

TREE LINE

NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH CAROLINA FORESTRY ASSOCIATION



(l-r) Appalachian State University Graduate Student Kayla Young, NC SFI SIC Vice Chair Amy Phillips and Appalachian State University Research Professor Gregg Marland pose for a photograph after the NC SFI State Implementation Committee meeting held in May at the NCFA office in Raleigh. Young updated the committee on a Climate Market initiative at the university and sought some further input from members of the committee. Young hopes to host a workshop sometime in the fall in Boone, NC.

SFTE SET TO BEGIN IN JUNE

The Sustainable Forestry Teachers Experience (SFTE) is ready to get underway in June with the first stop being in New Bern, NC on June 19-22, 2017. The Experience moves to Asheville from June 26-29, 2017 and finishes in Southern Pines on July 18-21, 2017.



This hands-on experience with the forest products industry is generously supported by NCFA member companies and the North Carolina SFI State Implementation Committee. ■

UPCOMING LOG A LOAD EVENTS

Sporting Clays Miracle Shoot -
August 4-5, 2017 at Rose Hill Farm in Nashville, NC

Golf Tournament at River Landing -
October 19, 2017 at River Landing in Wallace, NC



U.S. REPRESENTATIVE GEORGE HOLDING MEETS WITH NCFA MEMBERS ON TIMBER TAXES

U.S. Representative George Holding was back in his home office during a break in the Congressional session and open for business per usual.

In 2016, Representative Holding journeyed out to Louisburg to visit a harvesting operation by Glenn Coleman and his INEZ Forest Industries. Representative Holding then drove down a few miles down the road to meet Frank Toney and Roger Melvin for a tour of Toney Lumber Company.

Representative Holding enjoyed the hard hat trip, getting a first hand look at the speed and efficiency of the logging crew. His hard hat from that trip is on display in his conference room.

This year, Representative Holding was the one hosting the meeting as Nancy Thompson with Weyerhaeuser, Ross Lampe of Lampe & Malphrus Lumber Company, and Chris Brown with the NCFA visited Holding's home office in Raleigh. The goal of the meeting was to discuss the importance of the existing timber tax provisions in the federal tax code.

Nancy Thompson did an outstanding job of leading the group in a review of the timber tax provisions with Representative Holding. The group was using technical sheets points developed by National Alliance of Forest Owners (NAFO).

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Talking Timber Tax Provisions - (l-r) U.S. Representative George Holding hosted NCFA members Nancy Thompson with Weyerhaeuser Company, Ross Lampe with Lampe & Malphrus Lumber Company and the NCFA's Chris Brown in his office in Raleigh in May.

PROLOGGER PROGRAM GRADUATES 42 AT MONTGOMERY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

The NCFA's ProLogger program added 42 new ProLoggers after two days of classroom session at Montgomery Community College and a field day session hosted by Jerry Williams and his crew.

NCFA staff would like to thank our volunteer instructors for the class: A.J. Lang, Mark Bost, Scotty Comer, Matt Vincett and Nancy Blackwood with the North Carolina Forest Service; North Carolina Highway Patrol Trooper Daniel Billingsley; Chuck Murdock with the North Carolina Department of Labor; Eddie Campbell and Bryan Wagner from Forestry Mutual Insurance Company.

The highlight of the ProLogger base class is always the field day exercise where we visit an active logging site. With some threatening clouds and a few drops of rain in the area, Bryan Wagner delivered his top-notch, and always entertaining, felling demonstration.

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Forestry Mutual's Bryan Wagner

NORTH CAROLINA FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

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SUBMIT NEWS TO THE NCFCA

TreeLine is the monthly newsletter of the NCFCA. News items should be sent to Chris Brown at cbrown@ncforestry.org or by calling (800) 231-7723 ext. 3.

The NCFCA is the state's oldest forest conservation organization, consisting of 4,100 members with ties to forestry and the forest products industry. A private, non-profit organization, the NCFCA promotes healthy, productive forests by supporting the efforts of landowners, the forest products industry, and related groups that responsibly manage and/or use forests. ■

POLITICAL NEWS & REGULATORY ISSUES

BUDGET FOUNDATION SET WITH ALL PROPOSALS BEING RELEASED

The long session is the year when the North Carolina General Assembly sets the financial footprint for the state for the next two fiscal years. Consequently, once all the proposals are released, the process of working out the differences in the three versions takes considerable time.

The final piece of the budget puzzle was put into place in the first week of June when the House approved and released its version of the budget. The Governor and the Senate have already released their budget proposals. The negotiations now begin in earnest.

It is worth noting that the House and Senate have the same budget number of \$22.9 billion, however, some areas are funded differently. The General Assembly hopes to have a new budget in place by June. The Governor's budget was bigger, citing the need to increase spending on education in the state.

The House proposal would not lower the personal income tax rate, which is something included in the Senate's version. The House proposal does seek to provide some tax cuts by increasing the standard deduction from \$17,500 to \$18,500 for a married couple filing jointly and some additional increases in other tax deduction categories.

In terms of legislation, the NCFCA continues to monitor several bills. A complete list is included below and a weekly update on the North Carolina General Assembly is listing in the Zipline, the NCFCA's electronic newsletter. You can receive the Zipline by typing in your e-mail address on the NCFCA's homepage or by calling Chris Brown at (800) 231-7723 ext. 3.

If you have a particular issue or question on any legislation listed or would like to learn more about any legislation not listed, please contact Pryor Gibson, the NCFCA's Executive Vice President at (800) 231-7723 ext. 5 or pgibson@ncforestry.org.

BILLS OF INTEREST

The NCFCA staff continues to monitor the activities of the North Carolina General Assembly. The following are bills the NCFCA is monitoring closely at this point. It is worth noting that if a bill did not make the crossover deadline, meaning it did not pass one chamber and get introduced into the other, it is most likely not going to have a future in this legislative session. But, you can never say never during the legislative process.

House Bill 3 - Eminent Domain (partner bill is Senate Bill 34) This Eminent Domain Bill seeks to protect landowners and provide more options in the case where property is taken via eminent domain. The bill passed the House. It passed the House and is currently referred to the Committee on Rules and Operations within the Senate (2/20/17). The NCFCA supports this bill at this point.

House Bill 26 - Workers Comp/Approval of Disputed Legal Fees This bill amends the process set forth currently in the payment of disputed legal fees by the industrial commission. This bill has passed the House. It passed its first reading in the Senate and has been referred to the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate (6/1/2017). The NCFCA is neutral on this bill at this point.

House Bill 56 - Amend Various Environmental Laws House Bill 56 is a generic bill that addresses several environmental issues. This bill has passed the House. In the Senate, the bill has been replaced by a committee substitute bill and has been referred to the Finance Committee. (5/31/2017). The NCFCA continues to monitor this bill and is neutral on this bill at this point.

House Bill 80 - Bona Fide Ownership of Timber Parcels

This bill seeks to protect forest landowners from timber being unlawfully cut and/or removed from their property by mandating that the forest landowner obtain a survey of his/her property that clearly defines the property lines of his/her property. This bill passed its first reading and has been referred to the committee on Judiciary III (2/13/2017). This bill did not meet the crossover deadline, meaning it should not move forward in this legislative session. The NCFCA does not support this bill in its current form and continues to work with bill sponsors to amend it so it maintains

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General Assembly Update...(from page 2)

private property rights without imposing an unnecessary financial burden on the landowner.

House Bill 81 - STI/Regional & Division Weighting
This bill seeks to adjust the weighting attributed under the transportation investment strategy formula to the department of transportation's division engineers, the metropolitan planning organizations, and the rural transportation planning organizations, when selecting regional impact and division need projects, as recommended by the house select committee on strategic transportation planning and long term funding solutions. The bill seeks to allow more input from local communities within the current priority system employed by the state for infrastructure projects within the state. This bill has passed the House. It has passed its first reading in the Senate and is now in the Committee On Rules and Operations (3/2/2017). The NCFA supports this bill at this point and will continue to monitor its progress.

House Bill 95 - Truck Deliveries to Port/Night Travel
This bill would authorize permitted oversized or overweight vehicles to travel after sunset when transporting and delivering cargo, containers, or other equipment to or from international ports. This bill has passed the House and has been sent to the Senate. It passed its first reading in the Senate and has been referred to the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate (5/17/2017). The NCFA supports this bill.

House Bill 142 - Increase Oversight of Occupational License Boards
This bill seeks to increase oversight and streamline existing licensing boards in the state. The State Board of Registration for Foresters is currently listed as one of the 33 out of the 122 boards that will remain active. This is a positive change from the previous versions of this bill introduced in the last legislative session. This bill passed the House and moved over to the Senate. In the Senate, this bill was dropped and replaced with a bill to repeal HB2 (3/30/2017). It is important to note that the original HB 142 should reappear in another bill. If it does not, the State Board of Registration for Foresters would remain active as it was before this bill was introduced. Either way, the Forester Board will stay active.

House Bill 168 - Study Damage from ATV Use
This bill would authorize a study the damage caused to various types of properties from unauthorized use of all-terrain vehicles. The bill has passed its first reading in the House and has been referred to the Committee on Transportation (2/23/2017). This bill did not make the crossover deadline. The NCFA supports this bill.

House Bill 252 - Building Code Regulatory Reform (partner bill is Senate Bill 331)
This bill seeks to make various changes and clarifications to the statutes governing the creation and enforcement of building codes. It has passed the House. A favorable substitute was adopted on 5/31/17 and now is referred to the Rules and Operations of the Senate Committee (5/31/17). The NCFA is neutral on this bill at this time.

House Bill 309 - Responsible Deer Management Act
This bill started with a duty to avoid wanton waste on persons taking wildlife under a depredation permit. This (continued on page 6)

POINT OF VIEW

PROMOTING FOREST PRODUCTS REQUIRES GETTING INVOLVED LOCALLY

Promoting Forest Products Industry in Chatham County! (l-r) Doug Bureson, Perry Hunt and Jason Hoyle had the tough duty of playing golf with Chris Brown in May as part of the Chatham County Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament. Hunt Forest Resources was one of the hole sponsors for the tournament.

Jason Hoyle has been participating in the Leadership Chatham program that is sponsored by Chatham County Chamber of Commerce. It is an eight month program where leaders meet to learn more about an activity in the county such as education, parks and recreation, tourism, etc. The program is designed to bring business leaders from all sectors together to learn and share information.

One of the entities Hoyle became aware of through this leadership program is the Chatham County Climate Change Advisory Committee. Intrigued by its title, Hoyle showed up a public participant. The early deliberations of this committee demonstrate a lack of understanding that forestry is a solution in the climate change equation, not a problem.

NCFA staff appreciates the efforts of Hunt Forest Resources for taking the initiative in being involved with public policy discussions in their community.

While there are laws on the books to protect private property rights and the right to practice forestry, there is a unwritten social license that, right or wrong, we need to earn every day by explaining the positive contributions active forest management make on our landscape both at the local, regional, national and global levels. ■



HUNT CLUB CORNER

The NCFA's successful Hunting Lease Liability Insurance Program runs from August 1 to August 1 on an annual basis. Landowners and the participating hunt club must be a member to be eligible for this comprehensive insurance program that covers accidents that arise from the use of firearms, tree stands and ATVs. The program has a \$1,000,000 coverage for members and guests.

NCFA staff sent out renewal letters last week in advance of the August 1 renewal deadline. Hunt club members are encouraged to submit their paperwork well before the fall hunting season to ensure they are covered before they head to the woods.

If you have any questions about the hunt club insurance program, please contact Ann Harper at (800) 231-7723 ext. 1 or at aharper@ncforestry.org. ■



NCFA President
Bernard Rose



PROLOGGER BASE CLASS GRADUATES - MCC

NCFA#	Name	City, State
21445	Bailey, James	Cleveland NC
21118	Bordeaux, Jake	Delco NC
21448	Cagle, Phil	Denton NC
21424	Capps, Donald	Louisburg NC
21435	Carpenter, Matt	Wadesboro NC
21252	Carter, Thomas	Eden NC
21440	Dennis, Mark	Albermarle NC
21439	Dowless, Carlton	Bladenboro NC
21450	Feliciano, Michael	Garner NC
21458	Freeman, Jeremy	Star NC
21398	Freeman, Samuel	Wadesboro NC
21422	Fretz, Jim	Fuquay Varina NC
21423	Garrett, Adam	Stoneville NC
21326	Goodwin, Matthew	Wadesboro NC
21428	Hancock, James	Troy NC
21427	Hatley, Terry	Albemarle NC
21438	Hendrick, Laura	Faison NC
21452	Hicks, Ralph	Fletcher NC
21383	Hilliard, Joshua	Peachland NC
21421	Hogan, Jimmie	Biscoe NC
21449	Hughes, Chris	Denton NC
21444	Kennon, David	Ruffin NC
21453	Klepchick, Anthony	Raleigh NC
21436	Lewis, Garrett	Brown Summit NC
21442	Logue, Garrick	Raleigh NC
21384	Morris, Mason	Riegelwood NC
21425	Patterson, Dary	Louisburg NC
21399	Phillips, Adam	Cary NC
21441	Phillips, Austin	Greer SC
21446	Rhodes, Jeffrey	Riegelwood NC
21319	Simmons, Dalton	Bladen NC
21459	Spencer, Darius	Southern Pines NC
21447	Spivey, Johnathan	Carthage NC
21457	Stanley, Mike	Mt. Airy NC
21071	Strickland, Homer	Rowland NC
21437	Swindell, Eric	Williamston NC
21400	Taylor, Keith	Cary NC
21456	Thompson, Will	Franklinton NC
21426	Tucker, Joe	Louisburg NC
21454	Underwood, Ryan	Smithfield NC
21455	Whitley, Tyler	Lexington NC
21451	Williams, Jacob	Mt. Gilead NC

ProLogger Base Class...(from page 1)

The NCFA staff would also like to thank the dynamic duo of Allen Whitesell and Todd Willis for their help with coordinating the active logging site as well as delivering snacks and lunch during the class. A big thanks to Uwharrie Lumber Company and Troy Lumber Company for sponsoring the snacks and lunch on Thursday.

Thanks also to Russell Strong with Montgomery Community College for providing an excellent auditorium with full media support during the classroom portion of the program.

The next base class will take place in Marion, NC at McDowell CC in October. ■



(l-r) Todd Willis & Allen Whitesell

PROLOGGER DEADLINE JUNE 30TH



All ProLoggers must complete Module 17 and pay their dues by June 30th to remain active in the NCFA's ProLogger program. Dues must be postmarked by June 30th!

There are a limited number of classes left in the year. If you are still looking for a class, please contact who you sell wood to or call Chris Brown with the NCFA at (800) 231-7723 ext. 3.

Date	Time	Location
6/28	6:00 p.m.	Roaring River VFD, RR, NC
6/30	10:00 a.m.	NCFA Office, Raleigh, NC ■

VLA REMINDS TRUCKERS ON EMPORIA PROMISE

The Virginia Loggers Association has requested that all log trucker drivers abide by the promise the VLA made to the City of Emporia that log truck drivers **WOULD NOT USE JAKE BRAKES** within the city limits.

The VLA has been notified that some log truck drivers are not abiding by this promise and are using jake brakes.

If you operate in this Emporia area, please discuss with all of your truck drivers to ensure the agreement with the City of Emporia is honored and can stay viable into the future.



NCFA SHARES IN THE COMPANY OF TRUCKS DVD WITH DRIVING SCHOOL

The NCFA recently fielded a request from the North Carolina Driving School (NCDS) for copies of the In the Company of Trucks video to incorporate into their curriculum.

The NCFA sent 180 copies of the DVD for each NCDS location to help raise awareness among young drivers about driving in the vicinity of trucks on the highway and local routes.

The North Carolina Driving School is the largest provider of driver education services in the state. Currently, NCDS provides service to 37 NC public school systems training over 23,000 students annually.

NCDS also provides services such as private individual lessons and corporate defensive driving as well as driving and class sessions for companies interested in providing safe driver training for their employees. The NCDS website is www.ncdrivingschool.com. ■

PLT TRANSITIONS FROM AFF TO SFI INC. OVERSIGHT

On May 30, 2017, the Board of Trustees of the American Forest Foundation (AFF) voted to transfer Project Learning Tree® (PLT) to the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Inc. (SFI). The formal transfer agreement for PLT is expected to be signed by SFI and AFF in July 2017 pending successful legal and contractual arrangements.

A transition team comprised of members of PLT's Education Operating Committee (EOC) and PLT coordinators representing state government agencies, forestry associations, non-profits, colleges and universities that deliver PLT programming across the country is in place to help ensure the transition of PLT from AFF to SFI is as smooth as possible.

SFI is a non-profit, charitable organization that has become a sustainability leader dedicated to the future of our forests. SFI's mission, vision, and key objectives are to strengthen the connections between the conservation values of responsibly managed forests and sustainable communities, as well as provide supply chain assurances.

PLT is aligned with SFI's mission, vision, and key objectives, and bringing the PLT program under SFI's umbrella will further SFI and PLT's reach in ensuring today's youth can be effective future leaders with a strong understanding of the value of responsibly managed forests, a commitment to sustainability, and the skills to make responsible decisions about the environment. PLT and SFI will also work together to engage youth in conservation activities and outdoor education.

Four proposals to assume the administration of the PLT program were submitted to AFF in early March and on March 14, 2017, AFF's Board voted to spin PLT off from AFF. The Board determined the PLT program will be better served by another organization and this will allow AFF to have a "one true north" focus on forest conservation.

A due diligence process to determine the best home for PLT was completed by the EOC and the transition team, as well as the PLT network, key PLT stakeholders, and four AFF Board members. The process for transitioning PLT from AFF to SFI is being implemented and, pending a review and approval by SFI and AFF of contractual and legal commitments, a formal announcement about SFI assuming the administration of PLT is expected in July 2017. ■



The NCFA's Education Programs Manager Amy Juliana participated in the Longleaf Festival in May, representing the NCFA and the SFI State Implementation Committee. The Longleaf Festival celebrates the Longleaf pine ecosystem. Participants discovered the life of the Longleaf pine, how it is managed with fire, its history and the wildlife and plants that depend on its natural habitat.



U.S. Representative George Holding...(from page 1)

The new administration is discussing updates to the federal tax code - this is not a new concept since it has been debated several times over the past several years. The last time a revision was proposed to the tax code, the timber tax provisions were removed. The concern for the forestry community is that when the newest discussion on tax reform begins in earnest, the timber tax provisions need to be included to promote forestland ownership.

The four provisions include:

- 1. Capital gains treatment of timber revenue. Since 1943, the tax Code has treated proceeds from timber harvest and the sale of standing trees as capital gains to promote the economic and other public benefits of forest retention.
- 2. Deduction for timber growing costs. Current law allows forest landowners to deduct operating costs in the year that they are incurred, rather than capitalizing these costs.
- 3. Treatment of timberland as real property for purposes of the real estate investment trust (REIT) rules. REITs are a common ownership form chosen by many current forest owners and investors.
- 4. Deduction and amortization of reforestation costs. The Code allows forest owners to deduct up to \$10,000 of reforestation costs per stand as they are incurred and amortize the remaining costs over 7 years.

Representative Holding is extremely receptive to the idea of promoting forestry and understands that forests are the starting point for North Carolina's top manufacturing industry.

During the conversation, Ross Lampe estimated that 15-20 percent of the trees that come into his facility are from Weyerhaeuser lands in the state. The remainder originate off of private individuals who own forestland.

The group also made the point that a removal of these tax provisions would send a negative public policy message to the over 500,000 private, non-industrial forestland owners in North Carolina as well as forestland owners across the United States.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the NCFA's Chris Brown shared some ProLogger hats with Representative Holding, who remarked that he is in the process of building a hat rack to show off all of the hats he has been given over the years. We hope his ProLogger hat gets a prominent position!

Thanks to NAFO for sharing their technical documents! ■

Sign up for the NCFA's weekly e-mail newsletter by typing in your e-mail into www.ncforestry.org.



DRUG MAKING GARBAGE FOUND ON LOGGING SITES

J.J. Lemire, Forestry Mutual Insurance Company

There is an alarming increase abuse of legal/illegal drugs by so many individuals today. Methamphetamine (meth) use continues to rise in many parts of the U.S. and rural areas are no exception. It seems that it was only a matter of time before this new danger was found around our logging sites. We have heard that several loggers have found a pile of "household" garbage! This used to be the result of a common "litterbug" and was a little more than a nuisance. However, recently, we have found this to be the leftover garbage from a one-pot or "shake-and-bake" meth lab. These can be deadly.

Telltale warning signs that the trash may be from a meth operation include plastic 2 liter bottles, batteries, antifreeze containers, lantern fuel cans, coolers and ice packs. These are just a sample of the trash left behind from someone cooking meth.

While your first thought may be to pick up this trash up, or move it out of your way, DON'T. Meth lab waste residue is highly toxic and can cause severe injuries. Exposure to the chemical byproducts used to produce meth can affect the central nervous system, cardiovascular system, heart, liver, kidneys, eyes and skin. These chemicals are also extremely flammable and explosive. This can cause acid burns to the body or even death. In case of accidental exposure to these chemicals, water is the most important element in first aid. Wash your skin and/or eyes and seek immediate medical attention. Make sure your employees are made aware of the hazards they may encounter.

If you suspect your jobsite is contaminated with "trash" from making methamphetamine, take all the proper precautions for fire and chemical explosions, move quickly away from the container and contact your local law enforcement or dial 911.

Also, as more frequent illegal drug use is encountered, be aware of the symptoms of meth use by employees. The following are symptoms that you may encounter:

- Dilated pupils, dark circles or bags under their eyes.
- Increased sensitivity to noise and light
- Increased level of self confidence and euphoria
- "Wired" - Restless, excitable and anxious
- Noticeable change in sleeping patterns
- Weight loss (rapid, extreme)
- Irritability or aggressiveness
- Drastic mood swings
- Dizziness or confusion, disconnected chatter
- Complaints of chest pain, rapid breathing
- Excessive sweating and body odor
- Bad breath, poor dental hygiene and tooth grinding
- Dry, itchy skin
- Hanging out with a different group of friends
- Subtle changes in conversations and behavior with friends (use coded language, more secretive about possessions or activities)
- Negative change in appearance, greasy hair, skin sores
- Change in attire, clothes that highlight drug use
- Noticeable change in values, lying, stealing, etc.
- Increase in borrowing money or trading of possessions

If you suspect drug use by your employee and have a drug-free workplace program, you can require them to be drug tested for reasonable suspicion. Employees under the influence of illegal or illicit drugs can be a hazard to you, your employees or your equipment. ■

Legislative Update...(from page 3)

bill has passed its first reading and was referred to the Wildlife Resources. A favorable substitute was submitted that would require the Wildlife Resources Commission to study the need for an advisability of imposing a duty with or without a depredation permit. It has been referred to the Judiciary I Committee (4/24/17). This bill did not make the crossover deadline. The NCFCA supports this bill at this time but will continue to monitor its progress.

House Bill 337 - Drone Act This bill seeks to make various revisions to the laws governing the use of unmanned aircraft systems such as drones and model aircraft. It passed the House and was sent to the Senate. A favorable substitute was introduced and has been adopted. It is now in the Rules and Operations of the Senate (5/24/2017). The NCFCA is neutral on this bill.

House Bill 356 - Tax Reduction Act of 2017 This bill seeks to increase the standard deduction, to exempt mill machinery from tax, and to simplify the franchise tax calculation by eliminating the requirement that a corporation calculate the appraised value of its real and tangible property and its total actual investment in tangible property for purposes of determining its franchise tax base. It passed its first reading in the House and has been referred to the Finance Committee. The NCFCA supports this bill.

House Bill 363 - The Pollinator Protection Act This bill would provide provisions to protect bee populations. This bill has passed its first reading and has been referred to the Committee on Rules, Calendar and Operations of the House (3/23/2017). This bill did not make the crossover deadline. The NCFCA supports this bill.

House Bill 379 - Task Force on Regulatory Reform This bill would establish the North Carolina Joint Legislative Task Force on regulatory reform. This bill has passed the House and sent to the Senate. It passed its first reading and has been referred to the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate (3/29/2017). The NCFCA supports this bill.

House Bill 454 - Surveying and Plat Recording Changes (partner bill is Senate Bill 372) This bill seeks to modernize and make changes to the recording requirements for plats and subdivisions and to eliminate the use of control corners in favor of grid control in the preparation of plats and subdivisions. This bill passed the House and has been sent to the Senate. It passed the Senate on 5/30/2017 and has been presented to the Governor (5/31/17). The NCFCA is neutral on this bill.

House Bill 465 - A Military Operations Protection Act of 2017

(partner bill is Senate Bill 331) This bill would impose a temporary moratorium on the consideration of permit applications and issuance of permits for the construction of new onshore and offshore wind energy facilities direct a study of geospatial, temporal and other data to understand the extent and scope of military operation in this state. This bill passed its first reading and has been referred to Committee on Homeland Security, Military and Veterans Affairs (3/27/2017). This bill did not make

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Legislative Update...(from page 6)

the crossover deadline. The NCFA is neutral on this bill at this time.

House Bill 467 - Agriculture and Forestry Nuisance Remedies (partner bill is Senate Bill 460) This bill seeks to clarify the remedies available in private nuisance as it pertains to agriculture and forestry. This bill passed the House and the Senate. It was ratified into law on 4/27/2017. Governor Roy Cooper vetoed the bill on May 5, 2017. The House and Senate voted to override the veto and it is now law. The NCFA supported this bill.

House Bill 535 - Operating Funds for Linville Nursery (partner bill is Senate Bill 341) This bill would appropriate operating funds for the North Carolina Forest Service's Linville River Tree Nursery. This bill passed its first reading and has been sent to appropriations (3/30/2017). This bill did not make the crossover deadline. The NCFA supports this bill.

House Bill 559 - Outdoor Heritage Enhanced (partner bill is Senate 624) This bill seeks to expand the use of firearms for hunting of wild animals and upland game birds on Sunday and to allow hunting of migratory birds on Sunday. This bill passed the House and passed its first reading in the Senate. It has been referred to the State and Local Government Committee. (6/1/2017). The NCFA is neutral on this bill.

House Bill 648 - Responsible Deer Hunting This bill seeks to provide responsible hunting of deer with dogs in a manner that protects the rights of private landowners. This bill has passed its first reading and referred to the Committee on Wildlife Resources (4/11/2017). This bill did not make the crossover deadline. The NCFA is neutral on this bill at this time.

House Bill 745 - NC Energy Ratepayers Protection Act This bill seeks to amend various provisions of the general statutes related to distributed generation and to direct the utilities commission to perform an assessment of the costs and benefits of distributed generation. It has passed its first reading and has been referred to the Energy and Public Utilities Committee (4/13/2017). This bill did not make the crossover deadline. The NCFA is neutral on this bill at this time.

House Bill 830 - WC/Independent Truckers An act to amend the workers' compensation act concerning the status of truck drivers as employees or independent contractors. This bill passed its first reading and has been referred to the Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House Committee (4/13/2017). This bill did not make the crossover deadline. The NCFA is neutral on this bill at this time.

House Bill 859 - Storm Debris Removal Funds An act to appropriate funds for removal of debris from streams and rivers impacted by Hurricane Matthew. This bill passed its first reading and has been referred to the Appropriations Committee (4/20/2017). This bill did not make the crossover deadline. The NCFA is neutral on this bill at this time.

Senate Bill 131 - Regulatory Reform Act of 2016 This bill amends certain environmental, natural resources, and other laws. Among the provisions in this bill is the establishment of a North Carolina Sentinel Landscapes Committee. This committee will provide oversight of the Sentinel Landscape Partnership in North Carolina. The bill became session law 2017-10 after several amendments in conference between the House and Senate (4/27/2017). It was signed by Governor Roy Cooper into law (5/4/2017).

Senate Bill 203 - Establish Ownership of Mineral Rights This bill seeks to establish a uniform procedure to determine title to oil, gas, or mineral rights. It has passed its first reading and has been referred to the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate (3/8/2017). This bill did not make the crossover deadline. The NCFA is neutral on this bill at this point.

Senate Bill 371 - Building Code Reform (partner bill House 252) This bill seeks to make various changes and clarifications to the statutes governing the creation and enforcement of building codes. This bill has passed its first reading and has been referred to the Agriculture / Environment / Natural Resources Committee (4/10/2017). This bill did not make the crossover deadline. The NCFA is neutral on this bill at this time.

Senate Bill 434 - Amend Environmental Laws This bill amends certain environmental and natural resources laws. This bill passed the Senate and has passed its first reading in the House. It has been referred to the Committee on Rules, Calendar and Operations of the House. (4/26/2017) The NCFA supports this bill at this point.

Senate Bill 532 - Landowner Encroachment and Timber Theft Act This bill provides resources, authority, and guidance to the North Carolina Forest Service law enforcement section to monitor and reduce losses due to landowner encroachment, timber, and other natural resource theft or loss and to increase the penalties associated with these crimes. This bill has passed its first reading and has been referred to Senate Rules and Operations Committee (3/30/2017). This bill did not make the crossover deadline. The NCFA supports this bill.

Senate Bill 539 - Environmental Regulatory Reform Act of 2017 An act to provide further environmental regulatory relief to the citizens of North Carolina. This bill passed its first reading and has been referred to the Agriculture/ Environment/ Natural Resources Committee (4/13/2017). This bill did not make the crossover deadline. The NCFA is neutral on this bill at this point.

Senate Bill 615 - North Carolina Farm Act of 2017 This bill seeks to make amendments to certain laws governing agricultural matters. This bill has been passed its first reading. A favorable substitute was introduced on (5/30/2017) and referred to the Finance Committee. The NCFA is neutral at this point.

Senate Bill 624 - Outdoor Heritage Enhanced (partner bill is House Bill 559) This bill seeks to expand the use of firearms for hunting of wild animals and upland game birds on Sunday and to allow hunting of migratory birds on Sunday. This bill has passed its first reading and has been referred to the Committee on Agriculture/ Environment/ Natural Resources (4/19/2017). This bill did not make the crossover deadline. The NCFA is neutral on this bill at this point. ■

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

"Thanks to my NCFA family for its continuing support, love and prayers," stated Ann Harper, the NCFA's Business Manager. "March 6, 2017 is the one year anniversary of my son's motorcycle accident. I wanted to let everyone know that Karl continues to make progress! He has just underwent two more surgeries - one to amputate his right leg above the knee and the second for reconstruction surgery on his right hand. It's been a long year, but we can now see the light at the end of the tunnel. Again, THANK YOU for all of your support over the past year!"

TREE LINE

JUNE 2017



THANKS TO JERRY WILLIAMS (CENTER) AND HIS CREW FOR HOSTING LATEST PROLOGGER BASE COURSE.

MEETINGS & WORKSHOPS

Date	Event	Location
6/5-9	FMIC Loss Control Meeting	Lake Gaston, NC
6/7-9	NC SAF Annual Meeting	Dunn, NC
6/19-22	Sustainable Forestry Teachers Experience	New Bern, NC
6/26-29	Sustainable Forestry Teachers Experience	Asheville, NC
6/30	ProLogger Module 17 Class And Dues Deadline	
July		
7/18-21	Sustainable Forestry Teachers Experience	Southern Pines
7/19	NC SFI SIC Grant Committee Meeting	Raleigh, NC
7/31-8/4	OSH Training With FMIC And NCF A	Howell Woods
August		
8/1-4	OSH Training With FMIC And NCF A	Howell Woods, Smithfield, NC
8/4-5	Sporting Clays Miracle Shoot	Rose Hill Farm in Nashville, NC
8/17	SLTC Meeting at Mid-Atlantic Logging Expo Site	9-30 a.m.
September		
9/15-16	Mid-Atlantic Logging and Biomass Expo	Smithfield/Selma, NC
9/28-30	American Loggers Council Meeting	TBD
October		
10/4-6	NCF A Annual Meeting	Wilmington, NC
10/6	NCF A Board of Directors Meeting	8:30 a.m., Wilmington, NC
10/11-12	ProLogger Base Class	Marion, NC
10/18	SLTC Meeting	TBA, 9:30 a.m.
10/19	Log A Load Golf Tournament	Wilmington, NC
10/23-27	NCF A Forestry & Environmental Camp	Wilmington, NC
November		
11/8	NC SFI SIC Meeting	NCF A Office, Raleigh, NC - 9:30 a.m.
11/13-19	SAF National Convention	Albuquerque, NM
11/14-16	FMIC Board Meeting	Raleigh, NC
December		
tbd	Southern Executives Meeting	tbd
tbd	NCF A Executive Committee Meeting	Raleigh, NC



North Carolina Forestry Association
1600 Glenwood Avenue
Raleigh, NC 27609

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