, Louisburg NC 27549
Halifax	252.583.3481	P.O. Box 8, Halifax NC 27839-0008
Harnett	910.893.7584	P.O. Box 267, Lillington NC 27546
Johnston	919.934.7156 x 3	2736 NC Highway 210, Smithfield NC 27577
Jones	252.448.2731	P.O. Box 40 Market Street, Trenton NC 28585
Lenoir	252.523.7010	Federal Bldg - 2026 NC Highway 11-55, Kinston NC 28501
Martin	252.792.4350	104 Kehukee Park Road, Williamston NC 27892-9596
Nash	252.459.4116 x 3	Room 107 Ag Center Drive, Nashville NC 27856-1750
Onslow	910.937.1306	Multi Complex, 4028 Richlands Hwy, Jacksonville NC 28540
Pamlico	252.745.4303	P.O. Box 305, Bayboro NC 28515
Sampson	910.592.7963 x 3	84 County Complex Road, Clinton NC 28328
Wake	919.250.1050	WC Office Park, 4001-D Carya Drive, Raleigh NC 27610

## WORKING TOGETHER FOR LONGLEAF AND PRESCRIBED FIRE WORKSHOP

The North Carolina Prescribed Fire Council and The North Carolina Longleaf Coalition will host a joint meeting to explore collaborative opportunities to more effectively reach our longleaf pine ecosystem and prescribed fire goals.

The meeting will take place on August 27-28, 2013 in Wilmington. The first day will be feature speaker, Robert Abernathy, who is the Longleaf Alliance Director and a North Carolina Landowner. The meeting will take place at the Hilton in Wilmington. On the following day, there will be a half-day tour of the Orton Plantation.

More details will be available in the coming month from the sponsors. ■

## VILSACK ISSUES STATEMENT ON 2013 FARM INCOME FORECAST

United States Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack released a statement about the 2013 farm income forecast from USDA's Economic Research Service:

"Today's forecast for the strongest net farm income in four decades is another positive testament to the resilience and productivity of U.S. farmers and ranchers. American agriculture continues to endure an historic drought with tremendous resolve, and last year was an important reminder of the need for a strong safety net. The commitment of American producers to embrace innovation and adapt to new challenges has helped fuel growth for American agriculture over the past five years. I am also heartened that our farmers' keen business sense is continuing the recent trend of strong farm finances, with farm equity set to reach another record high in 2013." ■

## FEDERAL DISASTER RELIEF FUNDING

In February, Hurricane Sandy relief funding was approved which included \$23 million for the Emergency Forest Restoration Program, which helps forest landowners restore their woodlands following a natural disaster. Landowners interested in accessing resources to help recover from disasters like Hurricane Sandy should contact your local Farm Service Agency (FSA) office and report damage to your property right away. Once they assess the need, FSA can apply for EFRP funds to be directed to disaster areas North Carolina. These programs may provide up to 75% cost-share assistance to restore forests following an unexpected disaster. ■

## SUPERVISOR BAIL CLARIFIES USFS POLICY ON NEW CONSTRUCTION

**I**n January, during the North Carolina SFI State Implementation Committee (NC SFI SIC) Meeting, SFI National expressed a concern to the NC SFI SIC about a press release that promoted a new ranger station opening that was built to LEED standards in Western North Carolina back in November of 2011. Upon reaching out to Supervisor Bail on this issue, NCFA staff learned that a new directive was established in May of 2011 by the USFS to now include other certification systems such as SFI and Tree Farm as well as those systems outlined in the LEED standard.

The new directive states which went into effect on 5/27/11 now reads:

“Green building certification systems are well established in the private sector as a means of determining the sustainability in new building design and construction. Using these certification systems is the most efficient method for meeting the Guiding Principles in new construction. In addition to the requirements set forth below, new building construction projects for regional offices, supervisor’s offices, district offices, visitor centers, and research offices or laboratories where the building is 10,000 gross square feet (GSF) or greater in size must be registered and certified using either the U.S. Green Building Council’s Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system (minimum Silver certification), Green Globes (minimum Two Green Globes certification) or other third-party certification system. All other buildings, whether new or major renovations, must be designed to incorporate sustainable principles into the systems and components appropriate to the building type and project scope. This requirement applies to buildings on an individual basis, and the most recently issued version of the third-party certification system must be used. It is encouraged that Forest Service construction projects be designed and constructed with domestically harvested wood products ideally locally sourced and from National Forest System lands, wherever practicable and feasible.”

All of the new buildings being planned and constructed from this point forth use this new standard. There is a new building being constructed in South Carolina that is using the new directive. The building in question in Western North Carolina was already under construction before this change in directive had been made. The NCFA appreciates Supervisor Bail’s assistance in clarifying this issue for our membership. ■

## HUNT CLUB INSURANCE RENEWALS SET TO GO OUT IN MAIL TO EXISTING CLUBS

**T**he NCFA’s Hunting Lease Liability Insurance Program provides a one-year policy that goes into effect August 1 and expires August 1 of the following year. Renewals for next year’s policies will be going out in the mail to existing clubs and landowners.

As existing policyholders are aware, the policy is strictly hunting lease liability insurance and does not take the place of liability insurance unrelated to leased hunting activities. Land covered under the policy cannot be subleased and must be located in North Carolina, South Carolina or Virginia.

Each distinct owner of the land (whether the owner is an individual, partnership, trust, corporation or other) must maintain a membership in the NCFA and qualify for insurance coverage by filling out a separate application form. Since the policy names both the landowner and the hunt club as insureds, each receives a certificate of insurance.

The NCFA annual membership fee for landowners is \$40 for ownership of up to 500 acres plus \$0.02 per acre for any acres above 500. The annual membership fee for hunt clubs is \$55 per club. These fees provide a one-year membership in the NCFA and include all the benefits of membership. Both the hunt club and the landowner must be NCFA members in good standing to qualify for insurance.

If you have any questions regarding the program, please contact Ann Harper with the NCFA at (919) 834-3943 ext. 1. ■

## TEACHER ACADEMY PROGRAM NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

**T**he 2013 Sustainable Forestry Teachers’ Academy is now taking applications for the two programs that will be run this summer. The program is a great opportunity for teachers to gain some summer professional development during a week-long academy. The Coastal Academy, which is based in New Bern, will take place on June 17-21, 2013. The Mountain Academy, which is based in Asheville, will take place on June 24-28, 2013. The application can be found online at [www.ces.ncsu.edu/forestry/educational\\_opportunities/teachers\\_academy/application.php](http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/forestry/educational_opportunities/teachers_academy/application.php). The deadline is April 5, 2013. N.C. State University Extension Forestry is the coordinator of the Academies. Please contact Jennifer Grantham at (919) 515-5518 or [jennifer\\_grantham@ncsu-feop.org](mailto:jennifer_grantham@ncsu-feop.org) with questions. ■



## CHAINSAW REQUIREMENTS FOR SAWMILL OPERATIONS

**I**n the lumber industry, more and more injuries are reported from employees using a chainsaw and not wearing the required personal protective equipment (PPE). Using a chainsaw is the most dangerous hand tool that can be used in the lumber industry and using PPE will protect employees against saw cuts and potential life threatening injuries.

As our field staff visits our policyholders, we have seen an increase in the number of safety violations from employees while operating a chainsaw at sawmills, planing mills, and pallet mill operations. There seems to be a misconception that the personal protective equipment (PPE) required by logging industry does not apply to mill operations.

But the OSHA regulation (1910.266) is very specific when it comes to chainsaw operations. The PPE for chainsaw operations is listed under the logging industry but applies to all industries. This particular requirement is known as a “horizontal standard.” Meaning, though you may be conducting operations in another industry; if you are using a chainsaw in that industry then the PPE requirement for chainsaws found in the 1910.266 regulation applies to you.

In that regulation you will find the following PPE guidelines: All employers that use a chainsaw in their operations shall:

- Ensure that personal protective equipment, including any personal protective equipment provided by an employee, is maintained in a serviceable condition.
- Provide hand protection which provides adequate protection from puncture wounds, cuts and lacerations.
- Provide leg protection constructed with cut-resistant material, such as ballistic nylon. The leg protection shall cover the full length of the thigh to the top of the boot on each leg to protect against contact with a moving chain saw.
- Ensure that foot protection that is constructed with cut-resistant material which will protect the employee against contact with a running chain saw.
- Ensure that head protection (hard hats) is worn if there is potential for head injury from falling or flying objects.
- Provide eye protection that guards against flying debris. Logger-type mesh screens may be worn but the eyes must still be protected with safety glasses.
- Provide approved hearing protection (ear muffs are the recommended since audiometric testing rates chainsaw noise at over 100 decibels).

If your company requires additional information of chainsaw safety or chainsaw training, please contact Forestry Mutual Insurance Company at 800-849-7788. ■

## TRAIL REPORT COMPLETED FOR NANTAHALA & PISGAH NATIONAL

**T**he U.S. Forest Service National Forests in North Carolina released its Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests Non-motorized Trail Strategy report in March. The report is available online at: [www.fs.usda.gov/goto/nctrailstrategy](http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/nctrailstrategy). The Nantahala and Pisgah national forests have close to 1,600 miles of non-motorized trails.

The report provides information on trail complexes in the Nantahala and Pisgah national forests and summarizes recommendations from stakeholders. While no decisions on specific trails are being made at this time, the report will serve as a guide for future trail management in the two national forests. The Trail Strategy process began in 2010 with Forest Service personnel updating the agency’s database of non-motorized trails by verifying location and condition of the existing trail system.

In 2012, the Forest Service held multiple public meetings in all six districts of the Nantahala and Pisgah national forests. During the public meetings, trail enthusiasts and others with knowledge of non-motorized trails in North Carolina had a chance to provide input. Organizations that promote nature-based tourism also played a role in development of the Non-motorized Trail Strategy. ■

# TRIBE LINE

MARCH 2013



*Northampton President Billy Ivey and Northampton County Ranger Rodney Black presented Thomas Lee Davis with the 2013 Northampton County Forestry Association Landowner of the Year Award at their February meeting.*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- April 2013**
- 10 SLTC Meeting, McLaurin Hunting Preserve
- 16 NCA's Forestry Day in the Legislature, Halifax Mall, Raleigh, NC
- 17 NCA's Board of Directors Meeting, NC Farm Bureau, Raleigh, NC
- May 2013**
- 15 NC SFI SIC Meeting, NCA Office, Raleigh, NC
- August 2013**
- 7 SLTC Meeting, Smithfield Chamber of Commerce, Smithfield, NC
- 21 NC SFI SIC Meeting, NCA Office, Raleigh, NC
- September 2013**
- 20-21 Mid-Atlantic Logging & Biomass Expo, Smithfield-Selma Area, NC
- October 2013**
- 2-4 NCA Annual Meeting, New Bern, NC
- November 2013**
- 6 Drake Landing, Fuquay-Varina, NC
- 13 NC SFI SIC Meeting, TBD
- 13-15 NC Wood Exports Conference, New Bern, NC
- December 2013**
- 25-26 Christmas Holiday

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