

# TREELINE

NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH CAROLINA FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

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## NCFA ANNUAL MEETING TAKES PLACE IN NEW BERN IN OCTOBER

The NCFA's "Dynamic Markets, Sustainable Opportunities" Annual Meeting will take place on October 2-4, 2013 in New Bern. The host hotel for the meeting will be the recently renovated DoubleTree by Hilton New Bern - Riverfront and the meeting will take place at the spacious New Bern Convention Center. Registration materials were mailed in June and they are currently online at [www.ncforestry.org](http://www.ncforestry.org).

"We have invited some of the leaders of our industry to discuss our industry from the markets to infrastructure perspective," stated NCFA Executive Vice President President Bob Schaefer. "New Bern is always a great host city and we hope our members will make the effort to participate in this year's meeting."



Enoviva CEO John Keppler will be speaking at the NCFA's 2013 Annual Meeting.

The speaking program lined up for the membership will detail the array of markets that are impacting the forest products industry, both emerging and traditional, and how our forest resource managers and private landowners are positioned to respond to these markets. It is worth seven CFE credits for foresters.

The meeting follows the same popular format as previous years with recreational activities on Wednesday. Thursday's speaking program will

feature comprehensive presentations on forestry and forest products markets. Over the past several months, North Carolina has been a focus of national debate on how forests are utilized in terms of the energy market or the 'wood fiber to energy' business. In addition to a look at the resource and emerging markets, the membership will hear from leaders in the softwood and hardwood markets. The program wraps up with a look at some of the infrastructure issues in North Carolina such as transportation and our ports.

On Thursday evening, Forestry Mutual and the NCFA will present their annual awards during dinner. After dinner, the dance floor will be open as the Fantastic Shakers take the stage to entertain the membership. During the speaking program on Thursday and through the awards dinner, the silent auction tables will be open. Hunting trips, fishing trips, professional sports tickets, homemade crafts and beach vacations are just a few of the items up for bid. ■

## FOREST HISTORY SOCIETY TO DEVELOP NEW DOCUMENTARY ON BILTMORE FOREST SCHOOL

The Forest History Society is co-developing a new documentary film about Carl Schenck and the birth of American forestry. *First in Forestry: Carl Schenck and the Biltmore Forest School* will examine the pivotal role that the Biltmore Estate's chief forester, Carl Schenck, and America's first school of forestry played in establishing American conservation principles.

George Vanderbilt's Biltmore Estate in Asheville, North Carolina, is known as the Cradle of Forestry in America after Vanderbilt hired Gifford Pinchot as the estate's first forester and Pinchot initiated the first large-scale forest management plan there in 1892. Carl Schenck succeeded Pinchot in 1895 and established the first forestry school in the United States in 1898. Schenck is said to have noted with pride that "My boys worked continuously in the woods while those at other schools saw wood only on their desks."

During its 15 years of operation, the Biltmore Forest School graduated nearly 400 foresters. Many of the school's alumni went on to play substantial and significant roles in shaping forestry in America by working as government or industry foresters or educating the next generation of foresters. In addition to teaching the first generation of American foresters, Schenck wrote some of the first forestry textbooks used in America, advised other private landowners about forest management, and developed the Biltmore stick still used to measure tree dimensions. In 1914, the land where his school had been became the Pisgah National Forest, the first national forest established east of the Mississippi. Fifty years later, the federal government preserved the school's buildings and grounds as the beautiful Cradle of Forestry in America National Historic Site on the Pisgah National Forest.

The Forest History Society, headquartered in Durham, North Carolina, in collaboration with UNC-TV and the Cradle of Forestry in America Interpretive Association, will produce and distribute this film upon completion. The Forest History Society is now seeking donations to support production of this project. You can learn more about the project and donate by going online at [www.BiltmoreForestSchool.org](http://www.BiltmoreForestSchool.org). All donations will be matched by a donor. ■



The Biltmore Forest School students, astride their horses in front of the first school house of forestry in the United States and ready to accompany their teacher, Carl Schenck (center, in white), on his daily inspection of George Vanderbilt's Pisgah Forest. (Photo courtesy of the Forest History Society)

## MID-ATLANTIC LOGGING & BIOMASS EXPO - SEPT. 20-21, 2013

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 NCFA's Safety, Logging and Transportation Committee will once again be supporting Expo partners North Carolina Association of Professional Loggers (NCAPL), Hatton-Brown Publishers and the NCFA in hosting the two-day event. The goal is to grow the show beyond equipment dealers to include more exhibitors of outdoors equipment, both recreational and business. Over 4,000 people passed through the gates in 2011.

You can obtain tickets and learn more about the Expo at <http://midatlantic-logging-biomass-expo.com/> ■



MID-ATLANTIC  
LOGGING & BIOMASS EXPO



## 2013 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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## 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. ■



## 2013 LEGISLATIVE SESSION CLOSES WITH TAX REFORM COMPROMISE AND FINAL FLURRY OF LEGISLATION

**T**he North Carolina General Assembly may have been led by a Republican majority with a Republican Governor for the first time in over a 100 years, but no one said that it would be smooth sailing when it came time to creating a budget for the state in the context of a commitment to a tax overhaul for the state that many Republicans had staked their campaign on. Predictably, three budget versions emerged from the Governor, House and Senate. An eventual compromise on tax reform and subsequent agreement on a new 20.6 billion dollar budget for North Carolina broke a log jam and led the way to a final rush of bills the final week of the session.

In terms of issues, the NCFA staff would like to thank its members for taking an active role in supporting forestry issues with their elected officials both during Forestry Day in the Legislature and by reaching out on specific issues.

"We heard firsthand from different members of the General Assembly that our membership and partner organizations were active and vocal in supporting our key issues," stated NCFA Executive Vice President Bob Schaefer. "It makes a difference. And, we appreciate the support. It makes our message stronger, and in the end, easier to advance our issues. Together with the efforts of our Friends of Forestry PAC, we have the ability to show that our issues are important and that we care about improving the health of our forests and the markets that provide so many valuable jobs to our membership and beyond."

One of the top issues for the NCFA membership was House Bill 628, Protect/Promote North Carolina Lumber. The original bill that emerged from the House correctly identified the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standard as a discriminatory construction standard that refuses to recognize other certified systems such as the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) and the American Tree Farm System (ATFS) that are currently used by North Carolina landowners and manufacturers. The bill successfully passed by a 70-43 margin by the House. The bill received a lot of support in the House and crossed over to the Senate with a lot of momentum. Maybe too much for some folks in different industries such as steel and concrete as they failed to see the goal of the bill was to level the playing field in the arena of forest certification. In the Senate, the bill was amended and the compromised version removed much of the specific language in terms of forest certification and green building certification. The bill still encourages the use of locally sourced raw materials. It also calls for the end cost of a certification building code to be cost effective, meaning state buildings cannot commit to a standard that will not pay for itself in savings down the road. The NCFA continues to support a revision of the LEED standard at the national level which would House Bill 628 redundant and will continue to work towards this end.

The NCFA also supported the inclusion of language in a general farm bill, Senate Bill 638, that provided an exemption for silviculture activities from the temporary driveway access permit. The approved bill includes an exemption for silviculture activities for the installation and removal of temporary driveway access permits providing the logger/forester has obtained the proper training and certification.

This legislation was supported by the NCFA, the North Carolina Association of Professional Loggers and other forestry interests. The NCFA also appreciates the North Carolina Department of Transportation's cooperation with this legislation.

It is important to note that if the proper training is not obtained, then the exemption does not apply and the existing permit process, which involves a \$50 fee, would be in place. As a reminder, this temporary driveway access permit law was enforced more in some districts than in others so some ProLoggers may not have encountered the need for this permit.

Another key issue that emerged late in the legislative session was the proposal to eliminate the existing sales tax exemption on logging equipment and supplies as part of House Bill 998. The original tax exemption was successfully supported by the NCFA through legislation in 2006. The NCFA, the North Carolina Association of Professional Loggers and other forestry interests stepped forward to ensure that this exemption would not be lost. After further review, the House decided to leave the sales tax exemption in the tax code and so did the Senate.

"We are pleased that we were able to make a strong case that this exemption was extremely important

(continued on page 7)



Senate Bill 638 provided language that exempts silviculture activities from the temporary driveway access permit law providing an education requirement is satisfied.

## NC VOTING DISTRICTS UPHELD BY PANEL

**D**emocrats, civil rights groups and various voting rights advocates hoped a court challenge to the approved voting districts for state and congressional offices established for last year's elections would result in repeal or further review of the districts. However, a three judge panel instead unanimously agreed that the districts did not violate any rules or laws and should stay as currently drawn.

Opponents have said they will appeal the decision to the North Carolina State Supreme Court. The current maps will be in place from 2012-2020. Proponents asserted the districts were drawn relying on the current rules and guidelines by state law. Redistricting only occurs every 10 years. This was the first redrawing of the district maps by a Republican dominated led legislature in many years.

Republicans picked up nine seats in the House last election and hold a 77-43 advantage in that chamber. The Republicans picked up two seats in the Senate and hold a 33-17 advantage after the 2012 election.

In other voting news, the new voter ID law has been signed by Governor McCrory which establishes the need to show identification when voting, adjustments to the early voting dates and the ability to register and vote in the same day. NCFA members should take the time to review the new requirements prior to next election to ensure they are properly registered and prepared to participate in the election process. ■

## FRIENDS OF FORESTRY PAC PREPARING FOR 2014

**T**he Friends of Forestry PAC supports candidates that are friends of forestry and the forest products industry in addition to educating candidates on issues important to forest landowners and forest products companies.

Formed in 1999, the FFPAC is non-partisan and not affiliated with any political party and is registered with the North Carolina State Board of Elections. In the last election cycle (2012 election), the FFPAC supported 51 candidates during the primaries and general election. A total of 47 of those candidates won their elections.

**HOW DO I CONTRIBUTE?** If you would like to become a FFPAC supporter, your contributions must be personal funds. For example, the FFPAC cannot accept a donation on a company check or company credit card. You can contact the FFPAC's treasurer, Chris Brown, at [cbrown@ncforestry.org](mailto:cbrown@ncforestry.org) or by call him at the NCFA office at (800) 231-7723 ext. 3. You can also go online at [www.ncforestry.org](http://www.ncforestry.org) to contribute as long as a personal credit card is used.

**WHO IS A FFPAC CLUB OF 100 MEMBER?** The Friends of Forestry PAC has a Club of 100 membership that consists of individuals dedicated to contributing \$500 annually. This membership is the backbone of the FFPAC and is open to all NCFA members.

Whether we like it or not, our elected officials are under tremendous amount of pressure to raise funds for each election. It takes a lot of money to get elected! So, we need to support those candidates that are willing to support forestry and the positive role forest products industry plays in our economy and environment.

With the close of this past legislative session, elected officials are already putting together fund raising activities together to prepare for next year's elections. Lawmakers cannot accept contributions while the General Assembly is in session. So, now is a great time for NCFA members to become active in supporting forestry by contributing to the FFPAC. Please contact Chris Brown for more information at [cbrown@ncforestry.org](mailto:cbrown@ncforestry.org) or at (800) 231-7723. ■

# POINT OF VIEW

## U.S. GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL REFUSES TO BUDGE ON FOREST CERTIFICATION

By Bob Schaefer, NCFA Executive Vice President

**I**n the aftermath of numerous legislative initiatives introduced this past spring in state houses across the southeast seeking to instill some equality to the LEED standard when it comes to the use of certified wood, the U.S. Green Building Council recently approved its fourth version of the standard. The "new standard" stoically maintains Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) as the only acceptable forest certification program and makes zero changes to the timber credit. This stubbornness on behalf of the U.S. Green Building Council is indefensible.

Here in North Carolina, the North Carolina Forestry Association supported a bill that sought to provide equal credit in the scoring of state building projects to wood locally grown, manufactured, and certified under Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI), American Tree Farm System (ATFS) and/or FSC. During the debate, forward thinking members of the North Carolina General Assembly invited industry leaders from forest products, steel, concrete, and the U.S. Building Council to discuss the standard in hopes of reaching a resolution. Obviously, our elected officials underestimated the members of U.S. Green Building Council and their blind commitment to the FSC standard.

It's time for North Carolina's lawmakers to step up and demand that the U.S. Building Council expand the forest certification category to include the ATFS and SFI certification programs. Since the ATFS is the most economical certification program of the three, it is the most popular standard among private, non-industrial forestland owners. These forestland owners, who own two thirds of North Carolina's 18.6 million acres of forests, need equal access to all markets in order to sustainably manage their forests into the future. ■

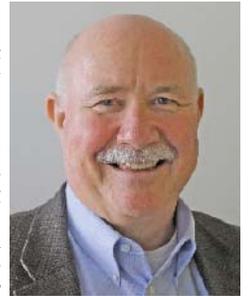
## NCFA JOINS EFFORT AGAINST NEW LEED STANDARD

**T**he NCFA has joined a national coalition of forestry associations and interests in filing an appeal with the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) over its recently adopted LEED v4 standard. The appellants argue that the new version of the LEED standard is discriminatory toward American lumber because it only awards wood credits to products certified by one system, the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC).

**The Basis for the Appeal** - On July 2<sup>nd</sup> the USGBC1 adopted LEED v4 without resolving what President and CEO Rick Fedrizzi described as "the single most contentious issue in USGBC's history." Despite letters of opposition from 89 Members of Congress, 14 Governors, and thousands of other affected stakeholders, LEED Version 4 continues to award credit to one brand of certified forest products (FSC) to the exclusion of competing products from the certification systems most widely used in the U.S. (SFI and ATFS).

The USGBC's records contain ample evidence that the preference for FSC certified products is not technically sound. FSC standards vary widely and the labels do not tell consumers which FSC standard a product comes from. A large percentage of FSC labeled products come from places with no endorsed standard at all: the prime example is Brazil, the globally dominant source of pulp in FSC labeled products positioned to earn credits under LEED v4.

SFI and Tree Farm certified products come from environmental and social conditions equal to or better than those of the FSC products endorsed by LEED, and should be equally



Bob Schaefer, NCFA  
Executive Vice President



recognized. The failure of the LEED standards to do so is the direct result of the USGBC's failure to use recognized processes - including those required by the USGBC's own policies and procedure - to meaningfully include all stakeholders and work to find consensus.

Appellants are directly and materially affected by the USGBC's adoption of LEED v4 without correcting the certified wood credit. Appellants represent a cross section of U.S. forest owners, manufacturers, producers and workers disadvantaged by LEED's exclusive recognition of FSC. The list includes, The Alabama Forestry Association, The Georgia Forestry Association, The Woodworkers Department of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, AFL CIO, The North Carolina Forestry Association, The Oregon Forest Industries Council, The Oregon Small Woodlands Association, The Southeastern Wood Producers Association, Weyerhaeuser Company, and Amelia Wright.

The complete 13-page appeal can be viewed online at [www.ncforestry.org](http://www.ncforestry.org) under the LEED Issue of the Current Issues Section. ■



## PROLOGGER YEAR TURNS TO 2013-2014 YEAR

The ProLogger calendar year turned to a new year on August 1, 2013 with the completion of the education deadline (June 30th) and the dues deadline (July 31st).

The NCFA would like to thank our ProLoggers and member companies for their efforts over the past year in participating in the continuing education course (Module 13) and paying their ProLogger dues.

The database on the website and all lists have been updated to reflect all payments received by the NCFA office as of August 3, 2013. Click on the "Search Your Status" button on the ProLogger page to search the database.

All ProLoggers who took Module 13 and have paid their dues will show up in good standing and up-to-date (August 1, 2014).

Any ProLogger who took Module 13 and did not paid his/her dues will show up as out of date (June 30, 2013) and will be removed from the program shortly.

Any ProLogger who failed to take Module 13 will not show up on the website or in the database. Those individuals have to retake the base course to gain entry into the program.

If you have any questions, please contact Jack Swanner (800) 231-7723 ext. 2 or Chris Brown at (800) 231-7723 ext.3. ■



This ProLoggers looks on during a base course field day held in Kinston. The ProLogger year rolled over on August 1, meaning all ProLoggers have until June 30, 2014 to take the upcoming Module 14.

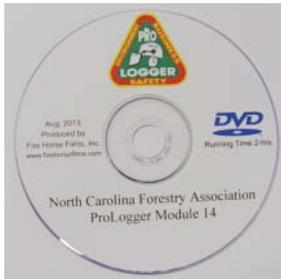
## MODULE 14 IS COMPLETE - TRAINING TO KICK OFF AT MID-ATLANTIC LOGGING EXPO

The NCFA ProLogger continuing education element training kick off on September 20-21 as part of the Mid-Atlantic Logging and Biomass Expo. As an added bonus to the Expo, there will be a training tent set up for ProLoggers to view and earn credit for taking the Module 14 course.

Once again produced by Fire Horse Films and under the guidance of the NCFA's Jack Swanner, Module 14 takes on four topics in the two hour program. Rutting, Emergency Plans, Overhead Hazards and Technology are the four major topics covered in the latest module. The NCFA would like to thank all the ProLoggers and training partners who participating in the making of this module. The NCFA would also like to thank the North Carolina SFI State Implementation Committee and Lampe for its support of the video.

As a reminder, PROLOGGERS must take Module 14 by JUNE 30, 2014 to remain in the program. Any ProLogger who fails to take Module 14 by this deadline will be REMOVED from the program and will have to take the base course over again to re-enter the program. ProLogger dues must be paid to the NCFA by July 31, 2014. Failure to pay dues will also disqualify a ProLogger from the program.

ProLoggers are encouraged to check with their suppliers in the coming weeks to find out when a Module 14 class will be held in their area. A complete list of classes will be highlighted in this newsletter, on our website, and as part of our weekly e-mail newsletter. If you would like to sign up for this weekly update, go to our home page, www.ncforestry.org and enter your e-mail in the appropriate box. You will automatically be signed up. ■



## TRUCKING UPDATE: HOURS OF SERVICE MODIFIED BY RECENT COURT RULING

A recent court ruling modified the requirement for drivers to take a 30 minute break as required under the new Hours of Service regulations that took effect on July 1, 2013.

The 30 minute break will no longer be required for interstate local short haul drivers who utilize the 100 air mile radius exemption that allows the drivers not to have to maintain a daily record of duty status (log). The 30 minute break requirement, however still applies to all drivers who have to complete a daily log. Make sure your drivers understand that this change is limited to only the 100 air mile radius drivers.

The decision was made by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. The challenge to the new requirements came from the American Trucking Association.

While the 30-minute, off-duty break requirement for short-haul drivers was vacated, the Court upheld the new limitations on the use of the restart, and the requirement that the 30-minute driving break be free of all on-duty activity, despite agreeing with ATA that the FMCSA's justification for the rule had serious flaws.

This means the following: 1. There will be NO change to the restart rule that became effective on July 1; and, 2. The 30 minute rest break rule does NOT apply to local, short haul drivers (100 air mile radius drivers), but DOES still apply to all drivers required to complete a logbook.

-- Information provided from American Truckers Association and Safety Compliance Associates, LLC.

## N.C. FOREST SERVICE URGES LOGGERS TO USE PRECAUTION IN WET CONDITIONS

The North Carolina Forest Service issued a press release in August to remind loggers, timber buyers and forest owners to take extra precautions to prevent sediment or soil from washing into creeks, to prevent excessive rutting or compacting of saturated soil, and to keep ground disturbance to a minimum when logging.

"The Forest Service has been busy inspecting logging sites around the state, and foresters and rangers have seen more problems lately, especially in areas with steeply sloped lands and soils that are prone to erosion," stated Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler.

Problems are mainly related to:

- ✓ Inadequate control of rainfall runoff from skid trails and logging roads
- ✓ Poorly established or improperly maintained stream crossings and skid trails
- ✓ Ineffective soil stabilization and site rehabilitation

In the logging industry, the measures and actions used to conserve soil and protect water quality are known as Best Management Practices. The Forest Service has a comprehensive user's guide to assist loggers and other forestry professionals with identifying and installing BMPs. The North Carolina Forestry BMP Manual and its corresponding Field Guide are available from Forest Service offices and online at <http://ncforestservice.gov>.

"The fundamental science behind forestry BMPs has been researched, field-tested and refined by forest scientists and industry experts for more than 75 years, and research is continuing," stated Troxler.

During prolonged or extreme wet weather like North Carolina has been experiencing, loggers are encouraged to use all applicable forestry BMPs, including the following tips:

- ✓ Do not install new equipment crossings over a stream or creek. Access timber from the other side if possible.
- ✓ Retain wider, undisturbed buffer zones of trees and vegetation alongside streams.
- ✓ Apply leftover tree tops, limbs, branches and woody debris to skid trails to cover bare soil throughout the duration of the logging work. This can prevent soil damage and reduce the risk of sediment washing down the slope and into a stream.
- ✓ Immediately apply groundcover stabilization on sloping sections of skid trails, on top of roads and next to stream crossings when finished. Prepare for heavy, prolonged rains.

NCFS County Rangers can provide free BMP advice and pre-harvest planning assistance to support logging work. Interested individuals also should review the extensive library of BMP recommendations available on the agency's website, including the latest BMP newsletter highlighting skid trail problems. ■

## STATE WATER QUALITY DIVISIONS MERGE & STORMWATER PERMIT FIND NEW HOME

**J**ohn Skvarla, secretary of the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources, announced in August the state agency is consolidating several of its programs to create greater efficiency at protecting water resources in North Carolina.

The state divisions of Water Quality and Water Resources are merging into one program called the N.C. Division of Water Resources, effective today. Merging the divisions will bring together about 484 employees, with more than two-thirds of them from the water quality program. The programs will remain headquartered in the Archdale Building, part of the state government complex in Raleigh. Water quality programs are responsible for ensuring North Carolina's water is clean while water resources programs are responsible for ensuring people have enough water for everyday uses.

"Making DENR a more efficient organization supports Governor McCrory's mission to make state government more responsive to our citizens," Skvarla said. "This merger will enable DENR to address water quality and water quantity issues holistically rather than separately, similar to placing doctors of different specialties in the same office together."

In the short term, programs and personnel in the divisions will remain unchanged. However, one of the goals of the consolidation is an evaluation of existing programs and the subsequent blending of water quality and quantity management structures to increase program efficiency. The Division of Water Quality was formed in 1996 and the Division of Water Resources was formed in 1980.

In addition to the consolidation of the two water agencies, the program devoted to stormwater regulation and education will be moved from the North Carolina Division of Water Quality to the North Carolina Division of Energy, Mineral and Land Resources (DEMLR).

All stormwater programs, including state permits for new construction and coastal development and federal stormwater permits, will move to DEMLR. About 30 stormwater staff members from the central office in Raleigh and regional offices statewide will be reassigned to DEMLR, but their locations and phone numbers will remain the same.

For those forest products facilities that are required to complete stormwater permits, you can go online at <http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/lr/stormwater> to learn more about the new organization and the newest stormwater permit issue for forest products facilities on August 1, 2013. The NCFCA staff and several NCFCA members provided input to the development of this newest version of this permit. ■

## BIOFUELS CENTER OF NORTH CAROLINA TO CLOSE DOORS DUE TO STATE BUDGET

**T**he Biofuels Center, located in Oxford, North Carolina, will be closing at the end of October after its funding was eliminated in the newest budget for the state as approved by the North Carolina General Assembly.

A private non-profit corporation, the Biofuels Center was recognized as a national model for exploring and developing biofuel solutions since its opening in 2008. The site in Oxford was home to several pilot projects in addition to the main office space for the organization.

"We regret that this valuable endeavor for economic, rural, energy, and agricultural gain statewide will cease," said Biofuels Center president and CEO W. Steven Burke. "The Center, a growing biofuels community statewide, and companies considering new facilities here share dismay that North Carolina has visibly pulled back from the nation's lead state biofuels agency and from long-term commitment to comprehensive biofuels development." ■



The Biofuels Center was home to several pilot projects for biofuels production, including trees.

## ADFP TRUST FUND AWARDS GRANTS

**T**he Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund recently awarded more than \$1.9 million to help communities across the state protect farmland and promote agricultural enterprises.



"The trust fund was able to grant 22 projects funding this year, including 11 projects that were funded from the state's legal settlement with the Tennessee Valley Authority," stated Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. "The conservation easements, agricultural projects and plans will help to solidify agriculture and agribusiness as North Carolina's top industry."

The trust fund's purpose is to support projects that encourage the preservation of qualifying agricultural, horticultural and forestlands while fostering the growth, development and sustainability of family farms. Grants can be awarded for agricultural agreements that promote the active production of food and fiber on farm and forestlands; public and private enterprise programs that promote profitable and sustainable farm and forestlands; and the purchase of conservation easements on farm and forestlands. The following is a list of applicants that received grants:

- Bertie County and Bertie County Cooperative Extension were awarded \$3,500 to help pay for educational meetings and other outreach to landowners on behalf of the county's VAD.
- The Buncombe County Soil and Water Conservation District received \$110,000 to assist with the purchase of a perpetual conservation easement on 78 acres of a livestock and crop farm owned by Gary Hutchins of Leicester.
- The Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy was awarded \$75,000 toward the purchase of a perpetual conservation easement on 25 acres of a livestock and crop farm owned by Will Jeffers of Leicester.
- The Buncombe County Soil and Water Conservation District was granted \$225,000 to assist with the purchase of a perpetual conservation easement on 167 acres of farm and forestland owned by Janet Peterson of Fletcher.
- The Cabarrus County Soil and Water Conservation District received \$228,112.50 to assist with the purchase of a perpetual conservation easement on 182 acres of a livestock and poultry farm owned by Thomas E. Porter Jr. of Concord.
- The Chatham County Soil and Water Conservation District was awarded

\$220,500 toward the purchase of a perpetual conservation easement on 220 acres of a livestock and poultry farm owned by Mike Lindley of Snow Camp.

- The Columbus County Soil and Water Conservation District was granted \$19,000 toward the purchase of a perpetual conservation easement on 15 acres of cropland in Chadbourn owned by Mary Yates of Ocean Isle Beach.
- Forsyth County and Forsyth County Cooperative Extension received \$14,000 to aid the development and adoption of a farmland protection plan.
- The Haywood County Economic Development Commission was awarded \$15,000 toward expanding the brand recognition of "Buy Haywood" products through increased access to marketing materials and working directly with farmers to better market locally grown products.
- The Haywood County Soil and Water Conservation District was granted \$32,694 toward the purchase of a 30-year term conservation easement on 28 acres of a livestock and crop farm owned by Matthew Swanger of Clyde.
- The Hyde County Soil and Water Conservation District received \$100,930 to assist with the purchase of a perpetual conservation easement on 77 acres of cropland owned by J.W. Spencer of Swan Quarter.
- The Jackson County Soil and Water Conservation District was awarded \$198,000 toward the purchase of a perpetual conservation easement on 121 acres of farm and forestland in Whittier owned by Billy Gibson of Sylva.
- The Macon County Soil and Water Conservation District was granted \$50,000 toward the purchase of a perpetual conservation easement on 150 acres of a livestock and crop farm owned by Jim and Sue Waldroop of Franklin.
- The Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy received \$275,000 to assist with the purchase of a perpetual conservation easement on 355 acres of farm and forestland owned by Betty Reeves of Leicester.
- Mitchell County was awarded \$60,326 toward funding site preparation for a school farm on the campus of Mitchell County High School in Bakersville.
- The Pender County Soil and Water Conservation District was granted \$3,500 to help pay for educational meetings and other outreach to landowners on behalf of the county's Voluntary Agricultural District.
- Carolina Mountain Conservancy received \$69,000 to assist with the

(continued on page 7)

# LANDOWNERS' CORNER

## NORTH CAROLINA FOREST SERVICE TAKING SEEDLING ORDERS

The North Carolina Forest Service's Nursery Program started accepting orders for seedlings in July. Landowners are encouraged to remember that with each new season, there are new challenges emerge for the nursery. Here are a few items of note heading into this year:

- **Shortleaf Pine** is expected to sell out early. If you have a project for shortleaf, encourage early orders.
- **Fraser Fir** is expected to be in high demand. Early indications are that we will see a flurry of orders in the first few days.
- Some hardwoods are low in numbers but landowners should expect to see a slight increase with later inventories.
- **Full sibling Elite Family Cross (EFC) Loblolly Pines** are available. These are marketed by other nurseries under the name Mass Control Pollinated Seedlings (MCP). These seedlings offer the best genetic potential available from non-clonal seedlings.
- The **White Pine** seedlings at Linville River Nursery are shaping up to be the best in many years.



The inventory of seedlings and more information can be found online at <http://ncforestservice.gov/nursery/NurseryandTreeImprovement.htm>. If you have any questions, please contact James West, Nursery and Tree Improvement Program Head, NCFS, at (919) 731-7988. ■

## RESEARCH VALIDATES THE VALUE OF ARBORGEN'S MCP SEEDLINGS

ArborGen has announced the results of a genetic comparison study conducted at a mid-rotation aged Loblolly Pine plantation in Berkeley County, SC, which validates the superior performance of Mass Control Pollinated® (MCP) Loblolly Pine seedlings over some of the best open pollinated (OP) families currently available on the market. ArborGen is currently the only significant supplier of MCP seedlings in the U.S. and these research findings reinforce the value of its advanced genetics product by providing data that demonstrates the superior performance and significant financial return.

"Advanced products such as MCP and Varietals offer additional value over traditional OP seedlings but, up till now, there has been little data from older stands confirming the expected performance," said John Pait, vice president of sales, marketing and product development of ArborGen. "This genetic comparison study offers real numbers that validate the superior performance of MCP over some of the best OP families in the market."

MCP seedlings are produced from crossing specific elite parents based on key productivity traits such as growth, form, branching and resistance to disease, stress and insects, to generate seedlings with the highest genetic potential. The recent study concluded that seedlings products such as MCP with advanced genetics technology offer significant productivity improvements and economic benefits over OP seeds. MCP seedlings offer higher volume per acre, have higher sawtimber potential and will generate much greater revenue at final harvest.

The genetics comparison study was established by MWV in 1998 at a Loblolly Pine plantation in Berkeley County, South Carolina. The trees in the study were measured every two years until age 12 and the stands were appropriately thinned at age 12 when the trees were 55-60 feet tall. Three OP families were planted along with two MCP families in 64 to 72 tree blocks with four replicates of each family. Pre-thinning and post-thinning measurements allowed for an analysis of growth, yield and stem quality at thinning and projected final harvest.

For more information on this study, go online at [www.arborgen.com](http://www.arborgen.com). ■

## NC TREE FARM PROGRAM TO HOST ANNUAL MEETING AT BATTS TREE FARM

The North Carolina Tree Farm Program is reaching out those who might be interested in being a sponsor at some level for its 2013 Tree Farm Annual Meeting to be held on the Tree Farm of Dwight and Judy Batts, Wilson County, NC, 2012 NC Tree Farmers of the Year, on Saturday, November 2, 2013.

The effort is being led by NCFA member Dave Woodmansee. There are suggested sponsorship levels outlined below, but any commitment will be appreciated. All sponsorship funds will be utilized to reduce the registration fees for attendees to encourage more family participation in this year's meeting.

While two sponsor levels are indicated, the program understands the present economic conditions may dictate a smaller amount and any level will be greatly appreciated.

**\$250 sponsors receive:** company name and logo on the registration materials which will be mailed to 850+ Tree Farmers, 200 Tree Farm Certifier/Inspectors and our partner organizations; company name on place cards at the awards breakfast; company name on a sponsor board in the meeting room.

**\$500 sponsors receive:** all of the above plus space for a display at the Wilson County Ag Center where the awards breakfast will be held plus a complimentary meeting registration.

The goal is to raise enough sponsorship dollars to registration fees modest for both adults and children. This is the first year we have specifically invited kids to attend and special activities will be provided for them at the Batts Farm.

All questions can be forwarded to Dave Woodmansee, RF at (252) 947-2345 / DWWForester@aol.com or Leslie McCormick at (919) 917-8646 / nctreefarm@gmail.com. ■



## USFS FOREST PLANNING WORKSHOP MOVES TO OCTOBER 5

The next workshop conducted as part of the Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests Management Plan revision will be held Saturday, October 5, 2013 at the N.C. Arboretum, 100 Frederick Law Olmsted Way, Asheville, NC 28806. The session will take place from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. This is a new date to replace the workshop that was scheduled to take place on August 3, 2013. ■

## NCFS URGES LANDOWNERS TO APPLY EARLY FOR FDP COST-SHARE

The North Carolina Forest Service has issued a memo outlining the Forest Development Program to all of its county rangers. Landowners are encouraged to apply early since funds typically run out before meeting the annual demand. ■

## NCFS RELEASES LATEST FOREST STEWARDSHIP NEWSLETTER

The NCFS's Les Hunter has published the latest Forest Stewardship Newsletter. The newsletter contains great information on the program for all forestland owners. You can reach this newsletter online at [http://ncforestservice.gov/Managing\\_your\\_forest/stew\\_newsletter.htm](http://ncforestservice.gov/Managing_your_forest/stew_newsletter.htm) or you can contact Les Hunter, Stewardship Coordinator, at (919) 857-4833 or [les.hunter@ncmail.net](mailto:les.hunter@ncmail.net). ■

## NORTH CAROLINA FIRE CREW TO HELP FIGHT FIRES IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Twenty U.S. Forest Service employees from North Carolina were called upon to help fight fires in northern California. The employees are members of a Type 2 Initial Attack Crew.

The crew will be flying out of Knoxville, Tennessee. Crew members will receive their assignment orders after arriving in California. This is the first time in several years that a North Carolina-based, U.S. Forest Service crew has been dispatched to fight fires in the western United States. The U.S. Forest Service employees are based at the Nantahala, Pisgah, and Uwharrie, National Forests in North Carolina. ■

# NEW MEMBERS

MEMBER	City
Squeak's Logging .....	Windsor
Weyerhaeuser Co. - Elkin .....	Elkin
Flowers Timber Co., Inc. ....	Goldsboro
Flat Rock Hunting Club.....	Youngsville

## US FOREST SERVICE AWARDS 44.2 MILLION TO CONSERVE AT RISK FORESTS

Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell recently announced the award of \$44.2 million in grants to permanently protect 16 working forests in 15 states.

"Since 1990, the Forest Legacy Program has prevented the loss of more than 2.3 million acres of private forest lands for future generations of Americans," said Tidwell. "In an era of continued sprawl, this program protects land and keeps working forests working."

Private forest landowners are facing increasing real estate prices, property taxes and development pressure, resulting in conversion of forests to other land uses. This program protects working forests, thereby supporting rural jobs and economies.

The Forest Legacy Program, a model of cooperation between states, partners and private landowners, is the only federal grant program focused on the permanent protection of important private forestland. The program promotes voluntary land conservation by operating on the principle of "willing buyer, willing seller."

Conserving more than 2.3 million acres of private forest legacy program lands is one of a number of important steps the Forest Service has taken to help make America's forests more resilient. Landscape-scale initiatives like the Forest Legacy Program are at the core of the Forest Service mission to sustain the health, diversity and productivity of all of the nation's forests, providing tremendous benefits for rural and urban communities.

One of the projects selected as part of the 2013 Forest Legacy program was the East Fork of the French Broad Headwaters located in North Carolina. The project is worth \$3 million.

The East Fork of the French Broad Headwaters project will protect 8,000 acres of working forestland in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina through fee simple acquisition. This tract connects to more than 100,000 acres of existing conservation lands in North Carolina and South Carolina, including the Jocassee Gorges Management Area, S.C., a 2001 Forest Legacy Program acquisition.

The project will expand the opportunities for public recreation by protecting the last privately-owned section of the Foothills Trail; opening more than five miles of trout streams to the public, and securing access to Sassafras Mountain, South Carolina's highest point. The project will also preserve more than 60 miles of streams and protect endangered plant species and other plant and animal species. For more information on the Forest Legacy Program, please visit <http://www.fs.fed.us/cooperativeforestry/programs/loa/flp.shtml>. ■

## NEW REGULATIONS FOR FIREWOOD BEING CONSIDERED AT FEDERAL LEVEL

Federal authorities are considering regulations that would require that commercial firewood destined to be moved interstate be affixed with a label on which the county and State, or counties and States, in which the wood from which the firewood was produced was harvested, the site at which the firewood was produced, what phytosanitary treatment, if any, the firewood has received, and contact information for reporting detections of suspected plant pests are prominently and legibly displayed.

The regulations would also require firewood producers, distributors, and retailers to retain records regarding the manufacturing, purchase, and sale of the firewood. This action would aid in preventing the further dissemination of plant pests within the United States through the interstate movement of firewood.

The timetable for these regulations going into place would be sometime in 2014. ■

## 2013 Legislative Session...(from page 2)

to our ProLoggers and our industry as a whole," stated Schaefer. "Our industry is the state's top manufacturing industry and while we are seeing some positive signs in the economy, our ProLoggers do not need new obstacles to overcome to meet their bottom line."

The NCFA staff appreciates the efforts of Senator Michael Walters, who provided the much needed support and insight on this issue with his peers in both legislative chambers.

"Certainly, Senator Walters' perspective and efforts are always critical when it comes to our industry and how legislative initiatives could impact our members," stated Schaefer. "We are grateful for his support and all of the lawmakers who stepped forward for our members. This was a critical issue for us."

Another budget item of particular interest to the NCFA's membership, the Environmental Management Commission and the Coastal Resources Commission had their respective rosters cleared and trimmed. Supporters view it as a way to streamlining government. Opponents view it as Governor Pat McCrory reshaping the commissions to be business friendly. The NCFA routinely provides input to both of these commissions based on the issue facing the commission. NCFA member Bob Emory of Weyerhaeuser serves as the current chair of the Coastal Resources Commission. The NCFA supported keeping forestry interests represented on these commissions.

Finally, the NCFA's supported maintaining the funding for the North Carolina Forestry Museum located in Whiteville. The Museum's funding was in jeopardy in the Senate's version of the budget. Thankfully, as was with the logging tax exemption, the Forestry Museum survived the compromise talks and will remain an important part of the North Carolina Science Museum system.

"The support from the Forest Industry and the N.C. Tree Farmers played an instrumental role ensuring the Forestry Museum remains a viable part of forestry educational efforts and a place where the story of forestry can be told," stated Forestry Museum Director Harry Warren. "Many thanks for every effort that was made on behalf of the museum to keep our doors open and serve the public. The future of the Forestry Museum holds much promise and I sincerely hope you will be part of the excitement."

It is important for our membership to remember that they have the ability to impact the legislative process by reaching out to their elected official. A complete list of House Members and Senate Members with their phone numbers and e-mail addresses can be found on the North Carolina General Assembly website. We encourage all members to take the time to find out who represents them so they can provide input on issues that may impact forestry. ■

## ADFP Awards Grants...(from page 5)

- purchase of a perpetual conservation easement on 21 acres of a livestock farm owned by Dale and Janet Robertson of Brevard.
- Warren County was awarded \$50,000 toward refurbishing a textile mill for a produce processing and distribution facility, the Center for Ag & Value-added Enterprise, that will serve small and mid-sized farmers.
- Blue Ridge Conservancy was granted \$60,000 toward the purchase of a perpetual conservation easement on 282 acres of a livestock farm and forestland owned by Ray and Virginia Ward of Sugar Grove.
- Piedmont Land Conservancy received \$14,000 to aid the development and adoption of a farmland protection plan.

The trust fund also awarded grants to the following organizations for projects of regional impact:

- Lee County was awarded \$7,500 to work with the Sandhills Farm to Table Cooperative to enact a pilot program that will assist farmers who wish to market produce to institutions under-served by local foods. The pilot program will serve Lee, Moore and Richmond counties.
- The N.C. Foundation for Soil and Water Conservation received a grant of \$87,000 to assist with creating a 30-year landowner agreement program for the preservation of working farms and forests under the military training route in Beaufort, Bertie, Duplin, Edgecombe, Franklin, Halifax, Harnett, Johnston, Jones, Lenoir, Martin, Nash, Onslow, Pamlico, Sampson and Wake counties.

If you have any questions or would like to learn more about the ADFP Trust Fund, please contact Dewitt Hardee, Manager with NCDA&CS Environmental Programs, at (919) 707-3069 or go online at <http://www.ncadfp.org/index.htm>. ■



The ADFP seeks to conserve North Carolina's rich history of agriculture and forestry.

# TREE LINE

AUGUST 2013



The Forest History Society is leading a fundraising effort to produce a documentary on Carl Schenck and North Carolina's role as the birthplace of American Forestry.

**August 2013**  
7 SLTC Meeting, Smithfield Chamber of Commerce, Smithfield, NC  
21 NC SFI SIC Meeting, NCEA Office, Raleigh, NC

**September 2013**  
20-21 Mid-Atlantic Logging & Biomass Expo, Smithfield-Selma Area, NC

**October 2013**  
2-4 NCEA Annual Meeting, New Bern, NC  
4 NCEA Board of Directors, New Bern, NC

**November 2013**  
2 NC Tree Farm Annual Meeting, Batts Tree Farm, Macclesfield, NC  
6 SLTC Meeting, 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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# CALENDAR OF EVENTS